

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Minute of Falkirk Countryside Access Forum

Tuesday 18 March 2008

<p>Present</p> <p>Mike Ewart, CSFT John Davidson, Scotways Hugh Lyons, CTC Craig Dinwoodie, Forestry Commission Stuart McAllister, Bo'ness Community Council Peter Rowe, Falkirk Access Assessment Group Bob Smith, Airth Community Council John Ferguson, Ramblers Association Shelia Hall, BHS, FARAG Horse group representative Mandy Brown, Access Officer, Falkirk Council Angus Duncan, Access Team Leader, Falkirk Council</p>	<p>Apologies</p> <p>Guy Wedderburn, SRPBA & Callendar Estate Maria Montinaro, Shieldhill and California Community Council Colin Ward, Paths for All Partnership Julie Cole, TPU, Falkirk Council Lisa Duggan, SNH Jamie Smart, NFUS PC Jim Bell, Community Safety Officer, Central Scotland Police Dave Bennett, Lionthorn Community Woodland Group</p>
<p>Also Attending</p>	<p>Not Present</p>

Item	Heading	Discussion	Decision	By Whom
1.	Present and Apologies	Noted		
2.	Minutes of Last Meeting	Approved	Put on Falkirk Council website.	MB
3.	Matters Arising	Horse access issue - barriers on canal at Bonnybridge	Take up issue with BW	MB/AD
4.	Round Table Partner Update	<p><u>Mike Ewart, CSFT</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Papers circulated detailing current CSFT access-related projects, and projects to be developed during 2008-2009 • Mill Lade project – desire for fully accessible route. Consultancy project will look at this 		

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		<p><u>John Davidson, SCOTWAYS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walkers access in the Falkirk area remains good <p><u>Hugh Lyons, CTC</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steps installed as part of cycleway at Summerside excludes use by cyclists and wheelchairs. This issue has still not been sorted <p><u>Angus Duncan, Falkirk Council</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Several access improvement projects being delivered for Falkirk Council by CSFT • Other projects include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cobblebrae path upgrades - South Falkirk Environmental Action Plan projects (due for completion April 2008). There will be a celebration event for this in early summer 2008. • Ranger Service – 2008 Events diary is now out <p><u>Craig Dinwoodie, Forestry Commission</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scottish Rural Development Programme – information circulated. Keep an eye on the Scottish Government website for developments 	<p>Raise again with Falkirk Council's Transport Planning Unit</p> <p>Circulate to forum members</p>	<p>MB/AD</p> <p>MB</p>
		<p><u>Stuart McAllister, Bo'ness Community Council</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Well attended public meeting recently held in Bo'ness to discuss Kinneil woodland projec • Bo'ness to Blackness foreshore path – project being led by Falkirk Council's Cycling Officer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - possible alternative routes that may be better for cyclists discussed, e.g. Carriden House - Stacks Farm - Cauldcoats • Leaflet showing path networks in and around Bo'ness/Blackness – currently under development by Falkirk Council • Path works being undertaken by CSFT on behalf of Falkirk Council to divert a route at St Mary's Primary School, Bo'ness <p><u>Peter Rowe, Shopmobility</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group is generally less active during the winter due to the weather • Keen to get out and about to test paths 		

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		<p><u>Bob Smith, Airth Community Council</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Path from Dunmore to Parsonage – recently completed • Next section to Bowtrees is being progressed • B9124 to A905 – no dropped kerb where path links to the Pineapple • Dunmore Park development has been given planning permission. Question raised about what effect this will have on the through paths during development • Reminder that ticks start to become active at 3.5°. BS will be erecting notices for Airth area again this year. There will be a Scottish Government information leaflet later in 2008 • Woodland users beware – roe buck season starts 1 April with most shooting taking place in April and May • Wildlife crime – illegal hare coursing is a problem in the area. Please report any illegal activities to the police <p><u>John Ferguson, Ramblers Association</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main problems occurring outwith Falkirk area, with an ongoing blocked access issue at Sauchieburn, Stirling. Disappointed with response from the local authority and apparent lack of understanding among planning departments of implications of access legislation. • Falkirk Council is looking into possibility of producing some supplementary planning guidance about access <p><u>Sheila Hall, FARAG</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Candie to Standburn ROW project completed – fencing and gates installed to create a horse-accessible route. Thanks to SNH and Falkirk Council for funding contribution towards this • Maddiston link path – works currently on site to upgrade path to 2.5m wide horse-accessible track • Bonnybridge blocked access issue ongoing • Riders filming session took place last week on the Roughcastle paths – the tracks are tremendous 	<p>Take up with Roads Dept</p> <p>Check with Development Management</p> <p>Noted</p>	<p>MB/AD</p> <p>MB/AD</p>
		<p><u>Colin Ward, Paths for All Partnership</u> (update provided by email)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signage publication rewrite ongoing. Due for publication late spring/early summer • Training programme 2008-09 out now – see website • Right Track publication due for circulation early April 		

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5.	Core Paths Planning	<p>Paper circulated detailing all representations and objections to the Draft Core Paths Plan received to date. Formal objections discussed and decisions recorded - see attached table.</p> <p>Reminder that representations must be made in writing and received by Falkirk Council by 30 April 2008. Joint Falkirk Access Forum response should also be discussed by forum members</p>	Co-ordinate joint Forum response to draft Core Paths Plan	GW
6.	Access Forum Review	All to consider who else should be invited to attend future Access Forum meetings.	Bring suggestions to next meeting	ALL
7.	AOB	No other business		
8.	DONM & Venue	<p>Thursday 19th June, 1pm, lunch followed by site visits (paths upgraded as part of South Falkirk Environmental Action Plan project), lunch/meeting venue to be confirmed</p> <p>Tuesday 23rd September, 7pm, Municipal Buildings, Falkirk (sandwiches, teas and coffees provided)</p> <p>Thursday 18th December, 2pm, Municipal Buildings, Falkirk (teas, coffees and biscuits provided)</p>		