

PERTH AND KINROSS OUTDOOR ACCESS FORUM

Minute of the Meeting of the Perth and Kinross Outdoor Access Forum held in the Committee Room, Fourth Floor, Council Building, 2 High Street, Perth on Thursday 21 November 2013 at 6.00pm.

Present: Nick Cole, Community (Convener)
 Peter Pearson, Community (Vice-Convener)
 John Andrews, Recreation
 Mary Conacher, Recreation
 Malcolm Strang Steel, Landowner/Manager
 William Lindsay, Landowner/Manager
 Ron Payne, Recreation
 Heather Baker, Recreation
 Alison Gibb, Community
 Clare Tomas, Agency

In attendance: Dave Stubbs, Countryside Access Officer, Perth and Kinross Council, and Paula Frazer, Committee Services.

Apologies: Councillor Bob Ellis; Hugh Anderson, Landowner/Manager; and Karen Mitchell, Agency.

Nick Cole in the Chair.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

The Forum agreed to vary the Order of Business from this point.

2. ELECTION OF CONVENER/VICE CONVENER

Nick Cole was unanimously re-elected as convener proposed by Malcolm Strang Steel and seconded by John Andrews. Peter Pearson was unanimously re-elected as vice-convener proposed by William Lindsay and seconded by Mary Conacher

3. NOTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The note of the meeting of the Perth and Kinross Outdoor Access Forum of 23 August 2012 was submitted and approved as a correct record subject to the following amendments: (1) Item 7(i) – delete the rest of the sentence after ‘Stewart Milne’; and (2) Item 11: replace the paragraph with, “The Forum noted that some landowners had been granted permission to retain the access tracks after all the pylons were completed.”

4. MATTERS ARISING

(i) Training event (paragraph 3(i) refers)

Following discussion the Forum agreed that a talk on “Shooting and Access Issues” would be held in Kinross on Friday 28 February at 9:30.

Action: M Strang Steel to advise venue in due course.

(ii) Kinclaven Churchyard (item 3(ii) refers)

Will Lindsay had met briefly with Sam Mercer Nairne; however the issue remained outstanding.

5. EXEMPTIONS AND OBSTRUCTIONS REPORT

There was submitted and noted a report (G/13/265) outlining Exemptions and Obstructions for November 2013.

In discussion the following points were noted:

(i) Spittalfield – SPIT/124

N Cole reported that walkers may possibly have been deterred from walking in the area due to advice on shooting from the keeper. The Estate would be contacted to clarify position on signage when shooting was taking place.

(ii) Pitcastle Estate - 00887

The Forum agreed that further investigation was required regarding the fencing and signage around the wildlife enclosure. It was agreed that N Cole, P Pearson, R Payne and W Lindsay would undertake a site visit on Wednesday 11 December at 10:00am.

Resolved:

- (i)** The Forum agreed the issues to be removed from the list from November 2013 as outlined in Report G/13/265.
- (ii)** N Cole and D Stubbs to meet with A Clegg to discuss the situation at Pitcastle Estate early in January 2014. **(D Stubbs)**
- (iii)** Circulate dates for sub-groups in 2014. **(D Stubbs)**

6. CORE PATHS IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE

There was tabled a report (G/13/323) providing an update on Core Paths Implementation – November 2013.

Resolved:

The Forum noted the position.

7. WATER ISSUES

(i) Tay Descent

Mary Conacher reported that the Tay Descent had proved to be very successful with 400 canoeists participating. No problems had been encountered with the fishing community during the event.

P PEARSON LEFT THE MEETING AT THIS POINT.

(ii) Luncarty

Mary Conacher reported that she was due to meet next week with the owner of the land, to discuss the car parking situation at Linn Road, Stanley.

The Forum noted that a planning application had been submitted for the erection of a rafting base, including car parking, at Grandtully.

Resolved:

- (i)** Send link to planning application to Forum members. **(D Stubbs)**
- (ii)** Write to company concerned to advise them of existing agreements on the River Tay. **(N Cole)**

8. CORRESPONDENCE

The Forum noted that Nick Cole had received a complaint in respect of access at Glen Lyon. D Stubbs had spoken to the farmer concerned, who does not accept that the path crossing his land is a core path, and it is alleged that the path has now been obstructed.

Resolved:

N Cole to visit the area concerned to assess the current situation.

9. MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

In Jane Pritchard's absence this item would be deferred until a future meeting.

10. ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

Jane Anderson

The Forum noted that Jane Anderson had resigned from the Forum.

12. DATE OF 2014 MEETINGS

There was submitted and noted a report G/13/266 outlining a Timetable of Meetings for 2014.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting would be held on Thursday 20 February 2014 at 6:00pm in the Committee Room, Council Building, 2 High Street, Perth.