



# NLOAF NEWS

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Issue 3

March 2017

### NAF/LAF's joint meeting

Please note that the annual Joint NAF-LAF's meeting will be held on **Friday March 17th 2017**, at Battleby, Perthshire, so please note the date in your diaries.

Rob Garner (NAF Secretary) is suggesting **3 attendees** from each Local Access Forum Area. So if you'd like to go, please contact one of the Access Team for the programme and application form.

The meeting will run from 10am to 4pm. There will be tea/coffee and Lunch provided.

The programme will include hearing about recent developments in approaches and guidance over enjoying the outdoors with dogs, core path mapping, locked gates/rural security, update on case law and a participant-generated session, on topics which delegates request as being of most relevance and interest.

The organisers hope that a good proportion of local access forums and access staff can attend, together with national forum members.

[Battleby\\_centre@snh.gov.uk](mailto:Battleby_centre@snh.gov.uk)

Battleby Conference Centre, Redgorton, PERTH, PH1 3EW



## Changes to the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 update

This is to confirm that on 31 December 2016, Part 9 of the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2016 [Access Rights] came into force.

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2016/18/part/9>

This clarifies some issues and simplifies the process around amendments to core paths plans. It:

- clarifies circumstances in which a local authority should review a core paths plan;
- distinguishes between review procedures and procedures needed for a minor, ad hoc core path amendment;
- simplifies the process for path amendments, so that the same process applies to path removal, diversion and addition of a new path. Further, single amendments may be made in between core paths plan reviews;
- sets out a requirement for limited consultation on proposed modifications to core paths following objections;
- provides for the service of a notice upon the owners and occupiers of any land which is to be included in a core paths plan for the first time;
- extends the requirement of the 2003 Act so that a person who is seeking a declaration as to whether another person has exercised access rights responsibly or not, must serve the application on the person whose exercise of access rights is in question (this is in addition to the existing requirement to serve the application on the local authority and the landowner).



The Scottish Government will provide further guidance on the new changes later this year, and there will also be a formal consultation.

### **Get Walking Lanarkshire Dementia-friendly accreditation**

Get Walking Lanarkshire is in the process of making their existing health walks dementia friendly.

In February consultations will take place at Dementia Cafes across Lanarkshire, to ask people with dementia and their carers what would make the walks more accessible to them. Their opinions will be used to make changes to the way the health walks are currently run. In addition health walk leaders will be trained in dementia awareness and the current walk routes will be re-assessed for dementia friendliness.

Get Walking Lanarkshire hopes to achieve the Paths for All Dementia Friendly Walking accreditation this summer. For more information e-mail [getwalkinglanarkshire@northlan.gov.uk](mailto:getwalkinglanarkshire@northlan.gov.uk) or visit [www.pathsforall.org.uk/pfa/health-walks/dementia-friendly-](http://www.pathsforall.org.uk/pfa/health-walks/dementia-friendly-)

### **Clyde Walkway app**

The Clyde Walkway is some 40miles long, running between Partick in Glasgow and New Lanark in South Lanarkshire. It was created as a joint enterprise by the Glasgow City, South Lanarkshire, and North Lanarkshire Councils.

There has been some interest from the public in producing an Android smart phone 'app' to help guide people along the walkway, highlighting points of built and natural heritage along the way.

A Glasgow based developer has therefore been commissioned to produce an app, using data/text/pictures sent in by each of the Councils and Clyde and Avon Valley Landscape Partnership.

We hope that Forum Members can help us to promote the app once it is released to us.

This could potentially lead to further app development in the future, to help promote tourism/walking/health benefits throughout North Lanarkshire.

### North Lanarkshire Walking Festival 2017

As discussed at last October's NLOAF meeting, this year's walking festival will be expanded from 4 days to 7. The dates are Monday **7th August to 13th August**.



Would any Forum Members interested in leading or supporting a walk please get in touch with the Access Team as soon as possible. This is so we can draw up a n events list and produce associated leaflets, posters, fliers and website information.

Thanks

[greenspace@northlan.gov.uk](mailto:greenspace@northlan.gov.uk)

### Old Wishaw road bridge, Law



The bridge over the Garrion burn, between Waterloo and Law has been closed for Public safety (the 'I' beams are corroded, and abutments are scour damaged).

We have secured both sides with 'Heras' fencing, and displayed warning and advisory notices.

We are looking at ways to pay for a potential replacement, and are liaising with South Lanarkshire Council and Carluke Development Trust.

The route is a right of way on our side of the burn and a core path on the SLC side.

### **Dumbreck Local Nature Reserve and Garrell burn restoration**

Dumbreck Marsh is a valuable wetland site of 75 hectares located to the west of Kilsyth, with views of the Kilsyth Hills. The local importance of the site was recognised in 1994 when it was designated as a Local Nature Reserve. The site is also one of North Lanarkshire's Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) due to its wetland flora and fauna.

There are many opportunities to improve the site for the local community. The paths would benefit from upgrading and improved accessibility, directional signage and interpretation needs to be developed and improved. The habitats on site require attention, and the site has untapped potential for flood alleviation.

