

# Minutes of Local Access Forum Core Group Meeting

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2005**  
**6.30 – 7.30pm**  
**Committee Room 2, 14 City Square**

**Present:**

George Potts  
Allan Thomson  
Miles Witham  
Doug Morgan  
David Mitchell  
Bill Meikle  
Mark Duncan  
Pam Watson

**Apologies:**

Rod Bowman (Mark Duncan attending)  
Joyce Kettles  
John Brown & Doreen Brown  
Sandy Inverarity  
Bruce Forsyth  
Wendy Strang  
Robert Watson  
Albert A'hara  
Wilfred Lakie  
Peter Glen

**In Attendance:**

Merrill Smith, Development Manager, L&A  
Peter Sandwell, Principal Environmental  
Development Officer, L&A  
Laura Campbell, Access Officer, L&A  
David Warnock, Paths for All Partnership

**Cllr Farquhar in the Chair**

No.	Item	Action
1.	<b>Introduction</b> Cllr Farquhar welcomed the members to the first meeting of Dundee's Local Access Forum.	
2.	<b>Group Membership</b> Each member introduced themselves to the group. LC distributed a list of all those who had applied and their interests.	
3.	<b>Electing a Chair</b> Nominations were asked for a chair for future meetings. GP was nominated. It was suggested that in the event of any dispute arising this might put GP in an awkward position and that in some other authorities a depute chair had been appointed. Perhaps one of the recreational users would fill this position. There were no nominations for this position. It was agreed that GP would become chair at the next meeting.	
4.	<b>Operating Principles</b> LC circulated a copy of the Perth & Kinross Outdoor Access Forum Operating Principles and the workshop report from the meeting on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> March and suggested that the group draw up a set of operating principles based on these two documents. It was thought that this group would follow similar principles to the Perth & Kinross Group. It was noted that this would require a mechanism for payment of travel expenses to be put in place. There may be some changes required to suit this group. LC will draft operating principles for Dundee Local Access Forum for the next meeting. The forum agreed that it should become a constituted group and that the constitution should follow an existing document e.g. Communities have a draft for voluntary bodies. Being constituted will allow the Forum to apply for funding. A draft constitution will be prepared for the next meeting.	LC  LC
5.	<b>Initial Priorities</b> Dundee City Council has an Outdoor Access Strategy and Action Plan. The Council has identified priorities within this plan. The Forum should be a pro-active group. A copy of the action plan will be sent out with the minutes. The forum can then look at their priorities in the plan and identify priorities that are not in the plan.	LC

