



**The Clackmannanshire Access Forum**

**Minute of meeting held on Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> November 2017  
at Kilncraigs, Alloa**

	<b>Action</b>
<b><u>Present</u></b>	
<b>Landowners/Land Managers:</b> Ian McFarlane, John Wilson	
<b>User group representatives:</b> Eric Davidson, Linda Howson, John Hutcheson	
<b>Community group representatives:</b> Dick Clark, David Scott	
<b>Council:</b> Martin Dean	
<b>Observer:</b> Marilyn Scott	
<b><u>1.0 Apologies</u></b>	
<b>1.1</b> Apologies were received from: - Caroline Crawford, Alison Fox, Barbara Maddox, Brian Poett and Sir Robert Stewart.	
<b><u>2.0 Gartmorn Dam Management Plan – Lisa Ford</u></b>	
<b>2.1</b> Lisa, of the Council’s Ranger Service, gave a presentation on the draft management plan for Gartmorn Dam Country Park. The plan is for a 5 year period from 2018-22. It was agreed that Lisa would forward the draft plan to Forum members.	<b>LF</b>
<b><u>3.0 Approval of draft minute of meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2017</u></b>	
<b>3.1</b> Linda proposed that the minutes were approved. This was seconded by Eric.	
<b><u>4.0 Matters arising from meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2017</u></b>	
<b>4.1 Previous meeting</b> Dick thanked John H for chairing the previous meeting.	
<b>4.2 Gartmorn Dam Country Park</b> Martin reported that the Scottish Natural Heritage Officer who should be	

<p>contacted over the deterioration in the condition of the Site of Special Scientific Interest at Gartmorn Dam, is Henry Lima who is based at the SNH office in Stirling.</p>	
<p><b>4.3 Dog walkers</b>  Martin reported that the Scottish Outdoor Access Code says that a short lead is less than 2m and that the Code also says that a dog should be close at heel in some places such as recreational areas.  He reported that the SOAC doesn't clarify what close control is for dog walkers, but that the Fighting Irresponsible Dog Ownership website says that whilst close control isn't defined in legal terms, it is taken to mean that a dog is under the voice or whistle command of its owner or held on a retractable lead.</p>	
<p><b>4.4 Greener Greenways</b>  Martin reported that the Roads Authority have powers it can use to require a hedge cutter to sweep away the arisings where the adjacent road/path/footway is adopted.  He also reported that the Roads Authority are going through the adoption process for sections of the National Cycle Network which aren't currently adopted.</p>	
<p><b>4.5 Path maintenance in Jerah woodlands</b>  David asked whether Forestry Commission Scotland (who had approved the tree planting) had imposed any conditions on the woodland manager to maintain the paths. Martin agreed to investigate this and report back.</p>	<b>MD</b>
<p><b>4.6 City Deal</b>  Martin reported that he had circulated the April update of the City Deal Programme to Access Forum members.</p>	
<p><b>4.7 Access Forum site visit in August</b>  Martin reported that the site visit was cancelled because there were safety concerns at the proposed location.</p>	
<p><b><u>5.0 Update – Access and Countryside Projects Officer</u></b></p>	
<p><b>5.1 Clackmannan Tower</b>  Martin advised that Historic Environment Scotland have erected signage following advice from the Access Forum.  The signage reads “Clackmannan Tower is a protected historic monument. No camping or fires please”.</p>	
<p><b>5.2 Tillicoultry Glen</b>  Martin reported that retaining walls are due to be built at 3 locations in Tillicoultry Glen, with contractors due to start work at the end of November. The works will stabilise the bank (between the path and the burn) where it was eroded last winter.</p>	
<p><b>5.3 Alva Glen</b>  Martin reported that bridge strengthening works require to be undertaken to a bridge in the glen.</p>	
<p><b>5.4 Enabling Projects In Clackmannanshire</b>  Martin reported that EPIC have appointed a Project Officer and that they will be undertaking minor works on a number of paths in Clackmannanshire.</p>	

<b>5.5 Events</b>	
Martin reported that events continue to use the path network in Clackmannanshire and that a cross country race had taken place at Lornshill the previous weekend.	
<b>6.0 Inner Forth Landscape Initiative</b>	
<b>6.1</b> Martin reported that 2017-18 is the final year of IFLI.	
<b>6.2</b> He advised that 3 access projects are still due to be delivered in 2017-18, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inner Forth Inches Trail</li> <li>• Clackmannan and Alloa Park Access Improvements</li> <li>• Cambus Woods</li> </ul>	
<b>7.0 City Deal</b>	
<b>7.1</b> Martin drew the Forum's attention to a report on the Stirling and Clackmannanshire City Region Deal that was submitted to the meeting of Clackmannanshire Council on 31 <sup>st</sup> August 2017.	
<b>7.2</b> The report identified that projects are proposed at Alloa, Sauchie and Forestmill.	
<b>7.3</b> The project at Alloa Regeneration Project includes works in the Town Centre, at Alloa West Business Park and on the Forth Riverside, where harbour regeneration and coastal realignment is proposed.	
<b>7.4</b> The Sauchie Development includes school and roads infrastructure, whilst the Forestmill Development will demonstrate the feasibility of a community energy network and provide digital infrastructure.	
<b>8.0 CC54</b>	
<b>8.1</b> Martin reported that ScotWays and the Clackmannan Development Trust have queried whether the route is a public right of way and that ScotWays records refer to an anomaly being reported in 2007.	
<b>8.2</b> Martin advised that the former District Council asserted the route as a public right of way on 11th March 1992, but that this was disputed and the matter was referred to Alloa Sheriff Court in 1994/95.	
<b>8.3</b> The matter was discharged by the Court in the hope that a settlement could be negotiated and consideration was given into entering into a public path creation agreement with the landowners.	
<b>8.4</b> Martin advised that the key issue that is now being considered is whether the 1992 public right of way assertion stands in light of subsequent events.	
<b>9.0 Feedback - Forum members</b>	
<b>9.1</b> Eric reported that he has queried whether there is a path which links Dollarbeg with the B913 and that Martin is investigating the matter.	<b>MD</b>
<b>9.2</b> John H queried whether it was permissible to have a bull in a field which has a core path/public right of way. Martin commented that it was dependant on the species, and undertook to find out more and report back.	<b>MD</b>

<p><b>9.3</b> John W reported that there had been motorbikes on his land in the summer, but that signage posted by Martin had stopped this. He also reported that some walkers using the Drummie path had strayed from this and ended up going through the farm yard. It was agreed waymarker discs should be posted to help walkers follow the path and that undergrowth that was making it difficult to use the path should be strimmed.</p>	<b>MD</b>
<p><b><u>10.0 Any other business</u></b></p>	
<p><b>10.1</b> Martin reported that Clackmannanshire Council is undertaking a budget consultation. The consultation lasts until 2nd February 2018 and findings will be used to identify priorities for 2018-19.</p>	
<p><b><u>11.0 Time and date of next meeting</u></b></p>	
<p><b>11.1</b> The next meeting of the Access Forum will be the AGM and will take place from 7.00-8.30pm on Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at the Dumyat Centre in Menstrie.</p>	<b>ALL</b>