#### **Project aims**

- To investigate and restore river channel morphology and river processes along the lower reaches of the Garrell Burn from outskirts of Kilsyth to the confluence with the River Kelvin.
- To investigate and if appropriate mitigate the identified fish barrier adjacent to St. Patrick's Primary School.
- To integrate the project with further enhancements to the local environment for the community of Kilsyth.
- To identify the capacity of Dumbreck Local Nature Reserve to contribute to Flood Alleviation.
- Wetland feasibility study – to identify enhancements to the wetland habitat at Dumbreck LNR for breeding waders, water vole, and other wetland species.
- To consult with the local community on current use of the site and aspirations.
- To develop options for a consolidated path network that takes into account the recommendations for flood alleviation and wetland habitat enhancement in Dumbreck LNR and the around the Garrell Burn.

We will be consulting with the community this year through social media and community events to identify local aspirations for the site. Identified works are planned to be taken forward in 2018 subject to funding.

### **Sustrans Volunteer Ride Leaders**

Sustrans are looking for volunteers in Lanarkshire to help out with led cycle-rides for local people.

The cycle-rides will be weekend leisure rides or 10 or 20 miles aimed at families, people returning to cycling and those who enjoy a leisurely ride in the countryside.

You would be joining a local group of Sustrans volunteers who want to start a programme of regular led cycle-rides.

They offer their volunteer ride leaders Cycle Ride Leader training. This is a one-day course that aims to give leaders the confidence and the qualifications to lead groups of adults and families on bike rides.

### **Time Commitment**

Volunteers are asked to commit to 3 or more rides during the spring, summer and early autumn. Cycle rides usually take place at the weekend. It is really important for us that volunteers turn up to help with rides they have signed up for.

### **Training and Support Offered:**

- Cycle Ride Leader training
- Opportunity to work with a leading UK charity
- Induction and support from Sustrans Volunteer Co-ordinator
- Newsletters to keep you informed about Sustrans' work
- Agreed expenses.
- Safeguarding Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults

### **Contact Information**

To apply for this role go to the following link:

<http://www.sustrans.org.uk/volunteer/get-involved/vacancies?region=48> ,

For more information about this role please contact **Lisa Morton**, Volunteer Co-ordinator, Communities on [lisa.morton@sustrans.org.uk](mailto:lisa.morton@sustrans.org.uk) or call **0131 346 1384**.

### **John Muir Way accolade**

The John Muir Way has officially (Jan 2017) been recognised as one of Scotland's 'Great Trails.'

The 134 mile route – which stretches between Helensburgh in the west and Muir's birthplace in Dunbar on the east – joins other long distance paths which have been honoured with the same award.

The John Muir Way is the 28th Long Distance Route to be given the accolade by SNH. Since its launch in April 2014 the route has fulfilled the key criteria to earn the highly sought after status.

The JMT runs just north of Dullatur golf course, Croy and Twechar.

<http://johnmuirway.org/>

### **NLOAF AGM**

Our next NLOAF meeting will be on **Thursday 27th April 2017** at 2pm, Gartlea Community Centre, Airdrie ML6 9PL.

Further details, minutes from last meeting and an agenda will be emailed out closer to the time.

Please feel free to contact us on the details below.

### **NLOAF on Facebook**

There was some discussion at the last NLOAF meeting about setting up a Facebook page for the group, to raise awareness about the existence and work of the access forum in North Lanarkshire. Our Chair, Jim Cassidy, kindly agreed to create such a page for us, and it went 'live' in November 2016.

The site appears to have a few comments already from members of the public, which is good news. Check out the site on this link:

<https://en-gb.facebook.com/NLOAF/>

### Dalzell People Counter

The first set of figures have been extracted from the new people counter, opposite the RSPB car park at Dalzell Estate. There is a brief summary below.

Month	Dates (inclusive)	Number of walkers per month	Number of walkers per week	Number of walkers per day	Number of walkers per hour
July	1 – 31 July 2016	2844	644	92	3.80
August	1 – 31 August	3031	686	98	4.08
September	1 – 30 September	2876	672	96	4.12
October	1 – 31 October	3060	692	99	4.12
November	1 – 30 November	2320	542	77	3.20
December	1 – 31 December	2176	492	70	2.91
	<b>AVERAGE per month</b>	<b>2718</b>	<b>621</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>3.70</b>
	<b>6 month TOTALS</b>	<b>16307</b>	<b>3728</b>	<b>532</b>	<b>22.23</b>



A remarkably consistent set of visitor numbers during July to October, with a tale-off starting in November.

**SRDP upgrading of CP71—Dullatur**

An SRDP application, made in May 2016, has received approval from SNH. Once we receive a contract for the work, we can make arrangements for a contractor to carry out the work.

These works take place over the summer and involve upgrading over 300m of CP71 with a 1.8m wide, 330m long Ultitrec/Toptrec path along with associated drainage and signage.

Once the work has been carried out, we can claim the money back from SRDP.

**Contact us:**

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