

PERTH AND KINROSS OUTDOOR ACCESS FORUM

MINUTE OF THE MEETING HELD 6pm 24th NOVEMBER 2022 VIA ZOOM (84th MEETING)

PRESENT: Nick Cole, Keith Robertson, Karen Inkster, Mary Conacher, Anne Macintyre, John Andrews, Mike Strachan, Sarah Walker, Councillor Hugh Anderson, Councillor John Duff, Mark Thomson and Sandy Simpson and Jennifer Herd,

IN ATTENDANCE: Dave Stubbs, Calum Bachell.

1. Apologies: Joyce Carnegie
2. Declarations of Interest. None.
3. Minute of meeting 9th June 2022. Proposed KR, 2nd JA & approved.
4. Matters Arising

Nick Cole has written to Andrew Thompson (item 4)

Exemption Order for Golf Seniors Open at Gleneagles (July 22) made and approved (item 5.i).

National Access Forum Forestry Sub-Group - no action to report (item 8.i).

Website updates and biographies. **Action DS** to circulate info. Patrick Higgins will update the website (item 10.i)

5. Water Issues Report. MC reported concern about irresponsible behaviour by student paddlers which is being addressed by the SCA.

6. Status of the Forum & Council Support

6.i. NC updated members on recent discussions with Council Officers who have suggested that the Forum takes a more active role arranging its own meetings and its own secretariat. HA, KR & AMc expressed concerns. Discussions are ongoing. **Action:** NC/CB to update members at the next meeting.

7. Workshops

7.i. PKC to revert to the Forum re. obstructions criteria - **Action CB**.

7.ii. Workshop programme to be advised for 2023.

8. Exemptions and Obstructions Report

8.i. Members are JA, HA, MS, KI & KR. No update as Sub-Group has not met prior to this meeting.

8.2. to Note the Council has received and answered a complaint about the possible requirement for an exemption order to for the Enchanted Forest Event and the reasons why PKC and FLS (as land manager) have not pursued this.

9. Access Problems reporting procedure.

9.i. JA reported problems which have now been resolved with the officers.

9.ii. JA suggested that at Athron Hill the developer is asked to refresh the signage put in place to divert the core path around construction works.

10. Forestry Sub-Group

10.i. Members are AMc, JA, JH and KR.

10.ii. JA reported consultations come with short deadlines there is therefore a requirement to respond without reference back to the full Forum. **Action JA** to draft terms of reference for the group to account for this. Consultation responses would be sent cc. to other members for their information only.

10.iii. MS reported that Scottish Forestry intend to make changes to their grant regime in 2023. The Forum may wish to comment on the proposals.

11. Correspondence

11.i. The Forum have been made aware of a planning application to extend the visitor carpark at Invervar. Members welcomed proposals and KR had comments in relation to disabled parking. **Action NC** to submit comments to Development Management.

11.i. A new land manager contact has been suggested. **Action DS/NC** to follow up with that person.

12. Any Other Competent Business

12.i. MC asked for landowner contacts at Clunie Loch. **Action DS** to advise through visitor management colleagues.

12.ii. NC reported that the interaction between LAFs and local authorities would be discussed at the next NAF meeting on 9th December.

12.iii. KR & HA expressed concerns about access issues arising at the Bertha Park development.

12.iv. JA asked about plans to review the Core Paths Plan. The Council has no current plans for this.

13. Date & Time of Next Meetings. **Action DS** to propose dates through doodle poll.