<p>6.</p>	<p>Links with Perth &amp; Kinross and Angus were expressed as a priority. In particular this included links with the Sidlaw Path Network.</p> <p>Angus is having its first Local Access Forum meeting in June. It would be useful to talk to other city authorities e.g. Edinburgh Council, as they are likely to have similar priorities. It would also be useful to share information on action plans with other authorities.</p> <p><b>Core Path Planning</b></p> <p>A brief introduction to the core path planning process was given. A draft plan will be prepared for the next meeting. Local Access Forum will have a key role in shaping the core path plan. Forum members will be able to encourage those they represent to be involved in the consultation process. It was suggested that each meeting could take one of the steps required to work on.</p> <p>PS gave a brief description of a strategic environmental assessment. Any new plans will need to be assessed against several headings and there is a duty to consult with Scottish Natural Heritage and other bodies. The Core Path Plan will require this assessment. The assessment checks that the actions we are taking consider the environment and are not damaging the environment. This is most likely to be a positive assessment for the Core Paths Plan.</p> <p>It was asked if the group would be able to make suggestions to other departments – e.g. transport. There is a need to encourage people to walk. People need cars to get to some walks e.g. Camperdown Country Park. It was noted that 6 buses run to the perimeter of Camperdown Country Park. It was thought that feeding back information to relevant departments would be one of the main functions of the Local Access Forum.</p> <p>It was asked what contribution planners would make to this process. It was enquired if there was a major scheme of houses planned would the Local Access Forum be consulted on a path through it. It was thought that this could be done through the normal planning process, but that it would be good to consult the Local Access Forum at an early stage.</p> <p>It was suggested that the western gateway needed a network of paths. It was thought that Core Path Planning consultations would highlight the need for paths in this area.</p> <p>It was agreed that there should be a two-way flow between Planning &amp; Transportation and the Local Access Forum.</p> <p>A change in legislation means that objections are now competent. The Local Access Forum can make objections to plans and will have more clout due to the statutory role of the Forum.</p> <p>It was agreed that a Planning Officer should be invited to a future meeting to give a presentation.</p> <p>The issue of maintaining paths was brought up. It was explained that although it is not a legal requirement for the Council to maintain core paths they have the power to do so. It is likely that this will be determined by the amount of money available.</p> <p>Funding can be applied for from various sources – need to argue for maintenance of paths as well.</p> <p>It was mentioned that there are lots of off-road paths but that people did not walk there as the routes were not mapped or signed. This is something that the Leisure &amp; Arts department will take on board.</p> <p>An input from a Police perspective would be that it is great opening up</p>	<p>LC/GP</p>
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<p>7.</p>	<p>paths, but they would also like to restrict path use to avoid problems with motorbikes.</p> <p>Some facilities have been provided for people to use motorbikes e.g. at the old Caravan Park in Camperdown Country Park.</p> <p>Sustrans have also been struggling with this issue as the Disability Discrimination Act limits what you can do to restrict access. The Forum will need to keep looking around for new ideas. The Police have come up with some good practical ideas.</p> <p>It was thought that other legislation would have to be used to stop motorbikes.</p> <p>Horseways use a style that acts as a barrier to motorcyclists. Bicycles can be lifted over and horses can step over it. There is still a problem if people with a disability can't use it. Not every users has to use every path, however it would be illegal to restrict access to a path that would have otherwise been suitable for people with disabilities.</p> <p>It will be useful to have examples of problem areas of as we progress Core Path Planning.</p> <p><b>AOB</b></p> <p>Clarification was requested on what the Forum had decided on the Initial Priorities. The secretary will provide the group with the action plan and priorities will be discussed at the next meeting.</p> <p>A point of interest was raised by PS. The L&amp;A dept has started to look at how their management rules could be changed to come into line with the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003. A period of two years is given within the Act to review byelaws and management rules relating to outdoor access. Management rules are displayed at the entrances to every public place. They are enforceable, as Police have to react when called on by a member of staff. Management rules have to be kept current.</p> <p>DW asked if everyone had seen a copy of the Scottish Outdoor Access Code. LC has copies for those who want to borrow them.</p>	<p>GP/LC</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p><b>Date of Next Meeting</b>  6<sup>th</sup> June 2005, 26<sup>th</sup> September 2005  Venue and time to be arranged</p>	

# Minutes of Local Access Forum Core Group Meeting

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2005**  
**7 – 9 pm**  
**Meeting Room, Olympia Leisure Centre**

**Present:**

George Potts (Chair)  
Miles Witham (Vice Chair)  
Doug Morgan  
Bill Meikle  
Kevin O'Donnell  
Joyce Kettles  
Bruce Forsyth  
Robert Watson  
Albert A'hara  
Wilfred Lakie  
Peter Glen

**Apologies:**

David Mitchell  
Rod Bowman (Kevin O'Donnell attending)  
Allan Thomson  
Sandy Inverarity  
Wendy Strang  
Pam Watson  
John Brown & Doreen Brown

**In Attendance:**

Laura Campbell, Access Officer, L&A  
David Warnock, Paths for All Partnership  
Stephen Page, Planning Officer, P&T

