

Skye Cycle Way Action Group - Open Meeting
8 March 2018, 6 – 8pm, Broadford Village Hall – Committee Room
MINUTES

Present: 20 attendees. Chaired by: Andy Neison

Apologies: Norma Morrison (Project Officer, BSCC), Alan Martin (Breakish Grazings Committee)

1 Minutes of the last meeting & matters arising

Minutes agreed. All actions / matters arising covered in Agenda.

2 Route update

2.1 Adele Beck reported:

- Neil and Kay Graham have confirmed ownership of the sections of old road between Marine Harvest and Lusa. They have offered support for the route on their land provided a section of Lusa can be avoided by crossing the road to the south side. They also own the south side and are willing for this to be used.
- Marine Harvest remain supportive of the Skye Cycleway. At a recent site meeting (attended by Ian, Tom, Alastair and Adele) Chris Read (Marine Harvest) indicated a preference for using sections of old road south of the A87 to avoid Marine Harvest access points. They are supportive of a feasibility study to include the north side. **Andy Neison** to speak to Marine Harvest re new contact and preferred route.
- Ownership of land near Tigh Lusa needs to be confirmed; **Tom Stephens** to speak to Tigh Lusa owners.
- Highland Council has confirmed that they do not own the old road – i.e. ownership has reverted to landowners.

2.2 Tom Stephens had a positive response from Upper Breakish Common Grazings Committee; needs to go to meeting for approval.

2.3 Discussion took place over safety and viability of a route that crosses the road. Whilst all appreciated support from landowners offered so far, it was felt that liaison should continue in order to find an acceptable solution that would enable the provision of a safe route without the need for crossings. The following motion was carried unanimously (19 votes for, 1 abstention): 'This group supports as an objective the establishment of a safe path from the Skye Bridge to Broadford on the north side of the public road (A87).'



2.4 Other points and actions

- Agreed to focus on the section between the Airstrip and Skye Bridge to begin with (as previously advised by Sustrans).
- Agreed that strong support from Highland Council and Transport Scotland would help overcome any barriers.
- ACTIONS:
 - **Adele Beck** to arrange meeting with Transport Scotland.
 - **Alistair McPherson** to arrange meetings with: Mark Harvey (Planning Dept, Portree); officer responsible for core paths; Tim Stott, Principal Planner at Highland Council, Inverness re local development plan.
 - **Andy Neison** to speak to Mark Crowe (Skye Bike Shack) re advice on path quality and get additional advice from Highland Council.

3 Communications and public engagement

3.1 Facebook page went live on 28 Feb – Skye Cycle Way, @SkyeBikeRunWalk.

3.2 Survey created (Survey Monkey) with link on Facebook page. Good response to far (83 responses). The objective at this stage is to find out how people might use the path, gauge interest/enthusiasm and recruit volunteers. We will consult more widely (e.g. at public events) when we are clearer on route and funding.

3.3 West Highland Free Press ran a good article on the campaign (2.3.18).

3.4 Actions:

- **Christine Davis** to upgrade to paid for Survey Monkey – agreed 3 months @ £35/month.
- **All** to share FB page and survey link
- Additional Facebook administrator volunteer needed ideally – please contact Christine.
- Need to email organisations re survey and FB; **Christine** to circulate list to get contact details then arrange for emails to be sent.
- BBC (via Facebook) looking for a Gaelic speaker to interview; **Calum** agreed.

4 Fundraising

- Need further confirmation on route before submitting funding bids.
- Further discussion held over until next meeting.

5 Project administration

- Discussion held over to next meeting.



6 Date of next meeting

- Thursday 26 April, Kyleakin hall, 6pm. **Ian Sikorski** to book village hall.

