

MORAY LOCAL OUTDOOR ACCESS FORUM

29TH MEETING

WEDNESDAY 6TH MARCH 2013

MINUTES

Present: Ian Douglas, Moray Council Outdoor Access Manager

Members Present: S Tyson (Chair), M Stelmach, C Roberts, J Smith, J Oliver, F Murdoch, I Cowe, R. R. MacPherson

Non Attendees: I Green, T Anderson.

Item		Action
1	Apologies	
	Apologies were received from G Bain, D MacPherson, W Metcalfe, D Stewart, S Reid, F Nicholson	
2	Accuracy of previous minutes	
	Item 5 Arndilly mis-spelled (delete first d) Item 6 C Roberts asked it to be noted that he had not committed to the Communications Sub-Group.	
3	Vacancies	
	R Marks, who has resigned, was thanked for her contribution to the Forum. As a result vacancies to fill are now two community and two land manager. The vacancies were reviewed by the Sub-Group comprising S Tyson, R Knight, W Metcalfe, D Stewart and I Douglas. The following candidates were recommended for adoption to the Group: Community: Michelle Gillibrand and Janet Trythall with 1 st reserve Patrick Carrol. Land Management: Rebecca Russell and Jamie Evans-Freke. Andrew Holtby withdrew due to a change of employment. The meeting approved the chosen candidates.	
4.	Matters Arising	
	Item 5: I Douglas still to progress the Isla Way project with Drummuir 21 and Drummuir Estate Item 7: Cabrach Paths Network response awaited from Cabrach Group on draft routes proposal following meeting. Noted the Huntly Development Trust (HTD) indicated it has some funding and has expressed an interest in joining up the pathways linking Huntly, Dufftown, Keith. The bridge required to cross a deep gorge on the Deveron in the Cabrach was discussed with estimates of	ID ID/JO

	<p>between £50k and £100k . Report due for next meeting.</p> <p>Item 13: Submission of projects to the Kinloss Army Engineering Corps by I Douglas. Some twenty five proposals have been lodged with the Engineers who will assess these and choose those which meet their training requirements. Progress to be reported back to Forum. Any further projects for Engineers to be submitted through I Douglas.</p>	<p>JO</p> <p>ID</p>
5	Business Plan	
	<p>Item 2: COAT has funding of £50k plus Council's £20k with the balance of funding being sought. This should be in place to allow a start to be made in Summer 2013. Planning permission not required.</p> <p>Item 3: Actioned – Forum consultation response submitted on the Main Issues Report of the Moray Development Plan.</p> <p>Item 4: Publicity and Promotion; New Sub-Group to be set up at next Forum meeting. Article and photographs for local paper to profile new members of Group.</p> <p>Item 6: John Ferguson presentation is unlikely to be available in the short to medium term. Ask him to provide a substitute presenter for a 2013 Forum meeting.</p> <p>Item 8: Open Space Strategy seen as a low priority by Moray Council and will now only be included generally in the Local Development Plan. In June business plan Item 13: Access strategy still to be actioned</p>	<p>ST</p> <p>ST</p> <p>ID</p>
6	Moray Walking Festival	
	<p>A programme is now in place and needs to be publicised. The use of social media such as Facebook and links to Festival website www.moraywalkingfestival.co.uk to be encouraged wherever possible.</p> <p>The Forestry Commission is in a position to provide grants of up to £1,000 for events taking place in woodland. This is being pursued to cover the Walking Festival booklets.</p> <p>Other community events may also apply to FC as appropriate.</p>	<p>All members of the Forum</p> <p>IC</p>
7	Policy Documentation Review – As per Sub-Group recommendations Item 12 in June business plan	
	Completed.	
8	Paul's Hill Gate	
	Contact has been made with the landowner and indications are that a resolution is possible. There remain concerns regarding security whilst work is still in progress which may delay access being available.	
9	COAT	

	As per Item 2 in June business plan	
10	A O C B	
	<p>ID to produce table of members attendance for the last three months for review at the next Forum meeting to establish potential action on poor attendance.</p> <p>Aspirational paths: Should the public be consulted to gauge which are the routes to prioritise? These exist on maps but lack funding.</p> <p>Public access to forests where work is in progress. Some concern was expressed that 'Keep Out' signs are left in place longer than necessary. It was explained that no evidence of on-going work does not indicate that work was finished. Contact with the relevant landowner was recommended.</p>	<p>ID</p> <p>CR</p>
14	Meetings for 2013 all 4.00 to 6.00pm	
	<p>Wednesday 5th June Elgin Library Gallery (note change from original date of 4th June)</p> <p>Tuesday 3rd September Elgin Library Gallery</p> <p>Tuesday 26th November Elgin Library Gallery</p>	