

**December 2016**

**Q. "please provide me with the minutes of meeting 5 Lochs Visitor Management Group which took place on 19th November 2015."**

A. The draft minutes from the 5 Lochs Visitor Management Stakeholders Group meeting of 19<sup>th</sup> November 2015 are attached in Appendix A.

**Q. "Please all provide me with the dates of any meetings of the group that have taken place this year ((2016) and any planned meeting dates along with minutes of the meetings that have taken place."**

A. There have been no meetings of this group held in 2016, therefore there are no minutes. Accordingly I have to advise under R10(4)(a) of the EIRs that this information is not held.

There are no further meetings scheduled of this group. Accordingly I have to advise under R10(4)(a) of the EIRs that this information is not held.

5 Lochs Visitor Management Stakeholders Group  
19th November 2015  
Callander Youth Project Office 19:00 – 21:00

Attending:

David Warnock (DW)	Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park Authority (Board)
Sue Morris (SM)	Trossachs Community Council/The Woodland Trust
Liz Walker (LW)	Forestry Commission Scotland
Megan Griffiths	Sportscotland
Alistair Barclay (AB)	BLS Community Council
Gerry McMenemy (GMc)	Police Scotland
Gene Maxwell (GM)	Trossachs Community Council
Fergus Woods (FW)	Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park Authority (Board)
Bridget Jones (BJ) (Chair)	Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park Authority
Graeme Archibald (GA)	Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park Authority
Carlo D'Emidio (CD)	Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park Authority
Lori MacIntyre (LM)	Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park Authority

Apologies:

Elaine Fotheringham (EF)	Sport Scotland
Paul Roberts	Scottish Natural Heritage
Cheryl Campbell	Killin Community Council
Martin Earl (ME)	Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park Authority (Board)
Mike Luti (ML)	Callander Community Council
David Crighton	Stirling Council
Scott Mason	Stirling Council

## 1. Welcome and apologies

- 1.1. BJ once again welcomed the group and thanked them for their attendance on such a wild evening. BJ suggested it would be beneficial for the group to provide a brief summary of their role to introduce themselves to some of the new members at the meeting. GM arrived just as the introductions were coming to an end.

## 2. Minutes and actions from previous meeting

- 2.1. The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed.
- 2.2. Actions from last meeting
- 2.3. Action 1 – SM to send copy of litter photograph to BJ – **closed**
- 2.4. Action 2 – BJ to report back on any progress with litter bins at Venachar north – BJ reported that Stirling Council (SC) had offered to put in some small capacity recycling bins for a trial period at the site. These had quickly become overloaded and it became clear that it would need to be done on a bigger scale and that discussion would be required over the provision for emptying the larger capacity containers. BJ reported that there had been similar issues with the trial at Loch Lubnaig as the SC long trailer based vehicles were unable to access the north site. This is under discussion with SC – **closed**.
- 2.5. Action 3 – GA to look into path management at Glenoglehead – this has been passed to the Access team and no issues reported - **closed**.

- 2.6. Action 4 – GA to send secure web access information- GA reported that the NPA website is currently being re-designed and he will circulate the information when it is available. He expected this to be late March, early April - **closed**.
- 2.7. Action 5 – GA to circulate new meeting dates - **closed**

### 3. Matters arising

- 3.1. None.

### 4. Your Park: Park wide visitor management

#### 4.1.

BJ reported to the group that currently the Your Park byelaws proposals are still with the Minister, although a decision is hoped for before Christmas. Preparations are underway in either case. DW assured the group that Gordon Watson has been actively pursuing a decision from Scottish Government (SG) as a long delay could prove challenging for implementation.

Whilst waiting for a decision work on the north Venachar car parks was being progressed as part of the 5 Lochs improvements.

GM raised concerns over the lack of information on proposed camping provision should SG approve the introduction of the byelaw. BJ reassured him that work is continuing in the background on proposals for the introduction of new semi-formal camp sites similar to Salloch and Inchcailloch and the provision of camping permit options in other areas. LW suggested to the group that even if it is approved soon, the byelaw could not be introduced until 2017, as she agreed that the provision of suitable alternative camping options needs to be in place first.

