

**Moray Local Outdoor Access Forum  
18<sup>th</sup> Meeting  
Minutes  
25<sup>th</sup> March 2010, 4pm Elgin Library**

Present: Ian Douglas, Moray Council Access Manager  
Fiona McNally, Paths for All Partnership

Members Present:

J Gate, J Oliver, F Murdoch, J Trythall, R McPherson, R Knight, S Reid, S Jacyna, A Laing

Non Attendees:

F Smith, I Greene, M Young

Item		Action
<b>1.0</b>	<b>Apologies</b> P Graham, D Barron, R Boardman	
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Accuracy of Previous Minutes</b> The previous minutes were agreed as being true and accurate. Proposed by J Oliver, seconded by J Trythall	
<b>3.0</b>	<p><b>Matters Arising</b></p> <p><i>Para 8</i> Policy Sub Group – yet to be convened to review policy documentation – low priority</p> <p>Elgin Urban Freedom Presentation – Chris Thompson was not able to attend today’s meeting to make the presentation. All agreed he would be invited to present to a future meeting.</p> <p><i>Para 9.0 a</i></p> <p>Green Roadie Duffus – Photographs and a map were distributed to all at the meeting. It was observed that the farmer had resolved the problem by laying down hardcore which resolves the extreme mud issue. The gates, which were closed across the path, are now open. All agreed the situation has been resolved and I Douglas reported that SEFRAD are now satisfied the conditions of the LMC have now been met. ID agreed to monitor the site, as there is always a possibility that the gates could once again be closed across the path. ID will report back to the Forum if this happens.</p>	<p>Policy Sub Group/ID</p> <p>ID</p> <p>ID</p>

Item		Action
	<p>Giant's Chair Dufftown - J Oliver reported that a sign has been erected on the path warning people of the potential hazard. Health and safety requirements have now been met. The considerable damage to the path still needs to be resolved to make it accessible. ID reported that there is a possibility of securing LEADER funding as Dufftown is a priority for the funding programme. All agreed that the path should be improved as part of a wider paths project for Dufftown to maximise funding opportunities.</p> <p>Dufftown Paths project outline to be prepared  Dufftown Community Association to be pursued for funding  Diageo/Dufftown 2000/LEADER to be pursued for funding</p>	<p>ID/JO  FM  ID/JO</p>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>New Members</b>	
4.1	<p>Adverts were placed in the local press seeking applications for new members – two community, one access user and one land manager. Six applications have been received from the following;</p> <p>Wilson Metcalfe, Forres – community  Gilbert Bain, Elgin – land manager  Patrick Carroll, Findhorn – community  Mary Stelmach, Cairnie – community/access user  Joyce Stewart, Lossiemouth – access user  Rita Marks, Ballindalloch – community</p> <p>F Murdoch asked for appointed new members to have a good geographic spread</p>	
4.2	<p>The Forum agreed to set up a sub group to select new members from the candidates and appoint them to enable attendance at the next Forum meeting. Members sub group is S Jacyna, J Oliver and R Knight. Sub group meeting will take place at 10.00pm on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2010 at Ashgrove Portacabins, Ashgrove Depot, Elgin.</p>	Members sub group/ID
4.3	<p>Future candidates to be considered include:</p> <p>Duncan Dunbar Naismith  Dave Stewart</p>	

Item		Action
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Access Issues</b>	
5.1	<p>The Hythe, Lossiemouth</p> <p>Photographs and a map were issued to all at the meeting. The resident of a house named 'The Hythe' owns land to the north of the dwelling where public access rights apply. Fences have been erected by the owner due to vandalism and tipping problems but this action has excluded access rights from being enjoyed on the ground. I Douglas explained that a negotiated solution cannot be reached and the owner wishes to retain the fence. A report will need to be submitted to the Council regarding consideration of a Section 14 enforcement under the 2003 Act.</p>	
5.2	<p>The Forum discussed the issue and recommend to the Council that a Section 14 Notice should be issued as this is a clear case of obstruction of public access rights and vandalism and tipping are dealt with by separate legislation. These problems do not justify excluding access rights from the site. I Douglas will ensure the Access Forum view is reported to the Council Committee.</p>	ID
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Workshop – Future Forum Business</b>	
6.1	<p>F McNally of Paths for All Partnership ran a workshop lasting about one hour which discussed the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Main access issues to be addressed by the Forum</li> <li>• Possible Forum future activities, (a) Council focussed and (b) Forum focussed</li> </ul>	
6.2	<p>F McNally will produce notes from the workshop to be available for the next Forum meeting. At the next meeting the forum will discuss development of a business plan with short term (up to two years) and longer term outputs (two to five years) for the Forum.</p>	FMcl All
<b>7.0</b>	<b>A O C B</b>	
7.1	<p>Urban Freedom Festival – Flyers were distributed to all at the meeting and an open invitation was communicated from C Thompson for Forum members to participate in the festival to take place on 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> March.</p>	
7.2	<p>Minute Secretary – It was agreed that a new minute secretary was needed as Ann Dunn has now left Moray. R Knight agreed to pursue this with Caroline Shanks whom he uses as a minute taker for some other meetings and see if she is available. He will advise I Douglas before the next meeting. I Douglas confirmed that payment would be on the same basis as for Ann Dunn.</p>	RK

Item		Action
	HIE Moray membership place – F Murdoch advised F Smith has now left HIE Moray. I Douglas to contact HIE Moray to seek a replacement person to attend future meetings.	ID
<b>8.0</b>	<b>Date of Next Meeting</b>	
8.1	<p>The date of the next two meetings was originally scheduled for 20<sup>th</sup> May and 3<sup>rd</sup> August. It was agreed as this meeting took place nearly one month later than scheduled, due to weather difficulties, that the 20<sup>th</sup> May meeting was now no longer necessary.</p> <p>Next meeting to take place on 3<sup>rd</sup> August preceded by a Health Walk to be run by Debbie Barron commencing at 3.00pm. Full details of this to be sent to members prior to the next meeting.</p>	<p>ID</p> <p>DB/ID</p>