

## Minute of Meeting Clyde Muirshiel Park Authority Consultative Forum

Date	Time	Venue
Friday, 07 September 2018	10:00	Inverclyde Council, Municipal Buildings, Clyde Square, GREENOCK, PA15 1LZ

### Present

Councillor Innes Nelson and Councillor Graeme Brooks (both Inverclyde Council); Councillor Donald L Reid (North Ayrshire Council); Councillor Tom Begg (Renfrewshire Council); R Anderson (Scottish Rural Property & Business Association); D Cochrane (Scottish National Farmers Union); K MacKendrick (Lochwinnoch Community Council); S Simpson and N Willis (both Save Your Regional Park); R Hissett (Scottish Wildlife Trust – Ayrshire Branch); I Dippie (Save the Gretas); and Gordon Smith (VisitScotland).

### Chair

Councillor Nelson, Chair, presided.

### In Attendance

D Low, Senior Committee Services Officer and K O'Neill, Assistant Democratic Services Officer (both Renfrewshire Council).

### Apologies

Councillor David Wilson (Inverclyde Council) and Councillor Todd Ferguson (North Ayrshire Council).

### 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 22 June 2018.

**DECIDED:** That the Minute be approved.

## **2 Matters Arising**

The following matters were raised:

### **2(a) Management Changes**

Under reference to item 3 of the Minute of the meeting of the Consultative Forum held on 22 June 2018, it was proposed that a representative of the Regional Park be requested to attend future meetings of the Consultative Forum. This was agreed.

**DECIDED:** That a representative of the Regional Park be requested to attend future meetings of the Consultative Forum.

### **2(b) Minute of Agreement**

Under reference to item 4 of the Minute of the meeting of the Consultative Forum held on 22 June 2018, Councillor Nelson reminded members that the Consultative Forum had first requested a copy of the revised Minute of Agreement over one year ago. He asked that it be circulated to the Consultative Forum as soon as it became available. This was agreed.

**DECIDED:** That a copy of the revised Minute of Agreement be circulated to the Consultative Forum as soon as it became available.

### **2(c) Friends of Clyde Muirshiel**

Under reference to item 6 of the Minute of the meeting of the Consultative Forum held on 22 June 2018, it was proposed that a report on the establishment of a Friends of Clyde Muirshiel group be submitted to a future meeting of the Consultative Forum. This was agreed.

**DECIDED:** That a report on the establishment of a Friends of Clyde Muirshiel group be submitted to a future meeting of the Consultative Forum.

### **2(d) Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS)**

Under reference to item 8(b) of the Minute of the meeting of the Consultative Forum held on 22 June 2018, the Consultative Forum asked that a report on the CARS fund be submitted to a future meeting of the Consultative Forum. This was agreed.

**DECIDED:** That the Head of Planning & Housing Services, Renfrewshire Council, submit a report on the CARS fund to a future meeting of the Consultative Forum.

### **3 Park Staffing**

In the absence of any information on changes to staffing in the Regional Park it was agreed that consideration of this matter be continued.

**DECIDED:** That consideration on changes to staffing in the Regional Park be continued.

### **4 Representing Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park at Public Inquiries**

In the absence of any information on representing Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park at public inquiries it was agreed that consideration of this matter be continued.

**DECIDED:** That consideration of representing Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park at public inquiries be continued.

### **5 Forestry Application in Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park and Wild Land Area - Halkshill and Blairpark**

Under reference to item 7 of the Minute of the meeting of the Consultative Forum held on 22 June 2018, the Consultative Forum was advised that the Forestry Commission application had been approved and that any appeals required to be lodged at the Court of Session within six weeks from 26 August 2018. Concern was expressed that the Regional Park was not referenced in the application and that the park had not been represented at public meetings in Largs.

**DECIDED:** That the position be noted.

### **6 Forestry Project**

The Consultative Forum expressed concerns that the Regional Park was not a statutory consultee for forestry applications and suggested that the Regional Park should engage with developers to monitor and persuade developers. Specific reference was made to the introduction of Sitka Spruce which produced a very dense canopy.

**DECIDED:** That the position be noted.

### **7 Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park Policy on Windfarms**

The Consultative Forum raised concerns relative to a perceived lack of a coherent park policy on windfarm applications. It was suggested that Inverclyde Council's policy on windfarm applications be circulated to Renfrewshire and North Ayrshire Councils and that a report be submitted to the next meeting of the Consultative Forum. This was agreed.

**DECIDED:** That Inverclyde Council's policy on windfarm applications be circulated to Renfrewshire and North Ayrshire Councils and that a report be submitted to the next meeting of the Consultative Forum.

### **8 Greta Falls**

The Consultative Forum requested that their thanks be passed to the Regional Park Ranger service for the clean-up carried out at Greta Falls, Largs.

**DECIDED:** That the Consultative Forum's thanks be passed to the Regional Park Ranger service for the clean-up carried out at Greta Falls, Largs.

## **9 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 14 December 2018 within the offices of Renfrewshire Council, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley.