**South Ayrshire Local Access Forum**

**Minute of Meetings**

**on Wednesday 20th November 2024.**

**Alloway Primary School**

**Present: Apologies:**

Cllr Ian Davis Cllr Craig Mackay

Dougie Graham Iain Gairns

Angus Craig Janice Kirkpatrick

Colin Clark Helen Bolland

Clive Stacey Robin Wilson

Neil Feggans

Colin Mair

Jenny Fergusson

Euan Terras

**Attending:** Rachel Shipley, Outdoor Access Officer

Antony Kamau, Ayrshire Roads Alliance

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| **No** | **Item** | **Action** |
| 1.  2.  3.  4.  5.  6.  7.  8.  9. | **General Meeting**  **Welcome and Apologies**  CC welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for their attendance.  Everyone did a quick ‘round the table introductions.  Apologies were intimated as above*.*  **Minute of Meeting on 22.05.24**  Minute was agreed as correct.  Minute was proposed by Clive Stacey and seconded by Dougie Graham. Minute was adopted.  **Matters Arising**  Dailly Trails  CC, JF, JK and RS held a brief online meeting, a few days before the in-person meeting at County Buildings. Online meeting was to set out what we were intending to discuss at the in-person meeting. One of the points discussed at this meeting was looking at whether corporate or commercial funding for Trails would be appropriate in the future.  In-person meeting at County Buildings was attended by NF, JK, RS, Cllr Lamont (elected member for that Ward), Chris Campbell (Thriving Communities), Abbey Coia (Tourism) and Peter Occleston (former Chair of Dailly CC).  SAC does not have enough of a budget to maintain Trails to the standard they should be, and so other funding or an alternative model is needed to protect these Trails in the future.  Funding from some of the windfarms’ monies may be possible, although the Hadyard Hill (one of the large windfarms close to Dailly) funding is quite restrictive, as to what it may be used for and by whom.  NF/ RS to arrange meeting with Communities Officer; have already made initial contact with the officer.  RS to contact Legal Services, to get advice on validity of Dailly Trails Access Agreement.  This Agreement was originally drawn up before the LRA and was mainly to allow easier public access to privately owned land. However, it does also include points on maintenance which need to be clarified in the current position.  CC advised that SAPI would be able to supply some labour for certain jobs on the Trails (e.g. vegetation cuts, renewing signage)  Larger jobs (e.g. repairing/ replacing bridges) may be classed as capital projects and therefore would be eligible for capital funding from external sources.  **Active Travel**  Antony Kamau, who has now taken on the role of Active Travel Projects, gave an update on various current projects and potential works in the near future.  AK advised that the funding process is changing now, in that ARA applies to Transport Scotland.  Applications submitted in January – reviewed in February – funds allocated in March – jobs to start in April – must be completed by end of that same year.  This year £400k to be used on Dundonald – Barassie route, to get route cleared and treated for Japanese Knotweed. This plant will take more than one treatment over several years.  Then ARA will put in a bid for the construction/ tarmac of the path. ARA hopeful this bid will be successful.  Culzean Way concept design and upgrade from Prestwick Airport are ready to go, so ARA will put in bids in January and be ready to get started on the projects as soon as funds confirmed.  Active Travel meetings will be restarted hopefully at beginning of next year (AK will check dates for this).  Other concept designs underway are for Burns Statue Square, and Accessibility Ayr in reshaping of High Street & Sandgate to include cycleway and reduce width of road.  Cllr Mac advised that information on Accessibility Ayr is available online.  **Paths Maintenance Update**  River Ayr Way  Flooded section at Holm Bank Wood is in poor condition and water does not drain off path. Level on path is lower than fields either side, so water drains from fields onto path. RS asked contractors to quote for laying tonnes of stone on path to raise its level, to help with flooding issue. One contractor replied so far – quote is more than entire annual budget, so will need to source funding from elsewhere for this job.  Foot/ cycleway adjacent to A77 at Overmills Bridge, Ayr.  NF - surface blistered/ very rough and safety barrier too short. RS contacted Amey 2(?) years ago, after CS had reported this issue. Has not been rectified. RS to contact Amey again, to report this safety issue.  Also, section just north of Thornyflat Farm to underpass. Very overgrown/ narrowed by vegetation.  Has recently had some work to clear back vegetation (by Neighbourhood Services) near the underpass. This section adjacent to A77 also responsibility of Transport Scotland.  **Outstanding/Completed Local Access Cases/Access Enquiries**  Discussed various cases on the datasheet.  **AOCB**  CM high-lighted that it’s the 20th year anniversary of SOAC, next year.  NAF looking for good stories/ cases regarding public access and landowners.  e.g. Ayrshire Coastal Path signs on farming.  Forum to consider if there is anything we could submit to NAF on this.  **Next Meetings** – proposed dates  19th February 2025  21st May 2025  20th August 2025  19th November 2025  **Finish** | *NF/ RS*  *RS*  *AC/ All* |

RS 29.11.24