

Cairngorms Local Outdoor Access Forum

Thursday 20th June 2019 from 6.00pm – 8.30pm

CNPA HQ, Grantown on Spey

I. Welcome

Forum Members in Attendance

Eleanor Mackintosh (Acting Convenor)	Neil Wilson
John Grierson	Ailsa Villegas
Trevor Thornley	

Others in attendance

Pete Crane (CNPA)	Adam Streeter-Smith (CNPA)
David Clyne (CNPA)	

Apologies

Peter Mackay	Eilidh Scobbie
Anne-Marie Nutall	Sally Devlin
Peter Wright	

2. Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising

- 2.1. The minutes were checked for accuracy with the following needing to be checked and amended: Add a note of thanks to Ruaridh Ormiston for his contribution to CLOAF (10, P4).
- 2.2. EM welcomed Ailsa Villegas as a new CLOAF member representing the NHS Highland Green Health Partnership
- 2.3. EM discussed the historic role of CLOAF and how it and the access authority have grown in experience since the introduction of the Land Reform Act. The forum continues to be a valuable source of advice for CNPA but can now play a key role on developing and promoting responsible access and physical activity.

3. Tread Lightly in the Park: update

Adam Streeter-Smith presented an update to the CNPA Tread Lightly campaign. Feedback on draft fire management posters:

- 3.1 Posters showing alarming images of fire can increase anxiety amongst visitors to the outdoors.
- 3.2 Fires are not always started by visitors. Do estates need to create more fire breaks?
- 3.3 Like the poster split good/bad images
- 3.4 Advise people using stoves to use a stone surface or carry foil to place under stove.

Feedback on dogs:

- 3.5 Target responsible access messages on social media
- 3.6 Create and promote dog friendly walking routes.
- 3.7 Focus on green health aspect of dog walking. Physical activity benefits, therapy dogs, borrow my doggy, dogs and sprogs, dog friendly cafes, dog ambassadors etc.

Feedback on Leave no Trace

- 3.8 It's been 8 years since CNPA started the Tread Lightly campaign. Members agreed it's a more appropriate campaign than using 'Leave no Trace' as LNT allows fires in woodlands.
- 3.9 Target audience is residents and visitors

General feedback

- 3.10 Cyclists should be encouraged to be courteous to other path users. Potential to promote bells. Possible marketing giveaway (CNPA branded bike bells).
- 3.11 Raise awareness of access and healthcare benefits

4. Casework Update

4.1. DC discussed a recent quality improvement project with the access team

4.2. 90% of access issues and queries are resolved within 10 business days

- Reporting now split into 11 main issue types.
- 179 cases over the last year
- 15 obstruction cases have been logged. Mostly all minor issues which are being resolved through negotiation.
- CNPA will be preparing an Access Enforcement Charter over the next year. CLOAF advice will be sought on content, targets and case resolution guidelines.

5. Active Aviemore: project update

5.1. DC updated the forum on work to improve walking and cycling facilities in Aviemore.

5.2. Sustrans will announce funding awards in 1st July 2019. DC will update the forum.

5.3. Other towns in Badenoch and Strathspey have applied/will apply for Sustrans funding to improve active travel. These include Laggan, Kingussie and Dulnain.

6. A9 Dualling Update- Project 11 Dalraddy to Slochd

6.1. PC updated the group on the A9 project. Transport Scotland has not formally agreed to construct and maintain an all abilities cycle path between Aviemore and Carrbridge. Discussions continue with Transport Scotland who has promised to deliver a feasibility report on the route.

6.2. CNPA will continue to object to the omission of the cycle path until funding and long term maintenance has been agreed by TS.

6.3. Forum commented that there was no public awareness of the objections. PC will discuss with communities and THC.

7. National Access Forum

7.1. Members asked to be invited to next NAF/LAF meeting at least 4 weeks in advance.

8. Proposed access management seminar – October 2019

- 8.1. CNPA is planning to host an access seminar on the subject of Responsible Access in Protected Areas.
- 8.2. Event will be held in Aviemore in October 2019.
- 8.3. NAF member organisations, land manager and community representatives will be invited.
- 8.4. Forum members are encouraged to attend if possible.
- 8.5. Details TBC.

9. AOCB

- 9.1. Eleanor asked for nominations for the role of CLOAF convener. Any member interested should contact davidclyne@cairngorms.co.uk for further details.
Appointment of new convenor will take place at next meeting.

10. Date of next meeting

- 11.1. TBC – October 2019.