No.	Item	Action
1.	<p><b>Introduction</b></p> <p>G Potts introduced himself to the group as chair. The purpose of the chair will be to facilitate meetings, recognise priorities, encourage contributions and ensure that business is conducted in a productive manner. GP said that this was a great opportunity to influence and contribute to the development of access in the City and to help forge links with the surrounding countryside. With the cross section on groups on the Forum the group is well placed to make a truly representative view known to policy and decision makers. GP asked the group for their support in making the most of these opportunities.</p> <p>The purpose of the meeting is to gather information and stimulate opinion and debate. To start this process GP invited S Page, a Planning Officer, to the meeting.</p> <p>The group members introduced themselves for the benefit of those who did not attend the first meeting.</p>	
2.	<p><b>Minutes of the previous meeting</b></p> <p>Minutes were read and approved. M Witham and D Morgan proposed the minutes.</p>	
3.	<p><b>Constitution</b></p> <p>A A'Hara asked for a point of clarification – would the access forum be able to oppose things as it wasn't able to do this before. GP said that the forum would be able to put its views forward and that as a statutory body the position of the group has strengthened. It is a great opportunity for the voice of the Local Access Forum to be heard.</p> <p>GP put forward comments raised by S Inverarity. The first point was that chair and convener were used in the constitution and the operating principles and that only one should be used throughout. A decision was made to standardise this to chair throughout the documents. The second point was that when it came to elect new members there needed to be a way of ensuring a balance of members. It was thought that where possible the office bearers should be from different interest groups.</p> <p>It was asked whether the group should be open to new members joining. It was thought that a maximum size should be agreed. It was thought that groups that are not represented at all might bring something new. The group would need to weigh up the balance of new members on each application.</p> <p>D Warnock explained that generally other forums have a maximum of 16 members with four members each from community groups, user groups, landowners/managers and public agencies/bodies. If there is a gap identified then that group should be invited to apply for a place, or invited to speak at the forum. It was suggested that gaps could be filled in sub-group meetings where these were necessary. It was also thought that people could make representations through letters. GP explained that we now had a website on the Dundee City</p>	

	<p>Council site and that this had an email address that would allow people to contact the forum.</p> <p>GP put forward the comments from A Thomson. The first question was 'has any money been put aside for Core Path Planning?' LC said the answer was no – not at present. The second question was 'when is the group going to start doing something?' GP said that tonight was when things would get started.</p> <p>The group then proceeded to look through the constitution.</p> <p>It was agreed that the number of meetings should be changed to say 'at least 4 meetings annually, including an AGM'. It was thought that the AGM should be annual and public. Need to say that we are electing members at a public meeting. AGM with open day at end of meeting – so that any contentious issues won't hold up the AGM.</p> <p>Minutes should be provided at Floor 2 Tayside House, as well as on the website. The Forum will pass the draft minutes.</p> <p>4c) Change to 'the AGM can be attended'</p> <p>4d) Change to 'at least 3 members of the core group'</p> <p>5a) This is a standard format. D Warnock suggested that as members of DCC took up the posts of chair and secretary the posts of vice chair and treasurer should be independent. This would insure the forums independence and credibility.</p> <p>5b) Ok – evolution over time – continuity – office bearers leaving at same time? AGM any office bearer could resign at that time.</p> <p>5d) GP said he would like to organise a sub-committee soon about horses. P Watson should be contacted.</p> <p>6) 50% including properly recorded apologies. Discussion took – is this number to high? – it was decided to keep this number for now and it can be reviewed at the AGM if necessary. 'Groups' should be changed to 'members'</p> <p>Personal interest should be made known beforehand</p> <p>9) Agree a regime of issues here. Would like to stick to d) as a hard and fast rule. Gives Officer Bearers time to prepare, investigate etc.</p> <p>Election of Office bearers – M Witham voted in as Vice Chair</p> <p>Would the group be able to visit places they are talking about? LC said yes it would be possible – this is something that other forums such as Perth and Kinross have done. DW said it was useful to get different perspectives.</p> <p>We will look at electing a treasurer later on when we want to start applying for grants.</p> <p>Changes to be made to document and revised constitution to be approved next meeting.</p>	GP/LC
4.	<p><b>Operating Principles</b></p> <p>Convener to be changed to chair.</p> <p>Change retrial to retiral</p> <p>Forum will develop a communication plan from the workshop report. MW offered to draft this. Overlap with constitution – do the first 3 or 4 need to be in the constitution? This could be an appendix to the constitution.</p> <p>Council to sign up to provide facilities etc.</p> <p>MW, GP, LC to have a look at this document and pin down details for the next meeting.</p>	MW
5.	<p><b>A Planning Perspective</b></p> <p>GP introduced S Page to the group.</p> <p>Port Authority Cycle Route</p> <p>There is a new path through the Port Authority area. Negotiations started for this in the early 1980s. This is something that the public and the council have wanted for years. At that time there was no group of this nature to prove that people did want this. Sustrans helped will successful negotiations, as did CTC. The route was finally opened in 2004 – partially due to a change in management and mostly due to public pressure. In the future the Local Access Forum would be able to be consulted on such developments. The Local Access Forum might also be able to bring things to our attention.</p> <p>Western Gateway</p> <p>Housing developments are to occur in this area. Part of this is to have a planned network through the villages and possibly to Camperdown. The Liff hospital site looks likely to be agreed soon. A path is to be built along the western edge, but this will be the last stage in the development. It will definitely happen as the developer is tied to a legal agreement. It is the</p>	GP, MW, LC

