

## INCLUSIVE CAIRNGORMS

Minutes of the meeting held on 24 November, 2011 at 11.00am  
at Craigendarroch Hotel, Ballater

### Present:

Claire Ross	CNPA
Gordon Riddler	CNPA Board
Kevin Hutchens	Independent Social Worker
Miranda Whitcomb	Forestry Commission
Jim Brown (Chairman)	Blackrock Productions
Gavin Miles	National Park Plan Officer
David Atkinson	Scottish Rural Churches Group
Karine Suller	Planning Gain, Aberdeenshire Council
Eric Baird	Glentanar Estate Ranger
Alasdair Johnston	Aberdeen City Council
Morag Redwood	Highlands & Islands Equality Forum
Hector MacDonald	SDEF
Jackie Owen	Mental Health Outreach
Hazel McLaren	Aberdeenshire Community Planning

### Apologies:

Elspeth Grant	CNPA
Ruth Sim	Upper Deeside Access Panel
Tracy Latham	Aberdeenshire Council
Suresh Paul	Equal Adventure
Bob Bennett	Perth and Kinross Access Panel
Maggie Lawson	B&S Community Transport Company
Aileen Graham	B&S Access Panel
Morag Campbell	B&S Access Panel
Liz Scott	Highlands & Islands Enterprise
Ivor Souter	Highland Council
Carolyn Cornfield	Caberfeidh Horizons
Ruaridh Ormiston	Newtonmore Riding Centre
Donald Scobbie	Highland Senior Citizens

### In Attendance:

Lynn Anderson	Minute Taker
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### Welcome and Introduction

1. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were noted as above.

### **Minutes of Last Meeting**

2. The Minutes of the last meeting held on 22 September were accepted as an accurate account by those present.

### **Matters arising from the Minutes**

3. Re Para 3 EG has received a letter from Alistair Dodds, CEO Highland Council saying 'he will endeavour to include a statement in letters sent to electors at the next election in 2015 regarding the availability of tactile devices at Service Points.
4. Re Para 13, unfortunately EG hasn't had a chance to put together a response to the consultation. However we had responded to the previous consultation, and feel the revised regulations will not significantly affect CNPA's original position.

### **CNPA Public Duties (standing item)**

#### **National Park Plan and Local Development Plan**

5. Gavin Miles, National Park Plan Officer gave a presentation on the above detailing the progress so far and the next steps. There have been a number of community sessions throughout the park over the past few weeks and the comments and suggestions from those sessions were being collated. The Public had also been invited to comment and have until 9<sup>th</sup> December to express their views and opinions on the National Park Plan and Local Development Plan.
6. Gavin then went on to explain the in terms of timescales the National Park Plan would be expected to go to the CNPA Board by June 2012 before being put to Scottish Ministers. The Local Development Plan, as it involves part of Planning, will take considerably longer.
7. The expectation is the draft National Park Plan should be collectively motivating and interesting. Gavin went on to explain the 10 five year outcomes and gave examples of what might come under each heading.
8. The Chair suggested it might be a good exercise by those present at the meeting to comment on the 3 most in common within the aims of Inclusive Cairngorms. The opinion was that it would be difficult, as some issues covered more than one of the outcomes.
9. It was also felt that a lot of the issues covered by Inclusive Cairngorms were not

simply Park issues but stretched further than that.

10. Gavin went on to explain the 7 proposals which would help deliver the outcome of The National Park Plan and who would help to deliver these proposals.
11. It was decided by those present that this was too big a subject to discuss at one session and a full day workshop would be beneficial after the consultation period is over. Timescales would suggest this would be most beneficial in late March/early April. **CR to action**
12. It was decided that the comments and notes from the meeting should be distributed around the group for any additional comments. **CR to action** (see separate sheet)

### **Young People**

13. Hazel McLaren updated Inc Cairngorms on the Marr Youth action plan which has been developed, the aims of this plan is to ensure that the aspirations and views of young people are reflected in the Marr Community Plan.
14. Claire went on to talk about the forthcoming Youth themed session as part of the NPP consultation process on 29<sup>th</sup> November at the Lecht. This workshop is for youth workers and youth leaders, its aims to try and create projects based around the National Park, working in conjunction with schools and other partners to ensure young people have their views and opinions heard and enabling them to do so.
15. Claire then talked about the second annual Outdoor Learning in the National Park Conference which was held at Glenmore Lodge in October. This was attended by over 140 delegates and was also attended by Mike Russell, Cabinet Secretary for education and lifelong learning. This was a joint conference in conjunction with Loch Lomond, the aim of which was to highlight the importance of young people making contact with the outdoors through a series of workshops, some of which were supported by the 26 school pupils who also attended the conference.
16. Eric pointed out that encouraging young people to enjoy the outdoors was something that Rangers work on. The Junior Ranger programme is thriving in the National Park. Junior Rangers attended the Junior Ranger Camp in July which aimed to bring young people together internationally, provide opportunities to learn outdoors and really inspire them.
17. David Atkinson explained that churches had youth workers working within parishes and he wondered what links were being made with them. Claire felt they were not being made as effectively as they could at the moment but by attending these meetings this will change.

18. Those present at the meeting also felt it would be of benefit to have a youth convenor on the National Park board, someone who could really capture the authenticity of their opinions and allow this to be fed into the process. It was also felt that the more informal structures involving young people needed to be explored more and contact made with more outreach workers.
19. The problems of youth unemployment was also highlighted and the perceived disconnection between young people and what employers actually want. It was also felt that there is not enough emphasis on volunteering as this in some cases can lead to employment.

### **Disability**

20. Anne MacLean had expressed concern over a proposed housing development in Aviemore on the site of the old village hall. There was concern that the development would result in the moving of the bus stop on Grampian Road in front of the hall. A letter of concern has been sent to CNPA Planning Department. Gordon Riddler indicated that he had a direct interest in this development as he was on the Planning Committee and asked for this to be included in these Minutes.
21. Kevin Hutchens had recently walked part of the Dava Way and felt it should be promoted more widely to disability groups. He also pointed out that the least accessible parts of the walk were in the National Park.

### **Low Income**

Nothing to report at this time

### **Date of next meeting**

To be arranged.

**Now confirmed for 11.00 am on Tuesday 20 March in the Cairngorm Hotel, Aviemore**