**South Ayrshire Local Access Forum**

**Minute of Meeting**

**on Wednesday 19th May 2021.**

**Present: Apologies:**

Janice Kirkpatrick Iain Gairns

Mike Hazlewood Euan Terras

Jenny Fergusson Clive Stacey

Colin Mair Robin Wilson

Colin Clark Neil Feggans

Cllr Craig Mackay

Cllr Ian Davis

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

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| **No** | **Item** | **Action** |
| 1.  2.  3.  4.  5.  6.  7.  8.  9.  10.  11.  12.  13.  14. | **Welcome and Apologies**  Colin Mair welcomed everyone to the meeting, and thanked them for their attendance.  Apologies were intimated as above*.*  Neil Feggans was unable to attend this meeting. However, as he is retiring at the end of May, he wanted to ensure that his sincere thanks were passed onto all the Forum members, for all the invaluable time and help they gave over the years.  The Forum members were very sorry to hear that Neil would no longer be part of the Forum as a council officer. They also wanted to express their thanks to Neil, for all the instrumental work and support he gave to the Forum, and to wish him well in his retirement.  **Minute of meeting on 24.02.21**  Minute was proposed by Colin Clark and seconded by Jenny Fergusson. Minute was adopted.  **Matters Arising**  Loans-Troon active travel link  ARA trying to acquire more ground from neighbouring residence, to widen path.  MH – path currently too narrow for golf buggies to use safely. He advised that 2 out of the 3 bridges on the golf course have been replaced to allow use by buggies.  Cllr Mac – there have been several discussions with officer at ARA, regarding widening of path. Property owner’s mortgage lender has agreed to sale of some garden ground, but Sustrans has not so far agreed to motorised buggies using the path.  Active Travel bridge at NE Troon  Funds now in place for construction of bridge and its maintenance for 25 years. The 300 houses trigger point was reached in October 202, but developer contributions not received until April 2021.  There will be targeted/ limited consultation for design of the bridge (to households in immediate vicinity of bridge).  Consulting Ayrshire Rivers Trust on wind farm applications  RS contacted planning officer to ask about ART being including on consultation list. However, ART is not a statutory consultee, therefore not legally required to be included. SEPA is on statutory list and often will forward consultations to ART.  **River Ayr Way feasibility study**  River Ayr Way feasibility study, to identify possible off-road re-routing of the section between Barskimming and Failford, is nearly complete. Just awaiting information from Registers of Scotland on landownership, of fields adjacent to sections of the B743 road.  Once complete study can be circulated to Forum members for their information.  **Path Condition Surveys**  Path condition surveys (of the local trails promoted by the Council) commenced in May, and started with the network around Annbank & Mossblown. Other networks included are: Barr, Dailly, Girvan, Maybole, Straiton and The Smugglers Trail.  Once survey and reports are complete they can be circulated to Forum members for their information.  **Temporary closure of SA3, RAW (north) for the Hydro-scheme at Nethermillls Dam**  The section of the River Ayr Way by the college will be closed to allow safe construction of the Hydro-scheme, as per planning permission. The section of the route will be closed for approx. 9 months, and a diversion route is in place & signposted. Copies of the diversion notice & plan are posted on site and on the SAC website, and a public notice will be published in the local papers at intervals over the closure period.  **Temporary closure of SA29, Alloway-Dunure Road cycle route for water main relocation.**    The water main requires to be relocated to allow the construction of a tunnel under the A719 road, for the passage of the Alloway-Dunure cycle route. The tunnel will greatly improve the safety of cyclists/ walkers/ horse riders using the route, as they would no longer need to cross the busy/ fast road at level.  **Temporary closure of SA3, RAW (south) for bank stabilisation work**  A section of the River Ayr Way below Holmston Road will be closed temporarily to allow bank stabilisation works to take place in a safe manner. The section is between Craigholm Bridge and the path leading from Overmills Crescent.  **Paths Maintenance Update**  The River Ayr Way between Stair and Annbank, at Crawfordston Farm, has had a section of boundary fence replaced, to keep livestock secure and stop them escaping onto the path. The farmer also asked for ‘clear up litter and dog mess’ types of signs on this section of path. Signs were provided to farmer, for him to put up on gates.  The Smugglers Trail – map/ interpretation signs have been installed at 2 points, one by the northern end of the reservoir and one on the entrance to Dundonald woods. This was a project undertaken in collaboration with the landowner (Hillhouse Quarry Group), the South Ayrshire Paths Initiative and South Ayrshire Council.  **Planning Consultations**  Forestry applications – JK concerned that many are missed and people not given opportunity to comment on them. RS advised Council only directly consulted on applications for sites larger than a certain size, however all applications are available to view on the Forestry & Land Scotland website.  Corton development – Cllr McK reported that the developer had requested to have equestrian use removed from the A77 overbridge specs (wanted just pedestrian & cycle use). However, councillors refused this, so equestrian use is still included in bridge design requirement.  **Outstanding/Completed Local Access Cases/Access Enquiries**  Cases were discussed amongst group  **AOCB**  CM advised that NFU Scotland now has an Access Hub on its website, where farmers can log on to get advice and report issues.  **Next Meetings**  25th August 2020 – CM suggested a possible site visit for this date  24th November 2020  **Finish** |  |

RS 29.07.21