<p>last thing to be done so that the red squirrel population can have the maximum possible habitat for the longest possible time. This is all the news on the developments at the moment.</p> <p><b>Mapping Technology/GIS</b> The planning dept has advanced mapping ability and is also able to produce aerial photographs for areas as well. The maps are subject to copyright, however, as Local Access Forum is a Council duty there should be no problem in the planning dept producing maps etc for the forum as long as they use of them is within the boundaries of the Local Access Forum functions.</p> <p><b>Core Path Network</b> SP said that as a Policy planner Core Path Planning would be one of the key areas where likely to come into contact with the Local Access Forum. The Core Path Network will have to follow similar regulations as Local Plan. SP asked the group what they thought a Core Path would be in terms of an urban area like Dundee. It was suggested that a core path would be one that DCC is responsible for. The Core Path Network should provide reasonable access throughout the local authority area. It was asked who would be responsible for maintaining the Core Path Network. It was suggested that one of the reasons to designate a path as a Core Path would be to promote a route. For example, Sustrans promote the National Cycle Network, even though it is on a mixture of roads and paths owned and maintained by different groups. There is a need to identify how core paths will be maintained. The Local Authority has the power to maintain the core path network, however, it does not necessarily have to do so. I was thought that the Core Path Plan would raise people's expectations. In new developments like Western Gateway it might be easier to identify Core Paths. They can be identified and put into the overall plan before villages are even there. It was thought that there was no need for core paths where you have streets. It was suggested Central Path in Whitfield was a good example of a core path. It is a long path with lots of different users and it connects a lot of different areas communities as well as Finlathen Park, Trottick, and Baldovan.</p> <p><b>Proposal for next meeting – Maggie Centre desire line path. Who owns it – what can be done?</b> The group can contribute to the Core Path Network by identifying paths like that. Desire lines – if they are important to local communities – could be core paths. It is the duty of the forum to pass this information on to the council.</p> <p><b>Are we looking to create a core path network that is related to current demand or are we trying to identify where to guide people in the future?</b> In one housing area pavements were not made until desire lines had created paths. A poorly designed path can create negative impact. It is envisaged that signs would be put up. The Outdoor Access Strategy Group are looking as signage and way marking routes. The Core Path Network should add to the existing path network and improve areas where there is currently a shortfall.</p> <p>It was asked it plans for new housing developments etc could be put to this group. DP said that any planning applications would be in the public domain so the forum members would have a chance to look at them.</p> <p>The Outdoor Access Strategy Group is also looking at cross border links. SP reminded the group of the path between Invergowrie and the Swallow hotel. This was a joint project between DCC &amp; PKC. It did happen and this was down to individual groups. It was suggested that the path should be more clearly signposted. It was thought that Gillian Zealand might have a copy of the Sidlaw Path Network map. LC to contact and find out.</p> <p>It was asked what might be happening with the Port Authority in the future. Would they let walkers through? SP said that there was no expectation in the future from the Port Authority that walkers will get through. There have been attempts by DCC to change this. All Ports will be this way as they are reacting to government directives. It was noted that there are similar issues with the airport where you can walk round 3 sides of the fence, but not the side next to the river.</p> <p>GP described the problems that occurred when they opened up the Miley, a disused railway line. There were problems with fly tipping and sheds broken into. It was recognised that the Police should be brought into discussions at an early stage to help with the social implications</p>	<p>LC</p>
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	<p>of opening up path networks. It was suggested that the Police should have a final say on plans.</p> <p>West End Community Council is trying to negotiate access to the riverside nature park. It may be possible to gain limited access to the site through WECC. If it is not possible it will be brought to a Local Access Forum meeting. Access has been denied to this area for 8 years.</p>	
6.	<p><b>Outdoor Access Strategy</b></p> <p>L Campbell introduced the Outdoor Access Strategy and Action Plan. There will be an annual update of action plan and the forum will be able to feed their ideas into this and help to fill in any gaps. The group will also be able to take on some of these projects if they wish to. The Action Plan has been a pulling together exercise, bringing in legislative duties, health, safer routes to schools, cycling, walking and greenspace elements. It shows a citywide view of what's happening and looks at the bigger picture. Any comments on gaps or amendments to things that we've missed out would be appreciated and would show the strength of this committee. It allows the forum to make a positive contribution to the development of access projects in Dundee.</p> <p>It was thought that the group could make a positive contribution by writing to Councillors to tell them when they are doing a good job. An example of where trees have been planted was used to highlight this.</p> <p>This group could take projects forward. Group members to look over strategy and projects for next meeting. LC will look at the plans in more detail then.</p> <p>Observations/criticisms can be made on future plans</p>	ALL
7.	<p><b>AOCB</b></p> <p>A A'hara put in a proposal to be considered for the next meetings agenda.</p> <p>The National Access Forum will allow members of Local Access Forums to attend their next meeting. This will be on 21<sup>st</sup> September 05. LC to forward on details where these are received.</p> <p>A repeat of the training day for representatives of recreational user groups will be held in Stirling on the 10<sup>th</sup> September 05. Helen Todd of the Ramblers Association will be co-ordinating bookings. Anyone wishing to attend should ask LC for contact details.</p> <p>LC notified the group of a potential funding opportunity. It has come too soon for this group to apply, as entries need to be in by July. The Big Lottery Fund and ITV teaming up to give up to £50,000 to projects that improve local community areas. Other funding opportunities may arise in the future and LC will keep the group informed of these.</p>	LC
8.	<p><b>Agenda for the next meeting</b></p> <p>Mike Welsh from the Communities dept will be coming to talk to the group about the community planning process. This is an opportunity to raise awareness of this group and link with local community plans. Community planning can be a complex issue M Welsh will explain it in a way that is relevant to this group. Any other agenda items should be sent to LC or GP</p>	
9.	<p><b>Date of next meeting</b></p> <p>Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September 05, 7pm, Olympia  Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January 06, 7pm, Olympia  Open meeting and AGM – April – date/time to be confirmed</p> <p>D Warnock informed the group that the SNH access &amp; recreation update had just come out – issue 26. LC will circulate with meeting minutes.</p>	LC

