

MORAY LOCAL OUTDOOR ACCESS FORUM

MINUTES OF 24TH MEETING 8.11.11 – 4PM ELGIN LIBRARY GALLERY

Present: Ian Douglas, Moray Council Access Manager

Mark Cross, Moray Council Principal Planning Officer

Members Present: R Knight, R Bromby, D Stewart, R Marks, S Tyson, D Barron, R R MacPherson, M Stelmach, J Oliver, J Smith, T Anderson, J Trythall

Non Attendees: I Green, A Glover, G Bain

		Action
1.	Apologies: F Murdoch, W Metcalfe, D McPherson, M Young, A Watson	
2.	Accuracy of previous minutes Agreed as accurate	
3	Matters arising 3.0 Dornell Wind Farm. No decision yet taken by Scottish Government. JO confirmed that National Grid connection would not be available until 2018. 7.0 Landowner's signage. Advice available from Anne Gray, Scottish Land and Estates (SLE)	
4	Mark Cross talk on Moray Development Plan Mark introduced his talk by stating producing a Local Plan was a statutory duty on the Council. The Plan is used to give development guidance and to provide a policy framework for deciding planning applications. The next Moray Development Plan will be a new style Local Plan required by the most recent Planning Act. Current Local Plan is dated 2008 with the new Development Plan expected 2013/14. Plan review work has now started. The Council is working towards producing a main issues report due for public consultation in 2012. From this a Draft Plan will be produced for consultation following through to Plan Adoption subject to any required Public Local Inquiry to deal with outstanding objections. The Access Forum would be specifically interested in the Plan references in terms of Core Paths, Access, Active Travel, Cycle Routes, Open Space Strategy (OSS). The OSS will be produced as supplementary guidance to the Plan. There will also be supplementary guidance for housing which will include requirements for path connectivity. The Forum has already fed into consideration of issues. Mark agreed to pass Development Plan documents for consultation through ID. He also agreed to record the Moray LOAF as a formal consultee. He clarified that Core Paths, other than strategic routes such as the Speyside Way and Moray Coastal Trail, would not appear on settlement maps in the Development Plan but there would be general cross referencing to the Moray CPP. Mark was thanked for his interesting talk.	MC

4	Outgoing Members	
	<p>Jean Oliver and Janet Trythall are due to stand down as members at the end of 2012. RK thanked them both for their outstanding contribution to the Forum.</p> <p>RK confirmed that they both should advise ID if they wished to re-apply for their member positions.</p> <p>The Forum asked ID to initiate the usual advertising procedures for the two posts (access user and community).</p> <p>Procedure is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notice in Local Press inviting application • Letter to interested parties • Issue application forms by post on request • Broadcast on Keith Community Radio <p>ID to include advertising RK (land manager) post vacancy as part of this process making it clear this would not be available until start of 2012.</p>	<p>ID</p> <p>ID</p>
5	Sub Group – Access Trust	
	<p>The sub group met on 1st November and submitted the following recommendations which were agreed at the Full Forum meeting:</p> <p>(a) Investigate the option of a ‘service level agreement’ being established with COAT. The Forum discussed the pros and cons of this. COAT are currently reviewing their set up and can operate outwith the parks area. ST and MS agreed that COAT extending their operation to cover Moray was a good idea in principle but further investigation was needed. RK voices his reservation concerned that Moray would be peripheral to COAT’s operational focus which is the Park. The Trust Sub Group will meet on 1st December 2011 with Dougie Baird of COAT to further explore this option and report back to the Forum.</p> <p>(b) The sub group to be given delegated decision on whether to still pursue a Moray Access Trust subject to the outcome of the meeting with COAT as per (a) above. If the sub group decide to pursue a separate Moray Trust then the following to be pursued:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Set up a community interest company.</i> On line application. Better option to charitable status which is more difficult to get. ‘O.S.C.R. Lite.’ All the benefits without the hassle. - <i>Prepare Draft Business Plan and Framework Document for Moray Access Trust</i> - <i>Seek funding for part time development officer.</i> Approach ‘Firstport’ and SNH for funding. - <i>Seek support from potential partners,</i> i.e. TMC, FCS.SNH,Sports-Scotland, Visit Scotland, HI Moray, Moray Tourism Development, Crown Estate, HiTrans. - <i>Identify two major projects</i> for Trust to initially Trust Sub Group to implement – high profile with impact 	<p>Trust Sub Group</p> <p>Trust Sub Group</p> <p>ID/RB</p> <p>Trust Sub Group</p> <p>Trust Sub Group</p> <p>Trust Sub Group</p>

6	<p>Business Plan – Actions Update and Plan Review</p> <p>The current business plan was discussed and ID updated the Forum on targets for items 2,3,4,5,6,8 and 12 and 13 in the Plan. New targets were set for Items 2,4 and 5. ID to update Business Plan.</p>	ID
7	<p>Access Issues</p>	
	<p>ID updated the Forum on an assess issue at Gedloch Farm near Fogwatt. A developer, Mark Watson, is building a house on the site of the old farm buildings and has erected a temporary construction fence around the site. This fence has blocked off the track which joins the wind farm road. Public access rights apply to the track. Negotiations with the developer have proved unsuccessful and he has clarified he will not remove the fence across the track which he claims is essential to secure the site. ID confirmed that the Planning and Building Control Department have also been monitoring the site.</p> <p>The Forum agreed the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No. S14. enforcement action should be taken currently as the fence is temporary and will be removed once the development is complete (expected summer 2012) - ID to continue to monitor the site to determine what permanent boundary feature is erected - If the permanent boundary obstructs the track then the Council should enact S14 enforcement - Planning Enforcement Officer to monitor the development Planning Enforcement Officer in case the permanent boundary extends beyond the original planning consent site. 	<p>ID</p> <p>ID</p> <p>ID</p>
8	<p>A O C B</p>	
	<p>Association of Access Forums – JO considers this should be set up to be a voice for local fora but was unsure how this should be set up. All agreed the Moray Forum do not currently have the capacity to lead in setting this up.</p> <p>Communities mailing list – It was noted that there were inaccuracies in the list. All members should feed back corrections and updates to ID.</p>	All
9	<p>Date of next meeting</p>	
	<p>Dates were agreed for the four meetings in 2012. All at 4.00pm</p> <p>28.02.12 – Gallery Elgin Library</p> <p>04.06.12 – Gallery Elgin Library</p> <p>04.09.12 – Town Hall Elgin</p> <p>27.11.12 – Town Hall Elgin</p>	