FW asked if the Ranger support which had been diverted from ELL, due to the success of the byelaw enforcement, could be used in the 5 Lochs and Loch Venachar area. BJ said that preparations to provide a more flexible, intelligence led level of Ranger service cover were already underway. She reported that this would allow resources to be deployed to areas of particular need assisted by local community intelligence. FW asked how many Rangers were ESPs and was advised that currently one of the Rangers was assisting as an ESP. GMc explained that it would be more beneficial to recruit office based staff than to divert Ranger staff who are already fully utilised during busy periods. He confirmed that Police Scotland had an interest in recruiting specials and additional ESPs but there was little interest in the rural areas.

### 5. Phase 2 Developments: Loch Venachar

- 5.1. BJ introduced Carlo D'Emidio, the new Capital Projects Manager, who will be taking forward the Venachar north car park improvements this financial year.
- 5.2. CD showed slides of the site design proposals identifying the areas where work would take place to upgrade the existing car parking, including the formalisation of two disabled parking spaces, a lockable gate at the entrance and timber bollards around the site to reduce parking on the verges. A short wall similar in construction to the one at Lubnaig would be used as seating. The existing path will remain and once on site areas for additional native species planting will be identified. Site works will begin in the New Year and should be completed by March. Approaches to any parking management will be developed including any gateing or litter management arrangements. GM asked about locking of the gates at car parks. BJ assured him

that the use of the gates would depend on any issues at the sites, and where an option to use if required, and that their presence alone can often help encourage more responsible use. AB enquired about feedback from the Lubnaig sites and was advised that it had been very positive to date with the kiosk doing well and use of the camp site increasing each season. He asked if camping figures were available and BJ said she would take it as an action point to check with the Tourism team and provide them when available. There was a brief discussion on issues and costs related to litter management and some concerns on how fishing would be managed.

- 5.3. **Action 1 - BJ to ask the NP Tourism team if Lubnaig camping figures will be available and if so circulate them.**

**Action 2 - BJ to investigate what the red line marked on one of the site maps represents.**

## 6. Clearway proposal

- 6.1 GA informed the group he had contacted Transport Scotland (TS) but there was still no update on the proposal. GA did remind the group that the key reason behind the clearway proposal was road safety issues and safe traffic management. He also reminded the group that TS would still need to go out to public consultation before any final decision was made. GMc said he may have an opportunity to raise it at his next meeting with TS.

## 7. Alcohol Byelaw – Community Council update

- 7.1 AB reported that the BLS Community Council had not received a response from Stirling Council regarding the proposed alcohol byelaw. BJ suggested making direct contact with the council's legal team. GA asked if there had been any approach from St Fillans, AB has been asked which area the alcohol byelaw was intended to cover and he confirmed that Balquhidder Glen, Loch Earn and the north end of Loch Lubnaig were included in the application maps. GMc re-iterated the support Police Scotland has for the use of a suite of measures including the development of infrastructure. FW mentioned that Strathard Community Council had flagged up interest in the application of an alcohol byelaw.

## 8. AOB

- 8.1 There was some general discussion on the economic impact for the areas covered by the byelaw proposals and it was generally agreed that this would benefit the local economy. It was agreed that the improvements at Lubnaig had encouraged the return of genuine fishermen and visitors to the area and had provided a positive change to the visitor experience. It was also agreed that there could be opportunities to improve or provide facilities at new sites and some of these could be supported or provided by private individuals or local enterprise. It was also noted that the Woodland Trust had offered use of the bull field.
- 8.2 BJ once again thanked everyone for their attendance and contribution to the meeting.

## 9. DONM

BJ suggested that the next meeting date would likely be pre-season, however there may be a review of requirements post any byelaws decision.

## 10. List of proposed actions

**AP1 – BJ to ask the NP Tourism team if Lubnaig camping figures are available and circulate them.**

**AP2 – BJ to clarify what the red line marking on the site map represents.**

DRAFT