

## PERTH AND KINROSS OUTDOOR ACCESS FORUM

### MINUTE OF THE MEETING HELD 6pm 31<sup>st</sup> AUGUST 2023 @ THE NORTH INCH COMMUNITY CAMPUS & VIA ZOOM (87th MEETING)

**PRESENT:** Nick Cole, Mary Conacher, Councillor Hugh Anderson, Sarah Walker, Keith Robertson, John Andrews, Mark Thomson (in part).

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Calum Bachell, Dave Stubbs (minutes).

1. Apologies Jennifer Herd, Mike Strachan Joyce Carnegie, Anne Macintyre, Councillor John Duff.
2. Declarations of Interest. None.
3. Minute of meeting 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2023. Proposed KR, Seconded HA & agreed.
4. Matters Arising.
- 5i. **Action NC** to arrange internal meeting to discuss forum secretariat proposals.
- 6i. **Action CB** notes of meeting & revised obstructions criteria circulated.
- 10i. Following further complaints about access to Loch Faskally allegedly being deterred by the proprietor of the boathouse café DS has written. **Action DS/NC** to arrange a meeting with them.
5. PKC Access Forum Workshops
  - 5.i. Obstruction Criteria (revised) CB has circulated the revised criteria, as above, which will be used to prioritise obstructions going forwards.
  - 5.ii. Planning, access & path diversions. The workshop is planned for tomorrow, 1<sup>st</sup> September at Pullar House.
  - 5.iii. Other topics? Deferred.
6. Exemptions and Obstructions Report.

Report circulated. Meeting not quorate so must be deferred until next time.

  - 6.i. Issue 02126. The sub-group had agreed it could be closed – as it has now been resolved.
  - 6.ii. Issue 02166. DS to update report re more recent correspondence with LM at Aberargie.
  - 6.iii. Issue 01982. CB to follow up with traffic safety officers re proposals affecting Stewart Towers.

7. Forum Secretariat. PKC proposals for discussion.

7.i. NC had responded to PKC. No agreement as to costs. NC invited further comments from other members.

8. Forestry Sub-Group (verbal update JA)

8.i. JA reported that forestry firms are increasingly consulting the Forum direct, & this is preferable to consultation through Scottish Forestry as the Forum has opportunity to comment much earlier in the process. On occasion flagging up core paths & RoW or reminding land managers that core paths are not just for walkers. Commonly raised issues relate to felling & major forestry roads overlain over core paths. New planting on either side of paths lead to problem as trees grow. In these cases the Forum suggests a buffer to prevent encroachment.

8.ii. NC reported that revised Scottish Forestry Guidance being drafted. **Action NC** to raise buffer issue through the NAF.

9. Water Issues Report (verbal update MC)

9.i. Faskally Boating Station. See above.

9.ii. Grandtully. Unauthorised works undertaken by individual paddlers. Landowner has cancelled the lease as a consequence. The SCA are undertaking an investigation and are hopeful as to progress with the owner.

9.iii. Taymouth. MC/Richie Neill met the developer (DLC). Agreement to portage arrangement past works adj Chinese Bridge.

9.iv. Stanley. One group allegedly causing unreasonable disturbance. **Action NC** to write to them re obligations under 3.62 of SOAC.

10. Discovery Land Company development Taymouth Castle & Glen Lyon (verbal update NC/CB)

10.i. NC attended the public meeting 27/07/23. Concerns are primarily about the development at Taymouth Castle but also about the hill tracks at Glen Lyon. Community Greenspace is working closely with PKC Development Management. NC asked that officer keep the Forum in the loop.

11. Murrayshall Core Path & RoW (Bridleway) diversion (verbal update CB)

11.i. NC has written to the developer with the Forum's comments. CB is meeting the architects with the planning officer next week. NC asked that he reminds them he is available to provide further advice if required.

12. Correspondence

None.

### 13. Any Other Competent Business

13.i. HA drew attention to the Perth West planning application, originally submitted in 2020, which was coming to committee for a decision next week. Jane Pritchard had commented on the planning application for Community Greenspace previously.

13.ii. HA. Asked about the support available for paths groups. **Action DS** to circulate information on this.

13.iii. NC reported that KI may be looking to stand down at the AGM, or before if a replacement can be found.

13.iv. CB reported on progress re the Crieff-Comrie Railway Path. Agreement reached with 1<sup>st</sup> owner & close with 2 others. The current sale of the Lawers Estate is a complication. PKC is seeking agreement prior to the sale or will initiate the Path Order process.

14. Date & Time of Next Meeting 16<sup>th</sup> November 2023. Details TBA.