

Cairngorms National Park Core Paths Plan

Consultation and Engagement Process – Stage 2

Public Consultation Meeting – Granttown-on-Spey

Date: Thursday 3rd of May 2007

Time: 7:30pm

Venue: Ben Mhor Hotel

Location: Granttown-on-Spey

No. Attending: 5

Introduction

This report details the feedback obtained at a public meeting where people were asked to give their views on the Interim Draft Core Paths Plan.

Summary

During the meeting the following issues were raised:

- Notifying farmers about the process
Concern was raised that not all land owners or farmers in the Park had been notified about the Interim Draft Core Paths Plan and the current consultation period.
- Altering the route of a core path in the future
The issue of diverting and re-routing a core path in the future was raised, particularly in relation to allowing for new developments.
- Why make a path a core path?
There was some discussion as to why an existing path should need to be designated as a core path when a right of access already exists.

- Stock Fences & Gates
It was noted that there would be a requirement for funding for appropriate gates on core paths in areas where they cross stock fences.
- Responsible Behaviour
There was some concern over irresponsible behaviour of access takers, particularly in relation to those owners who do not keep their dogs under control.
- Path Agreements & Promotion of routes
There was some discussion on the need for path agreements between the National Park Authority and land owners/managers in relation to ensuring that routes are established on the ground and signposting and way-marking in place prior to routes being promoted in leaflets etc.
- Funding
The issue of funding for the core paths network and who would provide it was raised.
- Path No. LBS94 - Curr Wood
It was noted that Curr Wood is an important habitat for wildlife and as such development of new paths needs to be done sensitively and in locations appropriate to the management of this sensitive area.
- Path No. LBS6 - Railway Line
It was noted that a core path is proposed along the old railway line between Dulnain Bridge and Grantown-on-Spey, however, planning permission is in place to re-open the railway line along this stretch. Ideas for alternate routes for the path were discussed.
- Path No. LBS3 – Old Railway Line South of Cromdale
It was noted that the bridge passing over the old railway line is in a state of disrepair and that where the proposed core path diverts off the railway line and on to a track there is no path or existing access to enable this.

Next Steps

The comments and issues raised at this meeting will inform revisions to the Interim Draft Core Paths Plan as part of the wider consultation process. A revised version will be considered by the CNPA Board in December 2007 and the revised Plan will then be submitted to Scottish Ministers in February 2008.

Cairngorms National Park Authority
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