

INCLUSIVE CAIRNGORMS

**Minutes of the meeting held on 5th June 2014
at 11.00am in CNPA office, Grantown-on-Spey with video conference link to
CNPA Ballater and Loch Lomond & the Trossachs NPA**

Present:

In Grantown:

Anne MacLean (chair)	Mobility and Access Committee Scotland
Elsbeth Grant	CNPA
Anne Dempster	Strath Sunshine Club
Pete Carson	Health and Happiness
Fraser Cardow	Highland Small Communities Housing Trust
Alice Mayne	CNPA
Janette MacLeod	CNPA
David Clyne	CNPA
Jane Cox	COAT Walking to Health
Caroline Cornfield	Caberfeidh Horizons
Heather McNeish	Caberfeidh Horizons

In Ballater:

Eric Baird (vice chair)	Cairngorms Ranger Services
Gordon Riddler	CNPA Board
Kevin Hutchens	Independent Social Worker
Alasdair Johnston	NP resident
Vittoria Hancock	Scottish Rural Churches Group

In LL&TNPA:

Iain Nicholson	Head of Planning
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Apologies:

Hector MacDonald	Scottish Disability Equality Forum
Graeme Rodger	Eden Court
Carole Paterson	Braemar 3 rd Age lunch group
Morag Campbell	B&S Access Panel
Maggie Lawson	B&S Community Transport Company
Kate Christie	CNPA
Sasha Devine	Highlands and Islands Equality Forum / SCVO
David Atkinson	Scottish Rural Churches Group
Alan Melrose	COAT
Alison Cush	LL&TNPA

Welcome and Introduction

1. The chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, noting the apologies.

Minutes of Last Meeting

2. The minutes of the meeting held on 11 March were approved.

Matters arising from the Minutes

3. Re para 7, EG reported that the CNP Design Awards have been postponed till 2016 which will coincide with Year of Homecoming, Innovation, Architecture and Design. Accessibility criteria / best practice to be flagged up nearer the time. **Action CNPA**
4. Re para 11, EG reported that a draft of the Easy Access Guide will be presented to IC at their next meeting. **Action AS-S**

Caberfeidh Horizons – Carolyn Cornfield

5. Carolyn gave a presentation on the background and work of Caberfeidh Horizons, a social enterprise based in Kingussie that was set up in 2005 by carers of the day care centre. It provides training and work experience in the community for adults and young people with a learning disability, mental health and/or addiction problem, and the long term unemployed. Their main activities include:
 - Second hand book shop
 - Tourist information point
 - Highland Books online to generate income
 - Computer training
 - Health and fitness programme including gym, boccia, swimming, Walking to Health group
 - Gardening - St Vincents therapy garden, Am Fasgadh growing space
 - Wildlife Wombles – based at Wildlife Park
 - Community involvement – Book Festival, Bikefest, Food on Film, Speysound Radio
 - Income generation- raffles, coffee mornings
6. The project has grown from 10 volunteer directors in 2005 to employing 3 staff, 28 project volunteers, 35 clients and most recently having a full time intern for 20 weeks. Carolyn's main focus is looking for future funding as the current funding ends in March 2015.
7. Their current plans involve buying a warehouse for a training centre and where they can increase their books online to 250k. Also exploring furniture recycling (The Shed) and pre-employment training through local schools.
8. Comments from IC included:
 - Have they considered producing publications in alternative formats eg tape, video, large print, Easy Read.
 - Reference to a venture in Arran 'Upcycling' which repairs and sells second hand bikes <http://arranecosavvy.org.uk/>
 - Working with local estates to provide venison to local food banks
 - Clients from Badenoch and Strathspey – is transport an issue? They use the car scheme, bus service and can pay for transport if necessary.
 - PR for the project – have they thought about a feature in the Strathy? A newsletter is planned.

- A leaflet has been produced– send copy to Ballater members (**EG**)
- Suggest they contact local ranger services who may be able to offer support / activities.

9. DC will keep in touch re developing Outdoor Access strategy.

10. IN interested to keep in touch re sharing experiences in LL&TNP.

CNPA Public Duties (standing item)

Local Development Strategy

11. AM gave an update on progress of the LDS since IC had provided feedback at the last meeting. They have included all the comments into the draft LDS which has been submitted to Scottish Government. The next step is to develop a business plan on how the programme will be delivered. A draft will be prepared by August and finalised in September. The overall timeline has slipped however, and it is expected that it will be next summer before projects will be approved. But meantime, Alice is happy to discuss potential projects with organisations.