# Minutes of Dundee's Local Access Forum Core Group Meeting

**Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September 05**  
**7 – 9.30 pm**  
**Meeting Room, Olympia Leisure Centre**

**Present:**

George Potts (Chair)  
Miles Witham (Vice Chair)  
Doug Morgan  
Sandy Inverarity  
Kevin O'Donnell  
Joyce Kettles  
Bruce Forsyth  
Albert A'Hara  
Wilfred Lakie  
Peter Glen

**Apologies:**

Bill Meikle  
Allan Thomson  
David Mitchell  
Robert Watson

**In Attendance:**

Laura Campbell, Access Officer, L&C  
Ali Hibbert, Paths for All Partnership  
Mike Welsh, Communities Officer, L&C  
Pam Watson  
Peter Clunie

No.	Item	Action
1.	<p><b>Introduction</b></p> <p>G Potts introduced M Welsh, Communities Officer who will be speaking to the group about the Community Planning Process, A Hibbert who is standing in for D Warnock, who has left PFAP, until a new member of staff is appointed, and P Clunie from the National Trust for Scotland.</p> <p><b>Minutes of the previous meeting</b></p> <p>Minutes were received by all members of the group and group members were happy with the way in which they received correspondence.</p> <p>Matters arising from the previous minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– G Potts did not attend the meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup> September</li> <li>– The Outdoor Access Strategy has been approved by committee and is now a document that we can work from and take forward the projects within it. It was suggested that we should look into funding projects at the January meeting.</li> <li>– L Campbell &amp; G Potts attended the National Access Forum meeting in Pitlochry.</li> </ul> <p>Minutes were moved by M Witham and seconded by J Kettles and P Glen</p> <p><b>Constitution, Operating Principles and Communications Strategy</b></p> <p>A A'Hara proposed a change to the constitution. This was to change the word "council" in section 3 a) to "Dundee City Council".</p> <p>A A'Hara also requested that group members remember the importance of sending in apologies if they are unable to attend meetings so that the Quorum can be met. This is especially important in winter when bad weather may prevent some members from attending meetings.</p> <p>S Inverarity proposed adopting the constitution subject to the suggested amendment. This proposal was moved by W Lakie and seconded by J Kettles.</p> <p>The members then looked at the operating principles. It was agreed that 10 days before a meeting was sufficient for adding items to the agenda, anything else could be brought up under AOCB at the chairs discretion.</p> <p>The website is up and running.</p> <p>The section on travelling expenses has been modified due to the short distances involved for those travelling to meetings within Dundee. Dundee City Council would cover costs of travel to training on application through the Secretary.</p> <p>The operating principles were moved by A A'Hara and seconded by K O'Donnell and P Glen.</p> <p>G Potts thanked M Witham for drawing up the forum communications strategy. This is a starting point, which can be built on if the forum finds it necessary.</p> <p>The distribution of minutes should be included in the communications strategy. This should be two weeks after the meeting.</p>	



