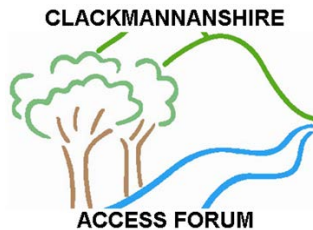




**Clackmannanshire
Council**



The Clackmannanshire Access Forum

**Note of Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday, 20th February 2018
at the Dumyat Centre, Menstrie**

| | <u>Action</u> |
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| <u>Present</u> | |
| Members of the public: Stuart Dean, Simon Karner, Fiona McGregor, Callum McNeill-Ritchie, Colin Murray, Marilyn Scott, Dennis Toon and Val Toon. | |
| Landowners/Land Managers representatives: Nicholas Poett (as substitute for Brian Poett) and John Wilson. | |
| User group representatives: Eric Davidson, Linda Howson and Barbara Maddox. | |
| Community group representatives: Dick Clark (Chair), Caroline Crawford, Alison Fox and David Scott. | |
| Council officers: Martin Dean. | |
| <u>1.0 Welcome</u> Dick welcomed everybody to the Annual General Meeting of the Clackmannanshire Access Forum. | |
| <u>1.1 Apologies</u> Martin reported that he had received apologies from Brian Poett, Sir Robert Stewart and Mike Wilson. | |
| <u>1.2 Approval of draft note from 2017 AGM</u> Caroline proposed that the note from last years AGM was approved. This was seconded by John. | |
| <u>1.3 Report on the work and achievements of the Forum</u> Dick gave the following report: | |

2017 was another busy year for the Clackmannanshire Access Forum.

The Forum met on 2 occasions after last years AGM - in May and November. A site visit planned for September did not take place because of safety concerns at the destination.

At last years AGM, Eric Davidson stood down from the Users Group, Dick Clark stood down from the Communities Group and John Wilson stood down from the Land Managers Group. All were re-elected. Dick Clark also stood down as Chair and was re-elected.

The Forum, in keeping with the functions detailed in section 25 of the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003, continues to provide the local authority with advice on matters concerning Access Rights. It assists with the resolution of disputes about Access Rights, the Existence and Delineation of Rights of Way, the Core Paths Plan and the use of Core Paths.

In 2017 the Forum advised the Council on:

- Camping at Historic Monuments.
- Signage to Advise Dog Walkers on responsible access on Farmland.
- Access for Canoeists in Responsible pursuit of sport.

The Forum has been provided with information on a variety of access matters, on land and water including:

- Inner Forth Landscape Initiative – which has now delivered 2 access projects in Clackmannanshire – the Cambus Whisky and Wetland Wander and the Walk to The Wetland. 3 further projects, the Inner Forth Inches Trail, the Clackmannan and Alloa Park Access Improvements and Cambus Woods path improvements are due to be delivered in early 2018.
- Enabling Projects In Clackmannanshire has now been formed and will help maintain the projects that were delivered by the Ochils Landscape Partnership.
- The Gartmorn Dam Country Park Development Trust has been formed. It aims to conserve and enhance the Country Park and has undertaken some improvement work to the paths.
- The new management plan for Gartmorn Dam Country Park.
- City Deal and proposed projects that are being developed in Clackmannanshire.

- Cycling and the work of the Cycling in Clackmannanshire Forum.
- Improvements to the National Cycle Network and the Greening Greenways initiative which aims to improve the biodiversity of path verges between Alva and Tillicoultry and between Alloa and Dollar.
- The re-opening of the Tillicoultry Glen path following rock stabilisation and path remediation works.
- Inclusive Access and taking account of the needs of Disabled Access users.
- Measures to publicise Responsible Access and the Scottish Outdoor Access Code.
- Outdoor access events that take place in Clackmannanshire - these vary in nature and include cross-country and hill running, cani-cross and equestrian events. Every effort is made to ensure that these events do not clash with land management operations, or with other events, and that participants comply with the Scottish Outdoor Access Code.
- Planning applications that have relevance to Outdoor Access.
- Rights of Way issues.
- Improvements to Core Paths.
- Implementation of the Core Paths Plan. Signs, Way Markers and Access Friendly Gates continue to be installed on Core Paths.

Forum members have also been provided with updates from a variety of other organisations, including:

- Central Scotland Green Network
- Greenspace Scotland
- Inner Forth Landscape Initiative
- Paths For All
- Scottish Rights of Way and Access Society
- The National Access Forum

My report illustrates that the Clackmannanshire Access Forum continues to play a key role in Outdoor Access provision in Clackmannanshire and in helping to influence the various new initiatives and developments that are taking place in the County. As Chair, I've met with Martin Dean on a monthly basis for updates and to discuss any emerging issues within Clackmannanshire. With all these new initiatives and issues, there is an ongoing need for the Access Forum to provide advice to Clackmannanshire Council and to assist with resolving Access disputes in 2018 and beyond.

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| <p>My personal thanks to all Forum Members, Corresponding Partners and Local Groups for their courtesy and dedication over the past year.</p> | |
| <p><u>1.4 Election of Forum members to stakeholder groups</u> Martin explained the election process, advising that the membership of the Access Forum was equally divided between 3 stakeholder groups (land managers, user groups and community groups), and that a Partnership Agreement gave the Forum direction.</p> | |
| <p>1.5 Martin then identified the vacancies in each of the 3 stakeholder groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landowners/Land managers - 0 vacancies, 1 current member is standing down • Users group - 0 vacancies, 1 current members to stand down • Community groups - 0 vacancies, 1 current member to stand down | |
| <p>1.6 Elections then took place and the following were elected/re-elected to the Forum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landowners/Land managers – Sir Robert Stewart • Users group - Vacant • Community groups – Caroline Crawford | |
| <p>1.7 Current members of the Forum for 2018 are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landowners/land managers - Sir Robert Stewart, Ian McFarlane, Brian Poett and John Wilson. • Users - Eric Davidson, Linda Howson, Barbara Maddox and Vacancy. • Community groups - Dick Clark (Chair), Caroline Crawford, Alison Fox and David Scott. • Council - Martin Dean. | |
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| <p>2.0 Presentation on Dollar Glen by Callum McNeill-Ritchie of the National Trust for Scotland</p> | |
| <p>2.1 Callum gave an informative presentation on the work that the National Trust for Scotland does, of its Dollar Glen reserve and the changes it has undergone since the passing of the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003.</p> | |
| <p>2.2 Dick thanked Callum for his presentation.</p> | |
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| <p>3.0 Close</p> | |
| <p>3.1 Dick thanked people for attending the AGM and concluded the meeting.</p> | |