

Inverclyde Local Access Forum

Minute of Quarterly Meeting

Held at 7pm on the 21st of March 2019 at Inverclyde Community Development Trust 7.5 John Wood Street, Port Glasgow

1. WELCOME: Shona welcomed everyone to Inverclyde Community Development Trust and thanked them for their attendance.

2. APOLOGIES:

Yvonne Christie (Community Council Representative)
Alex Wooler (On foot recreational user's representative)
Mike Holcombe (Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park)
John Watson (Scotways)

3. PRESENT:

Shona Morris (Cycling UK / Belles on Bikes) in Chair
Ash Hamilton (Inverclyde Council – Planning Policy)
Councillor John Crowther (Inverclyde Council Representative)
Kieran Wild (Active Travel Officer – Community Tracks)
Lorna McCartney (Water sport representative)

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: Approved

Proposed - John Crowther **Seconded** - Shona Morris

5 ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

(a) Core Path 12 – Inverkip to Ardgowan via Bankfoot

There is a long standing issue of signs saying “private access only” and “bull in field” that have been put up. There is also a Network Rail owned sign that has been painted over. The landowner said that there are no issues with walkers but the signs are to deter people from driving along the private road. The Ramblers use the area quite a lot on a regular walk from Lunderston Bay.

ACTION : Ash has visited the site and has written to the owner from Inverclyde Council asking for him to contact the Council to discuss and understand the signs. A possible solution is to restrict car access to the private road but maintain walkers access to the core path, would be to install a gate across the road and have a kissing gate for walkers. Ash will follow up with further update at the next next meeting.

(f) Members of ILAF

Shona wrote to Ardgowan Estate as the major landowner in the area and Sir Ludovic Shaw-Stewart is interested in becoming a member of the Inverclyde Local Access Forum. Discussions was had about extending membership to a representative of a local disability group.

ACTION: Shona to invite Sir Ludovic to the next meeting and explore inviting other representative of local disability group.

6. ACCESS ENQUIRIES:

(a) Proposed temporary path closer in Quarrier's Village

SEPA have contacted Inverclyde Council to inform them of their plans to temporarily close a non-core path network path that runs along side the river in Quarrier's Village in order to install a fish pass.

7. UPDATES:

(a) Inverkip Power Station Development

Shona has invited Turley to this meeting but they were not able to attend but have indicated they will attend the next meeting.

(b) Request for full review of Core Path Network

Kieran requested that there be a full review of Inverclyde Core Path Network noting that I would be good to remove the vaguely defined “on road or pavement” from the map key. There is no reason for the map not to be clear if the route is just the side of a road like section along the Old Largs Road (core path 27) or there is an actual pavement. It would be good to add new paths that have been developed by Clyde Muirshiel

Regional Park at Scroggy Bank. Ash agreed that the Inverclyde Core Path Network is eleven years old and due for a review but there is not currently staff within Inverclyde Council to conduct what is a very time consuming exercise that is strictly defined within Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 legislation. It may be possible that a full review could be done in 2020. Kieran offered to help to do preparatory work for a possible review of in 2020.

ACTION: Kieran will discuss with Ash what can be done to support a future review of the core paths network.

(c) National Access Forum

Shona circulated an email with details of the upcoming National Access Forum in Perth on 5th April. Ash & Shona will attend and get travel expenses from their employers. Unfortunately, ILAF cannot provide expenses but if any members wish to attend please contact Shona.

(d) Inverclyde Local Access Forum on Facebook

Lorna stated that ILAF has a Facebook page.

ACTION: Lorna to email the link to Facebook page to Shona to circulate.

(e) Issue with litter between Lunderson Bay and Cloch Lighthouse

There is an issue with litter building up beside the road between Lunderson Bay and Cloch Lighthouse. There are several beach cleans in Inverclyde but this section is not being cleared of litter regularly.

ACTION: Ash to speak to his colleagues in Inverclyde Council and report back at the next meeting

(f) Core Path 26b (Berryyards)

Inverclyde Council has agreed to remove Core Path 26b from the Core Path Network on the grounds that there is no visible path.

(g) ILAF Freedom of Information

Following the EGM at the last meeting of the ILAF, Inverclyde Council's Legal Department have amended the Terms of Reference so ILAF is no longer considered a public body and thus reduce the possibility of a Freedom of Information request being made direct to the ILAF.