<p>The communications strategy was moved by P Glen and seconded by B Forsyth.</p> <p><b>New Walking and Cycling Routes</b></p> <p>L Campbell introduced the walking and cycling routes that are being taken forward as part of the Outdoor Access Strategy. The City Engineers have been looking at options for routes in the West, North and East of Dundee, linking in to the City Centre. There is currently funding to start work on the two routes in the West of Dundee. L Campbell asked the forum to have a look at the routes and feed back any comments.</p> <p>Comments included the busyness of the section next to Lawside Academy, and the section Hospital Street, which is a cobbled street (this section has been amended in more recent drawings). It was suggested that the group could look at the routes as a site visit.</p> <p>The forum members were then asked to look at the logo ideas for the route.</p> <p>M Witham suggested that getting the words right was important. It has to mean something to people. S Inverarity asked what the existing signage was like. G Potts described the Green Circular logo – a green circle with the words ‘green circular’ written inside it. It was asked why we didn’t use the same logo for the routes. This is because the Green Circular has a strong identity of its own, but it would become part of this wider network.</p> <p>L Campbell explained that the idea was to give each route a colour so that you knew which one you were on. This would be shown as a coloured arrow on the sign.</p> <p>The group was split between the 3 circles logo and the footprint logo. It was felt that the 3 circles logo could stand on its own without the text. M Witham suggested that we would need to have the wording on the sign to attract new users. The routes would be promoted through a free map and the website. It was thought that ‘Greenways’ was a better name than ‘Dundee Connections’. The ‘green’ is the walking and cycling element. G Potts will gather opinions on a modified design incorporating ‘greenways’ and the 3 circles logo from the Outdoor Access Strategy Group.</p> <p><b>Community Planning</b></p> <p>G Potts introduced M Welsh, Communities Officer for the North East Area. M Welsh has also worked in the Central, Stobswell and Hilltown areas. M Welsh introduced the forum to the processes involved in developing a local community plan.</p> <p>The idea for local community plans came from a government initiative in 1999. Dundee was chosen as a pathfinder area. This led to the development of an Act of Parliament. The local community plan puts in place a system for local people to feed into planning and helps to make it more meaningful to communities. Communities Scotland, DCC, SET, NHS Tayside, Tayside Police, Universities, Tayside Fire and Rescue, and communities are all involved. There are 5 main themes for the Local Community Plans, chosen by Dundee Partnership, Neighbourhood Forums, SIPs, Tenant Participation work. The plan contains community priorities and the main emphasis is on local needs. The focus of the plan is to get problems solved through different agencies working together with communities. The first Local Community Plan agreed in June 2004 and the plans for each of the seven areas are currently in a review process. The new plans should be out by the end of October. The most important aspect in developing the plan is speaking to people in communities.</p> <p>One issue that has been a problem for a number of years is the illegal use of motorbikes. However, now things are changing and progress is being made. The best way to feed into the system is through the local Communities Officer.</p> <p>K O'Donnell and P Glen indicated that they had been involved in the local community plan process.</p> <p>S Inverarity asked for an example of what has been achieved so far through Local Community Plans. M Welsh said that in the north east area 70% of the plan has been completed or is in completion. For example, in Mill O'Mains people wanted modern, easy to clean bins. Through partnership working new Euro bins have been installed.</p> <p>P Glen said that in the north west area they were getting a new community centre through the Local Community Plan.</p> <p>M Welsh said that money is allocated around local community plan priorities, particularly Community Regeneration Funding.</p> <p>G Potts said that the community planning process would be useful in the context Core Path Planning. It will be possible to use the community planning process to identify paths that people like to use. Core Path Planning consultations can be linked into the next review phase. It would be good for all members of the forum to take part in the process in different areas. The forum is reasonably well placed to tap into this.</p>	<p>G Potts</p>
