

Minute of Meeting

Clyde Muirshiel Park Authority Consultative Forum

Date	Time	Venue
Friday, 21 June 2019	10:00	Council Chamber (North Ayrshire), Cunninghame House, Irvine, KA12 8EE

Present

Councillor Innes Nelson and Councillor David Wilson (both Inverclyde Council); Councillor Andy Steel (Renfrewshire Council); Ross Anderson (Scottish Rural Property & Business Association); Donald Cochrane (Scottish National Farmers Union); Ian Dippie (Save The Gretas); Roger Hissett (Scottish Wildlife Trust – Ayrshire Branch); Kerry MacKendrick (Lochwinnoch Community Council); Patricia Perman (Largs Community Council); Graeme Randall and Graeme Crawford (both Sport Scotland); and Sybil Simpson and Nigel Willis (both Save Your Regional Park).

Chair

Councillor Nelson, Chair, presided.

In Attendance

F Carswell, Interim Park Co-ordinator (Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park); F Carlin, Head of Planning and Housing Services, S Jones, Assistant Regeneration Manager and E Currie, Senior Committee Services Officer (all Renfrewshire Council); and L Forsyth, Cultural Development Manager and A Hunter, Engagement and Participation Officer (both North Ayrshire Council).

Apologies

Councillor Donald L Reid (North Ayrshire Council); Tabby Lamont (RSPB Scotland); and Gordon Smith (Visit Scotland).

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest intimated prior to the commencement of the meeting.

1 Minute

There was submitted the Minute of the meeting of the Consultative Forum held on 15 February 2019.

DECIDED: That the Minute be approved.

2 Matters Arising

(i) Friends of Clyde Muirshiel

Under reference to item 2 of the Minute of the meeting of the Consultative Forum held on 15 February 2019 members requested an update on the establishment of a Friends of Clyde Muirshiel Group.

It was noted that this matter would be discussed as part of item 3 of the agenda – Community Engagement Opportunities.

DECIDED:

(a) That it be noted that this matter would be discussed as part of item 3 of the agenda; and

(b) That this matter be a standing item of business on future agendas.

(ii) Roller Skiing

Under reference to item 2 of the Minute of the meeting of the Consultative Forum held on 15 February 2019 members requested an update on the introduction of roller skiing at Castle Semple.

Councillor Steel advised that there had been no progress made.

DECIDED:

(a) That the update be noted; and

(b) That this matter be a standing item of business on future agendas.

3 Community Engagement Opportunities

The Cultural Development Manager and the Engagement and Participation Officer, North Ayrshire Council, facilitated a workshop discussion as part of community engagement around the work of Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park.

Reference was made to the current review of the governance documents; the work carried out by members of the Consultative Forum and the role and functionality of the Consultative Forum moving forward.

DECIDED: That the findings of the workshop be submitted to a future meeting of the Consultative Forum.

4 Minute of Agreement Update

Under reference to item 3 of the Minute of the meeting of the Consultative Forum held on 15 February 2019 the Head of Planning and Housing Services, Renfrewshire Council, advised that officers in the three constituent councils were currently considering the revised governance documents which included the Minute of Agreement, Financial Regulations and Procedural Standing Orders.

He further advised that once considered by the three constituent councils, updated governance documents would be submitted to a future meeting of the Joint Committee. It was noted that this report would also provide detail on the establishment of a 'Friends of Clyde Muirshiel Group'.

DECIDED:

(a) That it be noted that once considered by the three constituent Councils, updated governance documents would be submitted to a future meeting of the Joint Committee; and

(b) That it be noted that the report would also provide detail on the establishment of a 'Friends of Clyde Muirshiel Group'.

5 Rotation of Lead Authority

Reference was made to the recent Regional Parks in Scotland workshop at which the speaker from Pentland Hills Regional Park intimated that a new impetus had been provided when a change had been made to the lead servicing authority for the Regional Park.

It was noted that Renfrewshire Council made the largest financial contribution to Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park and as such acted as the lead authority.

DECIDED: That the matter be noted.

6 Revision of the Boundary of Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park

Reference was made to the possibility of a revision of the boundary of Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park.

Members discussed the possible removal of the area south of the power station, crematorium and areas containing windfarms and how this could be achieved to redefine the boundary of Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park.

DECIDED: That consideration of this matter be continued to allow for a fuller discussion at the next meeting of the Consultative Forum to be held on 6 September 2019.

7 Conference on Regional Parks by SCNP

Reference was made to the Interim Park Co-ordinator's attendance at the recent Regional Parks in Scotland workshop and to the report being compiled by the Scottish Campaign for National Parks following this workshop.

It was proposed that, once received, the report be submitted to a future meeting of the Consultative Forum and forwarded to members of the Joint Committee for information. This was agreed.

DECIDED: That, once received, the report be submitted to a future meeting of the Consultative Forum and forwarded to members of the Joint Committee for information.

8 Planning issues in the light of the Regional Park Conference

Reference was made to the recent advice given by the Head of Housing and Planning Services, Renfrewshire Council, that members of both the Clyde Muirshiel Park Authority Joint Committee and Consultative Forum could not discuss planning applications at meetings.

At the recent Regional Parks in Scotland workshop, this matter had been discussed with members of other Regional Park Joint Committees and Consultative Forums who had advised that planning applications were regularly discussed at meetings.

DECIDED: That the matter be noted.

9 Review of the Management Structure of the Park Authority

Reference was made to the Regional Parks in Scotland workshop and to the discussion around how local businesses could provide a financial focus to the work of parks and whether consideration could be given to involving Lochwinnoch businesses in the work of Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park.

DECIDED: That this matter be noted.

10 Clyde Marine Planning Partnership Consultation

Reference was made to the recent consultation events held in Greenock and Largs in connection with the pre-consultation draft of the Clyde Regional Marine Plan.

The Head of Planning and Housing Services, Renfrewshire Council, advised that Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park had no direct input into this Marine Plan.

DECIDED: That the matter be noted.

11 Damage to Upland Area of the Park from recent Wildfire

DECIDED: That the Interim Park Co-ordinator submit a report to the next meeting of the Consultative Forum to be held on 6 September 2019 regarding the extent of the damage to the park area by recent fires.

12 Date of Next Meeting

DECIDED: That it be noted that the next meeting of the Consultative Forum would be held at 10.00 am on 6 September 2019 within the offices of Inverclyde Council, Clyde Square, Greenock.