

**LLTNPA Access Team Update – for period 05 August 2016 to 28 September 2016**

**1.0 Upholding Access Rights**

**1.1 Section 13 Access Issues**

**Glen Auchreoch** - No further developments to report, The NPA will persevere with contacting the landowner to discuss access management options.

**Ballimore** – NPA seeking resolution through planning process at the locality for this long running issue. Mountaineering Scotland have again contacted the NPA to report non-compliant signage at this location in Balquhidder.

**Drumlean** – 1.5 days of hearing at the Sheriff's Appeal Court was completed on Sept 27<sup>th</sup>. The NPA is very happy with how the hearing proceeded and are optimistic that this important decision will be returned in our favour. The verdict might not be returned until December.

**1.2 Section 11 Exemption Orders**

One application received but with unachievable timescales.

**2.0 Outdoor Recreation Plan delivery**

**2.1 Priority projects 2016/17**

**Arrochar / Tarbet Community Link**

No development since the last update.

**West Loch Lomond Cycle Path**

The new visitor management signage at Burnfoot Farm has led to a slight increase in use of the path through the Carrick - no problems have been reported. The NPA continue to work with BEAR Scotland on a project to install directional finger posts on the A82.

**St Fillans to Lochearnhead**

Successful opening event for Phase one held on 12<sup>th</sup> August. Phase two proceeding slightly behind schedule.

**Drymen to Balmaha**

Stirling Council are finalising traffic calming measures for Balmaha and Milton of Buchanan. Works are scheduled imminently for resurfacing of the link section within Buchanan Castle Estate. TP&E (consultants) have provided a quote for project development and delivery.

**Balloch to Gartocharn**

Feasibility and Design Report has now been completed and the Community Paths Group are digesting recommended phased approach.

**Parkmobility Project**

Use of rental scooters in Balloch has increased significantly, with 2 to 3 uses a day through the summer months. Clydeshopmobility also organised a led scoot in Balloch Park on July 31<sup>st</sup> which was successful. Discussions are ongoing as to how scooters can be introduced into The Lodge and other suitable destinations across the Park.

### **3.0 Other access projects**

#### **3.1 NPF3 – Cross Scotland 3 Saints Way**

No update since last meeting.

#### **3.2 The Mountains and The People**

The project continues to make excellent progress on the current set of mountain paths. Work on restoring the Ben Lomond path is virtually complete – relatively minor ‘snagging’ work is still required on a short section and will need a short, temporary diversion. The path contractor made good use of a dry spell (and help from the first tranche of TMTP trainees) and restoration of the main Cobbler and summit return paths is now also complete.

The preparatory stages for Ben Ledi are close to completion, and the project anticipates starting this work soon.

The NPA provided new infrastructure to assist FCS and TMTP trainees with access improvements at the Lauder Memorial, Glenbranter.

#### **3.3 Loch Lomond & The Trossachs Countryside Trust**

Report to follow

#### **3.4 Balloch Placemaking Project**

Sustrans held an initial consultation event on 15<sup>th</sup> September which 120 (approx) people attended. Feedback appeared extremely positive. WDC have announced a £1.2M capital commitment for the delivery phase which is likely to be match with Sustrans funding in 2017/18.

#### **3.5 Callander Placemaking Project**

The tendering process has been delayed by Stirling Council however the project remains on target for design phase delivery by April 2017.

#### **3.6 Scottish Government - Improving Public Access fund**

Unfortunately, the NPA and Lochgoilhead CDT were unable to secure Scottish Government IPA (Improving Public Access) funding for the Rob Roy Way or the River Goil Community Path projects in 2017. Following discussions with SNH (the scheme administrators) the both projects are ‘on hold’ until 2018 until details associated with the River Goil bridge and changing landownership in the Menteith Hills can be clarified. In the interim, the NPA will continue to work on these aspects.

#### **3.7 Park Authority people counter network**

In comparison to 2015, the broad trends once again indicate increased use of the monitored paths over the past 12 weeks – the full 2016 data summary will be available at the next LAF update.

#### **3.8 Justice in the Park**

The NPA have initiated a new partnership project with Argyll & Bute, Stirling and West Dunbartonshire Council criminal justice teams. Over the coming months, supervised community payback groups will be deployed to recreational sites and areas identified by the NPA. Initially, the teams will focus on path and cycle way litter clearance and vegetation management, with the aim of eventually developing a rolling program of beneficial work throughout the Park area.

**4.0 National steering groups and forums**

**4.1 National Walking Strategy**

N/A

**4.2 Green Exercise and Natural Health Service**

Verbal update

**4.3 Central Scotland Mountain Biking cluster**

Date: 17th – 19th November 2016

Venue: MacDonald Hotel, Aviemore

The 2016 Scottish Mountain Bike Conference will be focussing on innovations in mountain biking, both from within Scotland and the latest innovations across the world. More Info - [www.dmbins.com/developing/conference](http://www.dmbins.com/developing/conference)

**5.0 Work with local partners**

**5.1 Argyll & Bute**

Nothing to report at this time.

**5.2 Stirling**

The Rec & Access Team continue to work with SC to progress active travel and public realm projects in Callander and around Drymen.

**5.3 West Dunbartonshire**

The NPA are working with WDC on the Balloch Placemaking Project and have committed £1.2M to the project.

**5.4 Perth & Kinross**

P&K Countryside Trust is a partner within the 3 Saints Way Project and for signage around St Fillans.

**5.5 FCS**

Quarterly meetings need to be programmed but NPA sit on the FCS Hill Paths group which has come out of the Mountains & The People Project.

**6.0 National Access Forum /SOAN update**

**SOAN**

The November event will be held in Battleby and will look at Core Path Planning and the impacts of recent changes to the LRA.

**NAF**

Don update on papers

**7.0 Specialist advice provision**

**7.1 NPA planning function**

Specialist comments provided to 4 planning applications and 1 FDP's.

**7.2 Other**

N/A

**8.0 NPA plans and strategies development**

Covered under meeting agenda point.

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