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<p>Local people can identify paths that are important to them and they can feed this information to a Community Officer. This will bring the issue to the Community Officers attention and it is possible that the path could be developed through incorporation into the Local Community Plan.</p> <p>M Welsh left example leaflets of the northeast community plan for forum members to look at. L Campbell has copies of the new SNH/PFAP Core Path Planning guidance for members to take away if they wish.</p> <p>At the National Access Forum meeting an Access Officer from Falkirk gave a presentation and they are using a similar method to develop their Core Path Plan.</p> <p><b>Update from Horse Riding sub-group</b></p> <p>G Potts asked SNH if a permit system promotes or hinders access for horse riders. The response from SNH was 'you decide'. In response to this a sub-group meeting was arranged to ask horse riders their views. G Potts, L Campbell, P Watson, and D Mitchell attended the meeting.</p> <p>L Campbell reported the main elements of the meeting to the forum. It was thought that in this instance the permit system was restricting access for horse riders. The sub-group recommended that L Campbell and G Potts draw up a report for the Local Access Forum and the Outdoor Access Strategy Group to comment on, with the intention of submitting a report to the appropriate Council Committee for approval.</p> <p>Bridleways can be identified and recommended in the Core Path Planning process.</p> <p>G Potts informed the group that horses have been banned from man-made structures at Monikie. S Inverarity commented that water authorities don't like animals near water. Forum members felt that this did not sit well with the Land Reform Act.</p> <p>The forum was informed about new road crossings designed specifically for horse riders. A crossing at Monifieth uses a swipe card system and is the first in the UK where both carriageways will stop at once. This is on the Arbroath Road between Grange Road and the roundabout at Dobbies Garden centre. The speed limit on this road is 40mph.</p> <p>P Watson informed the forum of another new equestrian crossing in Midlothian. The crossing crosses the A702 at Carlops. There is a button five feet up the pole that allows riders to stay on their horse and push the button, which triggers a flashing message warning drivers to slow down for horses crossing the road.</p> <p>G Potts explained that the horse riding sub-group had looked at the issue of horses crossing the 50mph road at back of Camperdown to get to Templeton Woods. It was thought it would have to be a 30mph for a crossing, but in light of these two examples this may not be the case. K O'Donnell thought that the contact would be in the Roads Dept or BEAR Scotland.</p> <p>The Horse riding sub-group will meet to review the evidence. L Campbell/G Potts to arrange.</p> <p><b>Item from A A'Hara at previous meeting</b></p> <p>At the last meeting A A'Hara put forward an item for the agenda concerning a path at Ninewells. L Campbell thought that part of this might have been upgraded as part of the new cycle routes, but this doesn't look like it will now be the case.</p> <p>Through Core Path Planning consultations in this area it will be possible to highlight this as a core path. It will then become a higher priority for upgrading and maintenance work.</p> <p>G Potts/ L Campbell to continue investigation.</p> <p><b>AOCB</b></p> <p>A A'Hara asked the Forum members if they would be agreeable to sending a letter to the Leisure and Communities Department to support their funding bid to restore the Victorian iron bridge at Balgay Park. Funding bids are going to Heritage Lottery Fund and Historic Scotland. It was felt that this would set a different tone for the park and improve access for walkers. M Witham suggested it might also help to segregate pedestrian and cycle traffic.</p> <p>There will also be work done as part of a wider strategy to help remove the dark spaces. The Forestry Commission has granted Dundee City Council £501,000 for a 3-year programme through the Woodlands In and Around Towns scheme. The forum members agreed to support the bid. L Campbell will draft a letter to be signed by G Potts.</p> <p><b>Agenda for the next meeting</b></p> <p>Suggested items for the next meeting from G Potts included: minutes, update on cycle routes, update from sub-group meeting, Core Path Planning – suggested PFAP Officer leads on this. D Morgan asked if there were any meetings between authorities. L Campbell said that Access Officers often met at training days. D Morgan said that Perth &amp; Kinross asked the walking group to check some of their routes for them and wondered if it would be possible to link up</p>	<p>L Campbell/ G Potts</p> <p>L Campbell/ G Potts</p> <p>L Campbell/ G Potts</p> <p>L Campbell/ G Potts</p>
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with other groups in the area e.g. Carse of Gowrie development group, Sidlaw's Path Group, other Angus groups.

