

KINGHORN COMMUNITY COUNCIL **PATHWAYS GROUP**

Minutes of the Meeting held Monday 26th April, 2010 at 7.30pm at **Craigencalt Cottage, Kinghorn**

Present : Fraser Ballantyne, Marilyn Edwards, Ron Edwards, Mike Gilbert
Douglas Gray (Chairman) Rena Wallace (Secretary)

Apologies : Lynette Gray, Helen & Alex Gibb

Matters arising from last meeting

1. Statement of Use Forms

A further five Statement of Use Forms had been completed by residents in Kinghorn. A very interesting one had been received from Jim Edmiston a former Councillor in Kinghorn. Included in his statement were copies of Minutes from Kinghorn Town Council dated 1928 and 1933 providing evidence that the footpath in question was a Right of Way. These forms would be sent to Sarah Johnstone. Rena to email Sarah with scanned copies of the Minutes of Kinghorn Town Council included with Jim Edmiston's form.

Sarah and her assistant Craig had met with Marilyn, Mike and Rena to discuss the blocked footpath on Monday 19th April at the Community Centre. The normal procedures would now be followed. Rena had sent a copy of the "Procedure Proposal for the Assertion Procedure for a Right of Way" to members of the group. This document outlined the course of action.

2. Rights of Way

A consultation on the village footpaths had taken place at the March Community Council meeting. Sarah Johnstone one of Fife Council's Access Officers had attended the meeting and was very impressed with the work Mike had produced.

Sarah was provided with a CD disc with the map, list of footpaths and photographs. She has since walked these paths with her assistant Craig and has emailed to request a further meeting to discuss seven of these routes.

A general discussion took place regarding those routes and it was decided four of them could be dropped. Rena to arrange a further meeting with Sarah to discuss the other three.

Mike mentioned that the Core Path route from The Mire via the Croft an Righ footpath to garages and recreation area involved going over a wall and really needed to be re-routed along Croft an Righ itself to make it safe.

3. Maintenance

Ron had a very successful meeting with a representative from Alcan on 19th April. They agreed to clear the Roden Braes track for us and have already started this work on the track with a JCB being used to widen the narrow track.

The trees would need to be trimmed back, grass seed sown and bark chippings to make a path up the centre. A work party would be required to carry out this work. Rena to contact John Hughes at The Ecology Centre to see if we can get volunteers and also bark chippings for the track. The chipping machine used by The Ecology Centre belonged to Peter Collins who is an employee at the Centre.

Alistair Morrison from SEPA would need to be contacted regarding access to the original path beyond the ruined cottages. At the moment there is a wide enough walk way at the edge of the field.

Ron also reported that Bob Cooper from Alcan would look at the possibility of taking the fence back from the road to make the pavement wider on the footpath between the main gates of the Alcan site and the footpath in to Craigencait.

Rena reported that the track at the Mire was beginning to get overgrown with brambles. Ron is going to take a look and perhaps get his quad down there.

Rena also reported that the Kissing Gate had been removed from the track leading down to her field. She had found it lying near the main road possibly ready for someone to pick up. It was thought that this had been done by the travelling people who had been evicted from the car park. It has been moved back down the track for the time being.

4. Site Visits

A site visit to The Mire had taken place on Sunday 14th March. To everyone's surprise it looked like a vehicle had already cleared the track. Possibly the man who keeps the pheasants. Rena has since used this track on a regular basis.

5. A.O.C.B.

The Litter Picking exercise on The Braes had been carried out on Sunday 25th April and had been organised by Kinghorn in Bloom. Dougie reported that there had been a good turn out but he did have concerns about safety due to the very wet weather and consequently slippery ground. That being said the day was very successful and it would be good to repeat this exercise each year.

Fly tipping was becoming a major concern with several truck loads of building/gardening material dumped at the tannery and the east of the car park at the east of the loch. The Council had since tidied this up and it was agreed Marilyn would write and thank them for doing this.

A discussion took place regarding key holders for the height barrier on the road to the loch car park. At present the key holder is The Ecology Centre. However as they are not open at weekends or evenings it might be a good idea for a key to be held in a safe at the farm house should, police, ambulance or fire brigade, or environmental services need access. Rena to contact Wilson Graham of Kinghorn Developments about this.

Come and Try Day – Saturday 1st May, 2010 1pm to 5 pm

The Footpaths Group would display maps and information at this event.

It was hoped to raise funds for new rafts on the loch. Marilyn had spoken to Ronnie at The Ecology Centre and had been granted free use of The Hive Meeting Barn for displaying this information and serving refreshments.

Marilyn is hoping to set things up on Friday evening. Rena agreed to lend hand and help out on the Saturday. Rena to see John about display boards.

Date of next meeting

Monday 7th June, 2010 at 7.30pm at Craigencait Cottage