

SKYE & LOCHALSH LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

MEETING on 23 November 2017

Agenda Item	3
Report No	SLLAF-01-17

LOCAL ACCESS ISSUES

Report by the Access Officer

SUMMARY

This Report details local access issues in Skye & Lochalsh and recommends, where appropriate, a course of action to be taken.

1. SL04.13/01 Parking, Sanitation and Litter Issues, Fairy Pools Car Park

1.1 Background

The AO received an enquiry from Minginish CC regarding lack of parking, toilet facilities and associated problems at the Fairy Pool car park.

1.2 Current status

The Fairy Pools Project Group was set up comprising representatives from the Highland Council, landowners and local community groups. Over the past three years the project group has carried out and supported a full options appraisal, feasibility study, community consultation, design work and had planning consent approved for additional parking and toilets. The Highland Council has committed £100k to the project from the Town and Countryside regeneration capital fund pending a successful outcome of funding bids to LEADER and a number of other funders; the estimated cost of the overall project is in the region of £600k.

2. SL01.05/01 Barrier across track, Stromeferry

2.1 Background

Following issues in previous years regarding public access along the track, complaints from members of the public were received that public access was again blocked. A site visit by the access officer confirmed that steel gates had been installed at the start of the track and were padlocked at the time of the visit. Contact was made with the land occupiers and the gate was unlocked.

2.2 Current status

There has been no further reports of public access being blocked.

3 **SL09.01/01 Car park to start of Rubha Hunish Core Path**

3.1 **Background**

Complaint from community council that at the cattle grid between the car park and the start of the core path the by pass gate has been wired up forcing access takers to walk over the grid. This was proving difficult for the less abled and those with dogs.

Local land manager advised that gate had been wired up because of stock escaping due to it being left open. Community Services, who own the grid and gate advised that their only responsibility is to provide a functioning by pass gate regardless of whether it takes wire cutters to open it.

3.2 **Current status**

AO has investigated costs of installing a kissing gate next to the by pass gate but there are technical problems to the extent that costs cannot be met from the AO's access budget alone.

4 **RECOMMENDATION**

4.1 The Forum is invited to note the Report

Designation: Skye & Lochalsh Access Officer

Date: 8 November 2017

Ref:

Background Papers