

Moray Local Outdoor Access Forum

25th Meeting

Minutes

28th February 2012

Present: Ian Douglas, Moray Council Access Manager

Members Present:

R Knight, R Macpherson, J Oliver, F Murdoch, S Tyson, R Bromby, J Smith, A Glover, D Stewart, D MacPherson, R Marks and G Bain

Non Attendees: I Green, D Barron, One Vacant Position

Minute Secretary: C Shanks

The meeting was Chaired by Roger Knight.

Item		Action
1.0	<p>Apologies</p> <p>T Anderson, M Stelmach, W Metcalfe, S Reid and M Young</p> <p>I Bruce (Environmental Protection Manager, Moray Council) was welcomed for his attendance for part of the meeting.</p>	
2.0	<p>Accuracy of Previous Minutes</p> <p><i>1.0 Accuracy of Previous Minutes:</i> E Murdoch should be changed to read F Murdoch.</p> <p><i>3.0 Matters Arising:</i> Doronell should be changed to read Dorenell and 2018 should be changed to read 2016.</p>	CS
3.0	<p>Matters Arising</p> <p>Gedloch Farm, Fogwatt: RK asked if there were any further developments with this and ID informed him that there was no change but the site was being continually monitored.</p> <p>Communities Mailing List: RK asked if there had been any amendments received from Members. ID informed him that he had made one himself but none had been received from Members. It was agreed that the list would be re-issued to Members and a deadline would be set for amendments.</p> <p>Members: RK informed the Committee that there had been 4 new applicants to fill two positions and JT and JO also wished to be considered. No applications have been received to fill Roger Knight's position from 2013 onwards and this still requires to be addressed. RK said that he would like to delegate member selection to the sub-group which would consist of JO, FM, ID, RK and DS. RK agreed to circulate a 'doodle pole' for meeting date to be held at the Spey Fishery Board offices. It was also noted that Debbie Barron (NHS) had resigned and ID had requested her assistance in finding a new NHS representative but no new member has been identified and this requires resolution. SNH would be</p>	<p>ID</p> <p>ID</p> <p>Forum</p> <p>RK</p> <p>Forum</p>

	<p>represented by Shirley Reid but she will not be in attendance at many meetings due to lack of SNH resources.</p>	
<p>4.0</p>	<p>Outdoor Access Trust</p> <p>RK discussed various papers which had been circulated to the Forum along with the notes from the sub group meeting of 1.12.11. The meeting held had been successful and RK said he would like to open up the issue the full Forum. The Trust sub group recommend that Moray LOAF ask the Moray Council to enter into a Service Level Agreement with COAT in terms of COAT operating in Moray. COAT already have a successful agreement in place with the Aberdeenshire Council. RK informed the Forum that any formal Service Level Agreement would have to be between Moray Council and COAT. IB said that it would likely be August at the earliest before a report could be placed before the relevant Moray Council Committee. JO said that she was concerned as there had been an open public presentation made by Perth & Kinross which COAT had declined to attend. It was noted that any Service Level Agreement would be on a 12 month basis and ID added that COAT be involved in paths development leaving the general maintenance arrangements as they are presently. The Forum agreed a Service Level Agreement to be explored between the Moray Council and COAT and further discussions on details to take place with COAT and a recommendation to be placed before the Moray Council in August.</p>	<p>ID</p> <p>ID/IB</p>
<p>5.0</p>	<p>Business Plan</p> <p>ID had previously circulated the Moray LOAF Business Plan to the Forum and this will be updated discussed.</p> <p>It was noted that there had to date been no further progress with Forum input to Moray Local Development Plan.</p> <p>The Reinforcement of links with community/user groups was an on-going task.</p> <p>It was agreed that there was a need to arrange a future meeting to educate the Forum on the Community Planning process.</p> <p>Input to Open Space Strategy awaits the public consultation on the Moray Development Plan.</p> <p>The Forum will be kept informed on Planning Application Consultations as required.</p> <p>Reports will be made as required regarding Dispute Resolution.</p> <p>LOAF Constitution/Policies need to be reviewed but it was agreed that this was a low priority.</p> <p>ID and WM have commenced a draft Review of the Moray Outdoor Access Strategy to be presented to a future Forum meeting.</p>	<p>ID/WM</p>

<p>6.0</p>	<p>Wind Farms</p> <p><i>Dorenell Planning Approval:</i> RK declared an interest as Spey Fishery Board and the Spey Foundation conducted the Fisheries Plan. A discussion followed with reference to documents which had been previously circulated. RK felt that a sub-group should be formed to input the taking forward the Management Plan. ID thought that as part of this it would be useful to meet with developers and feed back to a future Forum meeting. The sub-group will be headed by JO with members of the local community and volunteers with a knowledge of the area. ID added that mileage incurred by the sub group out on site could be reimbursed at the normal level and ID would be involved in the access planning exercise. It was agreed that the developers should produce the planning documentation taking forward the access management plan with feed in from the Forum and JO/Sub Group. RK agreed that the 'linkage' with Clashindarroch could be investigated but 'not too thoroughly'.</p> <p><i>Brown Muir:</i> RK declared that Spey Fishery Board and the Spey Foundation had given fisheries data. RK had attended a presentation in Lhanbryde and had not been confident regarding the format. The original 3-4 turbines planned had increased to 19 and he also felt that the planned start-up date of 2014 was very optimistic. He didn't consider the survey questionnaire circulated was within the remit of Moray LOAF and asked if any Forum Members had any issues with the application. JO was concerned that there didn't appear to be any access to the hill but JS assured that there would be albeit rough and natural. ST suggested implementation of an Access Management Plan as and when things progress. RK would respond on behalf of Moray LOAF stating that the Forum object in principle to be withdrawn subject to preparation of an acceptable access management plan. RK to copy this to Forum members.</p> <p><i>Moray Council's New Wind Energy Policy Guidance:</i> An e-mail had been circulated requesting issues to be addressed in new planning/policy guidance – eg heights, viewed areas, etc to which the follow were raised:</p> <p>ST: Public access during development?</p> <p>ID: Minimum safe distance from footpath to wind turbine?</p> <p>JO: Key access points for construction traffic should be considered at an early stage.</p> <p>ST: Should be asked to respect key paths and perhaps look at other Council policies that are in place.</p> <p>It was agreed that ID would report these issues back to Planner G Templeton</p>	<p>Dorenell Sub Group</p> <p>ID/JO</p> <p>RK</p> <p>ID</p>
<p>7.0</p>	<p>ACCESS ISSUES</p> <p>There were no access issues to report.</p>	
<p>8.0</p>	<p>ANY OTHER CURRENT BUSINESS</p> <p><i>Spey Viaduct:</i> FM asked IB how long the viaduct would be closed. IB informed the Forum that the required works were now much more extensive than originally envisaged and that costs were now way beyond the budget allocated to the project. The bridge would now therefore potentially be closed for 3 months, dependant on budgets but the Moray Council were looking at</p>	

	<p>alternative routes, signage, taxis, etc</p> <p><i>River Spey, Knockando Estate:</i> DM reported to the Forum that there had been a meeting involving estate gillies and paddlesports interests at Knockando Estate on 21st November 2011 where it was reported that ease of access on the Spey access was the best it has ever been.</p>	
<p>9.0</p>	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The date of the next meeting of Moray LOAF would be Thursday 7th June at 4pm in the Craigellachie Hotel Spey Room. It was also agreed that there would be a mini bus from the Craigellachie Hotel at 2pm taking Forum members to Rothes to walk back to Craigellachie looking at issues along a proposed path route.</p>	<p>ID</p>