

NORTH LANARKSHIRE OUTDOOR ACCESS FORUM



Chair: Jim Cassidy

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 14TH JUNE 2018
GARTLEA COMMUNITY CENTRE, AIRDRIE. (2.00PM - 4PM)

Present: Mark Palmer (**MP**) [*NLC Access Officer*]; Hugh Ilgunas (**HI**) [*NLC Access Officer*]; Ian Jarvis (**IJ**) [*Friends of Kelvin Valley Park*]; Ann Glen (**AG**) [*Friends of Brownsburn Community Park et alia*]; John Peter (**JP**) [*User*]; Paul Carter (**PC**) [*Kilsyth and Villages Community Forum*]; Cllr Gillian Fannan (**GF**) [*NLC*]; Jim Cassidy (**JC**) [*User*]

Apologies: Peter Kane (PK) [*Sustrans/User*]

Not present: Shirley Ann Duncan (**SD**) [*User*]; Cllr Ann Weir (**AW**) [*NLC*]; Pardeep Chand (**PC**) [*NLC Access & Forestry Manager*]

1	Welcome, introduction and Apologies.	ACTION
	MP welcomed Forum Members. Round table introduction for the benefit of Cllr Fannan. Apology from PK.	
2	<p>Matters arising</p> <p>MP highlighted a recent email that AG had sent to the Council regarding Council employees voting on Access Forum votes and the legality of such. For clarity, No Council employee voted at the last Access Forum meeting through choice, even though the official guidance states that Council employees can vote on Forum matters should they wish, and it is NOT illegal. JC requested that Forum Members' names are recorded in the minutes in the future.</p> <p>JC wrote to North Lanarkshire Council about the lack of bicycle racks in and around North Lanarkshire but Airdrie in particular. Got a reply back. Sustainable transport travel survey link on the NLOAF Facebook page. www.snapsurveys.com/wh/s.asp?k=152543137915</p> <p>IJ proposed minutes as correct. AG seconded.</p>	
3	Greenspace restructure	
	MP gave a brief update on the Greenspace staffing restructure. PC requested that an email be sent to Forum Members with a current Greenspace staffing structure/job descriptions.	HI
4	Section 14 updates	
	Letters sent out to Annathill Farm regarding CP109 fence restriction. Spoken to land manager and now trying to organise a site visit. Ongoing.	
5	Section 11 updates	
	MP highlighted the 2x S11 orders needed to cover temporary path/area closures during the European Championships. One is being passed to Scottish Ministers as it is for 6 days. We will be putting up signage soon advising of the restrictions. There was general agreement that the Games are a positive benefit to North Lanarkshire. No objections to the closures from the Access Forum.	

NORTH LANARKSHIRE OUTDOOR ACCESS FORUM



6	Coatbridge and Airdrie sustainable transport consultation	
	Mentioned in 'Matters arising'	
7	Cumbernauld to Kelvin Valley links	
	<p>MP with some background to the <i>CP71</i> Wester Dullatur Farm path upgrade project that fell through. The project was hampered by the various formal permissions required from the stakeholders in the area, which when sorted, ran us into the newt breeding season. Stakeholders included the owner of the farm, Scottish Power, SNH, Forestry Commission and Historic Environment Scotland. NLC will re-apply for funding this winter.</p> <p>The <i>Wyndford Road</i> between Wyndford Lock and Garnhall road is officially closed. The Access Officers and several Forum members voiced opinion that the route is a locally important through route and that we should look at trying to make it into a future Core Path. PC stressed the importance of the route to Cllr Fannan. PC and Cllr Fannan agreed to raise the point at the next Local area partnership meeting and with NLC Head of Service.</p> <p>JC to approach Scotways with an enquiry to see if the road can be made into an adopted Right of Way.</p> <p><i>CP75</i> Dullatur to Croy Station path mentioned by PC as a project that has been needing some attention for a number of years. The path suffers from scour damage after heavy rain. Scottish Water have been contacted to see if there's a problem with their assets, but they say the problem isn't with them. PC mentions the local importance of this link. MP explained that the path isn't on NLC land. So funding is difficult for a Council. Cllr Fannan suggested Campsie Board funding as a potential. Cllr Fannan to look into the possibility of LAP funding for the path repairs/improvement.</p>	
8	CP190, Viewpark (section 20 update)	
	MP highlighted the new planning application that has been submitted to NLC for expansion of the Grants Distillery at Strathclyde Business Park. The application would seek the stopping up and diversion orders needed to re-route CP190 at Grove Wood. This is the same path diversion that was overwhelmingly rejected by the local community when the landowner applied to the Access Officers to divert it using the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003. The new development proposals will now be through the Town and Country Planning Act, and the Access team will have little say on the matter, other than some comments through the planning consultation process. Cllr Fannan to raise awareness of this move elsewhere.	
9	2018 Walking Festival	
	<p>MP handed out a draft events list for this years planned festival. (17th – 24th September)</p> <p>PK has shown some interest in doing a few cycle events again this year.</p> <p>JC offered to do help with the 3 lochs ramble, Salsburgh to Caldercruix, but requests we do it in reverse as the pub at Caldercruix is shut, and it's a bit of an anti-climax to finish there.</p> <p>PC offered a Heritage walk taking in Twechar, the canal and Dumbreck. 2-5pm, 5 miles, Tuesday 18th Sep @ Auchinstarry Quarry.</p> <p>JC pointed out that the draft events descriptions need updating.</p> <p>Access Officers to finalise events and leaflet.</p>	
15	AOCB	
	<p>JC requesting that NLC try and promote the Walking Festival better this year.</p> <p>JC offered to put the final events list on NLOAF Facebook page. Access Officers to email over.</p> <p>Cllr Fannan suggested sending events details to all Elected Members to highlight walks in their area on their own Social Media.</p>	JC

NORTH LANARKSHIRE OUTDOOR ACCESS FORUM



	<p>PC mentioned the need for more leaflet racks in Libraries, Sports Centres etc. that aren't managed/populated by a Media Company. The Media Company racks tend to be for National interests i.e. Edinburgh Castle, rather than local events and attractions. Look into the possibility of advertising in new areas this year, such as Scotways and The Association for the protection of rural Scotland. Some discussion to finish about the cons and merits of trying to produce a grading system for our walks. Overall, felt that we keep the descriptions as they are for now.</p>	
	Date of next meeting: <u>Tuesday 27th November 2018</u>	All note