

Minutes: Paths Group Meeting 14/01/19 at 6.30 pm

Venue: Strontian Fire Station

Present: John Jones (Chair), Izzy Baker, Dean Mann, Jean Campbell, Sue Metcalfe, Robert Dunn, Alastair MacDougall, Alison MacDougall, Morag Jones, Sheila Wilson, David Barker, Karl Bungay.

1. Welcome and Apologies

Apologies were received from Sheila McKenzie and Laura Sutherland

2. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the meeting of 3rd December were approved, subject to RD commenting that the decision to include the Longrigg path within the leaflet was omitted.

3. Discussion of Paths Leaflet.

IB led a discussion on comments with respect to the draft leaflet.

Points of Note:

Front Page

- It was agreed to keep the leaflet title as 'Paths Around Sunart' and under the front page photograph place text stating that the document is 'Leaflet 1 Strontian', thereby providing the option of producing future leaflets covering paths across the wider Sunart area.
- On the front page it was agreed to remove the comment 'Don't leave litter' from the 'Leave no trace' section.
- Front page photograph to be changed. Prospective replacement photographs to be sent to IB.
- The text on all pages should be justified and paragraph indentations should be removed to improve the look of the document.

Page 2

- Change in emphasis in the 'Our Wildlife' section to include rare butterflies/wild flowers.
- Agreement that the 'The Strontian Floating Church' section should remain as is.
- Font Sizes should be harmonised. Page 2 text too large, map page too small.
- Heading/Text Fonts should be made consistent.
- Current colour schemes and font type agreed as is.
- White paper to be used for document.

Map Page

- Path colouring in leaflet should be made consistent with current path signs in the village.
- Ensure consistency of colours between Path headings and routes on map.
- Include description of Longrigg path between 'The High Road' and Ardnastang Beach'.
- Remove references to each way journey in path lengths.

- Amend the reference to 'Thomas Telford church' in the Back Road description by removing 'Thomas'.
- The Fairies Road text needs revision. Currently undersells the walk and includes no reference to the steepness of the hill on the section adjacent to Drimnattoran farm.
- Information on each path's difficulty to be included.
- On the map the following amendments are necessary:
 - a) Remove the reference to 'Ariundle' and replace with 'Upper Scotstown'.
 - b) Replace 'Scotstown' with 'Lower Scotstown'.
 - c) The route between the cattle grid at Ardnastang and the A861 should be coloured yellow.
 - d) The route from the gate above Heatherbank B&B and the house shown at Upper Scotstown should be coloured yellow.
 - e) The junction of the High Road path and the Coffin Road should reference the Hydro Scheme.
 - f) Include a reference to Ardnastang Bay.
 - g) Show the access point back into Phemies Walk near to Jean Campbell's house.
 - h) Include 'I' (information sign) at village.
 - i) Reference to 'shop/petrol' should be amended to read 'post office/petrol'.
 - j) Reference to 'pier' should be amended to read 'jetty'.
 - k) Reference to 'school' should be amended to read 'schools/library'.
 - l) Include symbol for 'camp site'.
 - m) Include symbol for 'church' on the Anaheilt road.
 - n) Include symbol for 'viewpoint' overlooking school on the Fairies Road.

4. Path Signs

Signs are required for the following locations:

- Ardnastang Beach
- Ardnastang Grazings
- Longrigg Path requires two – one at each end of the path.
- Phemies Walk at the access point near to Jean Campbell's house.
- Tom an t-Sithein – where the community woodland meets the Fairies Walk.

The Men's Shed will be requested to produce these providing they can meet the required timescale and are happy to work with recycled plastic posts.

The Chair will find out who will buy the materials.

RD requested that a number of plastic decking boards be procured for use in diverting excess water on the Longrigg path walk. It was agreed to price up for a dozen posts rather than the six noted above.

5. A.O.B

The work day at the old school plot scheduled for 19th January will not take place. To be rescheduled.

The Chair provided an update on ongoing path maintenance. While ultimate responsibility for maintenance remains with the landowners they could approach the paths group to carry

out any maintenance required. The Chair suggested the creation of periodic maintenance days.

DB highlighted that some work is required on the Back Road due to the accumulation of leaves on certain sections.

Miscellaneous comments made during meeting:

- Chair suggested we might produce a sheet giving a fuller description of the areas wildlife attractions.
- The idea was suggested that we might wish an enlarged view of the village centre on the map page.

Date of next meeting Monday 4th January at 6.30