12. JM is carrying out the Equality impact assessment of the LDS. She reported back on some of the comments made at the last IC meeting:

- Equality assessments will be a requirement for all projects, meeting needs across all equality characteristics.
- Publications will be available in alternative formats and using Plain English.
- A range of media will be used to promote the programme.
- Training for staff and Local Action Group in equality awareness
- Commitment to having regular contact with IC re promoting equality in delivery of the programme.

13. The EqIA for LDS will be available on CNPA website in due course. **Action JM**

14. Next stage is for JM to produce handbook and guidance for delivery of the grants programme and will come back to IC when drafts are available. **Action JM**

Outdoor Access

15. David Clyne, Recreation and Access manager for CNPA had circulated an overview of the aims and objectives of the revised outdoor access strategy 'Active Cairngorms' for comment by IC. He is consulting with communities, land managers, groups to identify key priorities and offered to meet members of IC individually if they wish. A draft strategy should be ready by end of 2014, followed by consultation, and adoption in spring.

16. KH asked about the accessible standards used for the Speyside Way extension. DC replied that it is the long term aim to remove barriers and make it as accessible as possible.

17. KH also asked about accessing outdoor equipment, which can be a cost barrier for low income groups (such as the Big Issue walking club). A recycling equipment scheme – like the Arran upcycling shop – was suggested.
18. Any other comments can be made to David email DavidClyne@cairngorms.co.uk, Tel: 01479 870549
19. EB, who is also chair of the Cairngorms Local Outdoor Access Forum, noted that they are recruiting new members and looking for someone from IC to represent access for all. Their role would involve reporting back to both groups and cover all accessibility issues. AJ offered to represent IC. **Action DC to send details to AJ.**

Planning

20. 2014/0026/DET – Braemar visitor centre. IC comments had been submitted, but no feedback received on outcome of application. **Action EG to follow up.**
21. 2014/0062/DET – Service station site in Aviemore to convert into budget hotel. IC comments had been submitted but no conditions could be added since the application was for extending the time limit. Planners had therefore recommended that IC send comments direct to the developer, which has been done.
22. 2014/0169/MSA – An Camas Mor Masterplan. IC has been invited to respond to the application within 28 days. It was felt that this was a very short timescale given the importance of the development, and a meeting with Don McKee, Head of Major Projects would be useful. **Action EG to set up meeting**

Young People (standing item)

23. IN reported on how they are engaging young people in the development of the LL&TNP Local Development Plan, using a 'sherettes' model that gets young people to map out the facilities they would like to see in their communities, using lego. Planning Aid for Scotland running the workshops with primary and secondary schools. The process ends in July and thereafter they will share the outcomes.
24. Some comments included:
 - Issues regarding low income and people with learning disabilities were not looked at since this is the responsibility of other statutory agencies.
 - Affordable housing - LL&TNPA have not met their targets but are working with CNPA, looking at land release, public sector investment, role of community trusts and working with partners.
25. EB referred to the a report published recently 'on Developing Scotland's Young Workforce'
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Education/edandtrainingforyoungple/commissiondevelopingscotlandsyoungworkforce/finalreport>

26. IN noted that the Main Issues Report will highlight many of the issues and barriers for young people in accessing employment. He stressed the need to work with other partners more effectively across a wide rural area.

Disability (standing item)

27. There was nothing to report.

Low Income

28. There was nothing to report.

AOCB

29. EG reported that the Outdoor Learning travel grant scheme is continuing into 2014, with grants available up to £200 or 75% of costs for schools and community groups who experience disadvantage on account of low income, disability, health, race, age, etc. Application forms can be downloaded from <http://cairngorms.co.uk/learn/learning-resources/outdoor-learning-travel-grant/>. Or contact Elspeth Grant Tel: 01479 870506

30. A review of the pilot travel grant scheme is available. **Action EG to circulate**

31. EG highlighted the forthcoming Outdoor Festival for All event on 11 October at Blair Atholl which is aimed at multicultural and groups of all ages and abilities. The event will celebrate diversity as well as showcasing what the Park can offer in terms of activities and support for groups to visit and enjoy the Park.

32. KH suggested that notes of IC meetings could be produced in alternative formats including video / You Tube / subtitles. EG said she had discussed this previously with her communications colleagues, but would contact them again. **Action EG**

33. GR noted that the full minutes of IC meetings can be posted on the Board forum, so there is no need to provide an abbreviated version.

34. PC noted the Speysound radio service for community groups, and offered IC the chance to publicise its work through local radio.

35. EB thanked everyone for attending and contributing to the meeting and closed the meeting at 1.00pm.

Date of next meeting

Thursday 11 September, 11am to 1.00pm in CNPA offices in Grantown with VC to Ballater and LL&TNP.

**Elspeth Grant
CNPA**