

# MORAY LOCAL OUTDOOR ACCESS FORUM

## 32nd MEETING

Tuesday 26th November 2013

### MINUTES

**Present:** Ian Douglas, Moray Council Outdoor Access Manager

**Members Present:** S Tyson (Chair), M Stelmach, C Roberts, J Oliver, F Murdoch, R. R. MacPherson, Michelle Gillibrand, Rebecca Russell, D Stewart, T Anderson, I Green, W Metcalfe, J Trythall.

**Non Attendees:** D MacPherson, F Nicholson (NHS Grampian), I Cowe, G Bain.

Item		Action
<b>1</b>	<b>Apologies</b>	
	Apologies were received from S Reid, Jamie Evans-Freke, J Smith,	
<b>2</b>	<b>Accuracy of previous minutes</b>	
	Item 7: Last line should read Plan (not Planning)	
<b>3</b>	<b>Procedures required for new member appointments</b>	
	<p>Four members finish their three year term at the end 2013                      All agreed current members could continue for another 3 years if they wished to do so.                      Gilbert Bain: Landowner/Land Manager (intent unknown as not present)                      Mary Stelmach: User (will continue or find alternate)                      Roy MacPherson: Community (not thinking of continuing but will check within his Group for replacement)                      Wilson Metcalfe: Community (wishes to continue)                      All above to contact ID or ST before Christmas to advise on their intent which will be reported at the next meeting.                      Any unfilled position to be advertised in the Northern Scot and other electronic media.                      Janet Trythall requested to be re-classified as User on members list NHS and SNH will be absentee members attending on request.</p>	<p>ID/ST</p> <p>ID</p>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Matters Arising</b>	
	<p>Item 3: NFU replacement still to be investigated.                      Item 10: Letter still to be sent to Planning re Gedloch track blockage                      Item 11: NAF/LAF Forum. ID and JO unable to attend</p>	<p>ST</p> <p>ST</p>
<b>5</b>	<b>Business Plan (Actions Update)</b>	
	<p>Item 1 – Agenda item                      Item 2 COAT Moray Way Project – ID confirmed Moray Costal Path at Covezea now completed within budget. JT expressed concerns re overall environmental impact of the works and washouts at east end of path. Washouts to be pursued as snaggings.                      Possible problem with access now available to Trail Bikes,</p>	<p>ID</p>

	<p>path to be monitored  Work on Dava Way to begin in January and due for completion by March (will be weather dependant)  Item 3 - As is  Item 4 – Targets 1 &amp; 2 achieved. Strategy Action Report is a separate item.  Item 5 - As is  Item 6 – Ian Douglas has pursued John Ferguson or substitute to attend future meetings. Proving difficult to get commitment. Michelle Gillibrand will talk on Community Planning as a substitute at the next Forum Meeting.  Item 7 – As is  Item 8 – As is  Item 9 – As is  Item 10 – As is  Item 11 – As is  Item 12 – IMD has been off work injured. Consultation document still to be completed. Will be put out for consultation early 2014.</p>	<p><b>ID</b></p> <p><b>ID</b></p> <p><b>MG</b></p> <p><b>ID</b></p>
<b>6</b>	<b>Draft Communications Plan – actions update</b>	
	<p>ID to issue final document version to members.  Actions to be reported upon:  Review and Develop Website: Hard to access Moray LOAF on the Moray Council website although individual activities readily found.  Website information on Moray LOAF to be updated and Friends of LOAF removed.  MG and FM to approach Moray Council IT Section with a view to maximising 'key' words to ensure maximum prominence on search engines.  Biennial Access Event: agreed to incorporate this at an existing event. Could incorporate gathering views of the public on Core Paths Plan Review.  Sub-group set up to organise event comprising a forum stand at Gordon Castle Highland Games to be family friendly with possible photo competition. Objectives to feature the Forum and outdoor access in Moray. Sub group comprises MG, RR, JE-F and JO. Query raised re insurance for stand.</p>	<p><b>ID</b></p> <p><b>ID</b></p> <p><b>MG/FM</b></p> <p><b>Event Sub-group</b></p>
<b>7</b>	<b>Core Paths Plan Review - sub group</b>	
	<p>Set up meeting to devise new candidate Core Paths. These then to be taken forward for public review  Sub-group comprises JO, RR, JT, CR supported by ID</p>	<b>Core Paths Sub-group</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Elgin Cycle Path Route</b>	
	<p>Re-convene sub group which was unable to attend at earlier date, This meeting to address how outstanding issues can be resolved and progressed. Sub-group comprises FM, IC, MG, RR, supported by ID.  Scottish Water and agents have agreed in principle to route running beside Moycroft Sewage works (see emails).  ID to meet with Flood Alleviation Scheme to agree position of new security fence with flood team which will accommodate cycle route.</p>	<p><b>ID</b></p> <p><b>Elgin Cycle Route Sub-group</b></p> <p><b>ID</b></p>

<b>9</b>	<b>COAT Moray Way Core Paths Project</b>	
	Latest Project progress recorded in business plan.  Douglas Baird to be requested to attend next meeting to discuss possible future projects in Moray.	<b>ID</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>Access Issues –</b>	
	<b>Gedloch Farm track blockage. Planning enforcement or LR(S)A S14 Enforcement?</b> : All agreed to explore Planning Enforcement first and if unsuccessful move to Access Legislation Section 14. Letter to be sent to Planning Authority by Moray LOAF. <b>Blocked track resulting from New house Planning Consent 13/00420/APP:</b> Developer Mr Wall at Dallas has established a large curtilage within the original wooded area, now cleared. This has had the effect of severing access through to the remaining woodland along the previous track as the granting of planning consent removed access rights. From the curtilage area. ID to advise people who made representations.	<b>ST</b>  <b>ID</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>A.O.C.B.</b>	
<b>A)</b>	Reduction of Council Countryside Services. ID confirmed the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deletion of a Ranger post, 1 Ranger left.</li> <li>• Deletion of Access Assistant, 1 Access Manager left.</li> <li>• Ceasing of Moray Training Programme for community works.</li> <li>• Reduction of grounds maintenance including paths.</li> </ul> Implications of this will mean less being done by the Council and more will have to be done by others. Funds will thus need to be sourced elsewhere , inc grants / wind farm cash or planning gain.	
<b>B)</b>	SNH Wild Land Consultants: Jean Oliver has responded as an individual. Forum will not respond as this is not an access issue.	
<b>C)</b>	Army Projects: 39 <sup>th</sup> Engineers have agreed to carry out 2 paths improvements on the Dava Way and drainage improvements on the Speyside Way (Daluaie to Aberlour). These works to take place early in 2014.	
<b>D)</b>	Roths Cycleway - ID is liaising with the local community group.	<b>ID</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>Date of Next Meeting</b>	
	The dates of the 2014 meetings have been arranged as below: Please note these have been <b>modified</b> from the provisional dates agreed at the meeting due to accommodation difficulties. <b>All meetings will take place in the Gallery at Elgin Library.</b>  TUESDAY 4 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH 4.00PM – 6.00PM  TUESDAY 13 <sup>TH</sup> MAY 4.30PM – 6.30PM (note half-hour later than normal)  WEDNESDAY 10 <sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 4.00PM – 6.00PM  MONDAY 24 <sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 4.00PM TO 6.00PM	