G Potts updated the forum on the National Access Forum Meeting, held Pitlochry the previous week. Generally, people are taking access as they have always done. There are some similar issues across authorities including wild camping, leaving litter and irresponsible access.

G Potts felt that education was one of the main issue's to come out of the meeting. We have now moved away from countryside code to the Scottish Outdoor Access Code. 'Safe Taysiders' provides an opportunity to promote the Code and responsible access.

G Potts asked S Inverarity about guidance on what to do in areas where livestock are kept. S Inverarity said that the dangers are always there – cows with calves, bulls, taking a dog would attract these animals to you. The predominant livestock in the countryside surrounding Dundee is beef cattle and they are notoriously curious.

There was recently a problem with wild campers in Fife at a SSSI site. They dropped litter and cut and burnt trees. When SNH were informed about the problem they were unable to help. When the Police were contacted they said that they would not be able to do anything until the courts decided if it is a civil or criminal matter. G Potts said that a similar problem had been discussed at the National Access Forum and the advice was to use an Anti Social Behaviour Order (ASBO). K O'Donnell said that every council now has a Police & Anti-Social Behaviour team. There is nothing criminal in the Code, however there are areas where they will be in breach of byelaws and criminal offences. The difficulty in using Anti-Social Behaviour Legislation in this case is that it would be dealt with if it happened several times. This legislation can be used not only for crimes, but any annoyance. There are criminal offences that can be used in most circumstances.

M Witham asked how the forum could go out to the public and educate the public especially the urban population in countryside issues, does the forum have a role and if so how can we fulfil that role? It was thought that children get information in school, however they have been handed rights and they are not sure how to use them. G Potts has a meeting in November with SNH and other Rangers and will be raising the point that good information on how young people can access the countryside is needed. The countryside code was easy for children to understand. S Inverarity said that there is a body run by the Royal Highland Society that will take schools out to the countryside. However, there are 48 primary schools in Dundee and this could take up a lot of time. D Morgan said that many youngsters have never been out of Dundee. G Potts thought that it was this inner city problem that needed to be focused on. There is no city farm in Dundee anymore. The wildlife centre at Camperdown Country Park could take on that role. P Watson said that teachers were not encouraged to take pupils to farms. G Potts said that he would keep sight of education role we can play.

L Campbell asked the group if they felt there was any training they required at this stage. M Witham informed the forum that he attended the recreational user groups training in Stirling and that this had been very useful and informative. The focus was on the needs of user groups, but would be useful for anyone to go along to. There were useful tips on Core Path Planning, Rights of Way and looking at difficult access issues. The event is likely to be repeated in March. G Potts told the forum that if they had an area of interest relevant to forum work we could help with training costs.

K O'Donnell brought up one scenario where Anti Social Behaviour legislation could be used. This was the anti social use of vehicles on land where a person doesn't have permission to be there. The Police can warn the driver if he comes to the notice of the Police again within 12 months the vehicle can be seized. The Police Officers in Dundee will have information about ASBOs and will be able to give advice on when they can be used. J Kettles said that motorbikes had been a problem in one area, someone complained about the noise and a noise reading was taken, the complainant's lawnmower was noisier than the bikes. G Potts said that recent action at Camperdown has made a big dent in the problem. There have also been successful actions in Whitfield and Mill O'Mains.

L Campbell informed they forum of the new funding programme recently brought out by SNH. There are at least two options for access projects. The group could look at projects and apply for funding.

#### **Date of next meeting**

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January 06, 7pm, Olympia

Open meeting and AGM – April – date/time/venue to be confirmed