

PERTH AND KINROSS OUTDOOR ACCESS FORUM

*Minute of meeting of the Perth and Kinross Outdoor Access Forum held in the Board Room, Dewars Centre, Ground Floor, Glover Street, Perth on Thursday 18 August 2016 at 6.00pm.

*The meeting proceeded inquorate and it will therefore be required that the minute is ratified at the next quorate meeting of the Forum.

Present:

- Nick Cole, Community (Convener)
- Hugh Anderson, Landowner/Manager
- John Andrews, Recreation (up to and including Item 5(i))
- Heather Baker, Recreation
- Councillor Michael Barnacle, Community
- Bob Bennett, Agency
- Councillor Bob Ellis, Agency
- Jennifer Herd, Community
- Sue James, Recreation
- Peter Pearson, Community (Vice-Convener)
- Mike Strachan, Agency

In Attendance:

Dave Stubbs, Greenspace Coordinator (Communities), and Heledd Rheinallt, Committee Services (both Perth and Kinross Council).

Apologies:

Donald Broad, Landowner/Manager; Mary Conacher, Recreation.

Nick Cole in the Chair.

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Convener welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were submitted as above.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest in terms of the relevant Codes of Conduct.

3. MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minute of meeting of the Perth and Kinross Outdoor Access Forum of 19 May 2016 was submitted and noted, subject to the following amendments:

- (i) Item 4(v) Park Village, Crieff CAMS code 00019 (Item 5 refers) to read *"The Forum noted that the issue at Park Village, Crieff had been resolved"*.
- (ii) Item 4(iii) Willowgate and Stockgreen CAMS code 01235 (Item 5(ii) refers) to read *"The Forum noted that a nearby landowner has an interest in purchasing some of the land on which the path lies..."*
- (iii) Item 10(i) action for N Cole to be deleted.
- (iv) Item 5(i) to read ***"(i) T in the Park Exemption 2016 – 7 July to 11 July 2016 (inclusive) in the interests of safety and security and to allow for a charge to be made for an event***

Resolved:"

It was noted that the minute of meeting of 19 May 2016 will still require to be ratified at the next quorate meeting of the Forum.

4. MATTERS ARISING

- (i) **Waymarking over trunk roads (Item 5(i) refers)**

Action:

This item be deferred until further information be provided by D Stubbs on options explored for warning or hazard signs before a core path crosses a trunk road.

(ii) Walnut Grove Level Crossing CAMS code 01141 (Item 4(ii) refers)

The Forum noted that members had been emailed a copy of the letter written by the Convener to the Council, the Law Commission and the relevant Scottish Minister.

(iii) Willowgate and Stockgreen CAMS code 01235 (Item 5(ii) refers)

The Forum noted the possibility of changing ownership of the land.

Resolved:

This issue be taken off the agenda for the Forum until future land ownership be confirmed.

(iv) Other Fora. NAF, NAF/LAF and LAF/LAF (Item 8 refers)

Action:

The Convener to ask members of the other local access forums whether they would like to have networking meetings in Perth.

(v) Exemptions and Obstructions Report – May 2016 (Item 5 refers)

The Forum noted that:

- (i) the Convener had written to Perth and Kinross Council and the relevant Scottish Minister regarding the issues of legal resources and powers that the Forum has, with a copy of the letter sent to the National Access Forum;
- (ii) D Stubbs had not written to the Mountaineering Council of Scotland regarding the longstanding issue at Glenlyon car park

at Inverar, as he had received correspondence from them regarding the issue.

(vi) Water Issues (Item 8 refers)

The Forum noted that the landowner of the area where exposed spikes are, and the Perth Canoe Club, had met to discuss the issue.

(vii) Dunning Glen Bridge (Item 9(iii) refers)

The Forum noted that following damage to the parapets at the bridge, Councillor M Barnacle had written to the architect regarding the possibility of finding a solution for fixing the damage.

5. EXEMPTION AND OBSTRUCTIONS REPORT – FEBRUARY 2016

There was submitted and noted a report (G/16/181) outlining Exemptions and Obstructions for August 2016.

(i) Exemptions

The Forum noted that the Solheim Cup will be in held at Gleneagles in 2019; therefore, an exemption order for the area will be applied for.

(ii) Obstructions

In response to a query from Councillor M Barnacle regarding legal advice sought for the obstruction at Fossoway, Larnbo, D Stubbs advised that the lawyer requires further information. He further advised that the core path had originally been objected to, but the Reporter had found in favour of the path as it is the best route in the area.

All issues were closed that needed to be closed, including the issue at Home Farm, Enochdhu.

(a) Pitcastle

Action:

D Stubbs agreed to circulate wording for signs at Pitcastle Estate to members.

(b) Millhaugh, Den of Alyth

Members discussed the core path obstruction at the sawmill, Den of Alyth.

Action:

The Convener to investigate the core path obstruction at the sawmill, Den of Alyth, and write to D Stubbs outlining any concerns regarding the obstruction.

(c) Taymount Woods

The Forum noted that D Stubbs will send further correspondence to the landowner and the Forestry Commission.

Action:

D Stubbs to change the date that the obstruction was first logged.

(d) Tillyrie

H Baker advised that the British Horse Society has money that can be used to pay for a gate suitable for horses.

Actions:

D Stubbs to write to the landowners again regarding the deer fence at Tillyrie.

6. CORE PATHS UPDATE

(i) Core Paths Implementation Report

There was submitted and noted a report by D Stubbs (G/16/182), summarising Core Paths Implementation progress to August 2016.

(ii) Core Paths Diversions

The Forum that the core path plan will be amended and reviewed in the future, and there is a long list of changes to be made; the process is likely to be that amendments are made one by one.

(iii) Publicising closed or hazardous paths

The Forum noted that the Council's website is currently being updated to provide clearer information on closed or hazardous paths.

7. WATER ISSUES

There was submitted and noted a report by M Conacher (G/16/183) regarding water issues.

Actions:

- (i) M Strachan to provide the Convener with information regarding the need for a licence from SEPA for clearing the blockage on the River Isla.
- (ii) The Convener to write to the landowners regarding the blockage on the River Isla.

8. BREADALBANE DEER MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Convener reported that the Breadalbane Deer Management Plan, which includes North Chesthill Estate, had been created by V Clements, Native Woods. D Gibson, Mountaineering Scotland had raised an issue regarding the text in the plan referring to access at North Chesthill Estate. The Forum noted that the Convener had sent a letter to V Clements setting out the relevant access laws.

Members discussed the issues regarding access at North Chesthill Estate.

Action:

D Stubbs to write to V Clements, Native Woods regarding the Breadalbane Deer Management Plan in consultation with the Chair, and then to send a copy of the letter to members.

9. CORRESPONDANCE

There was no correspondence.

10. ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

(i) Overgrown Paths

In response to a query from Councillor Barnacle, D Stubbs advised that schedules could be obtained from Community Greenspace for grounds maintenance.

(ii) Outdoor Access Forum Website

Action:

D Stubbs to update the Council's web pages regarding the Forum, including with changes to membership of the Forum following the AGM in May.

11. DATES, VENUES AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

D Stubbs reported that the Council's Democratic Services department will no longer be providing administrative support to the Forum, a position similar to other councils in Scotland. This support will be provided in future from the Council's Environment Service.

Members discussed the importance of the provision of support, due to the depth of issues faced by the Forum.

The Convener thanked the Council's Democratic Services department for its support, referring to the importance of this support in the functioning of the Forum.

The next meeting will take place on 17 November 2016, with the venue to be confirmed.