

Dundee Local Access Forum Minutes Monday 12th February 2024, 7 – 10pm Blackness Library

PRESENT: Sam Murphy Western Gateway Community/Convenor

Dave Rennie Ramblers

John Whyman (secretary) Outdoor Access Officer DCC

George Gammack Living Streets

John Brush Sidlaw Path Network Group

Andrew Llanwarne FoE Tayside

In Attendance: John Berry Parking & Sustainable Transport Team, DCC

APOLOGIES:

Kate Treharne Community Growing Spaces

Alison Abercrombie Dundee City Council

David Martin Cycling Groups/Dundee Cycling Forum

No	Item	Action
1.	Welcome & Introductions	
	Sam Murphy convenor lead introductions	
2.	Dundee's Pavement Parking Exemptions – discussion lead by John Berry. Parking and Sustainable Transport Team Leader, Dundee City Council John explained some of the background and history of the Transport (Scotland) Act 2019, and its effect to tackle inconsiderate parking. Double parking, parking across dropped kerbs and parking on footways are all banned under the legislation. There has been a recent national media campaign to promote the changes. The act came into force in December 2023, and Edinburgh has been the first Authority to start enforcement and Dundee is soon to follow. It has taken some time, partially because the legislation is different to enforcement of Road Traffic Act, and software changes and personnel training has been required. John explained that some Local Authorities do not have parking attendants, but Dundee has expanded its team from 18 to 24 to meet the extra demands of the legislation. Enforcement is 7 days a week and includes some evenings. The legislation intends to liberate pavements, to return to full use by pedestrians, in particular those who have mobility difficulties and mums with buggies. John explained the Exceptions to whom the legislation applies: - Emergency vehicles, road works, waste collection etc Delivery Drivers (professional business drivers) as long as a. In the course of business b. If space in the road is not available c. Allows 1.5m clear space between wing mirror and edge of footway d. Only for a maximum of 20 minutes Dundee Council vehicles are not exempt, but may be making deliveries. The 1.5m space can be narrowed by hedges and bins, without penalising the Delivery	

Driver.

John explained the *Exemptions* which are streets Local Authorities are able to allow pavement parking in marked areas, after a consultation and legal order process. Dundee City Council are proposing to allow pavement parking in 27 locations. Maps of these locations and what is proposed at each is available on the Council website. The full process involves: -

- 1. Statutory Consultees for example the Police
- 2. Public Notices to start a public consultation where people can object or comment
- 3. Proposals can be reduced in extent without further consultation
- 4. Proposals cannot be increased or new streets added without further public
- 5. If objections received, Dundee Councillor Committee will review, if not Council officers can issue the legal orders, and work to white line the parking bays and sign the locations will go ahead.

Guidance to Local Authorities has been issued.

Some particular proposed streets were discussed using George's observations. In particular Bath Street and Long Lane, Muirton Road, Ancrum Drive, Broughty Ferry Road.

John advised that some lightly trafficked locations could be considered shared spaces, and walking in the middle of the road would be acceptable. Dave asked how these shared spaces would be indicated. No signage to warn of shared space was planned. Some streets such as Muirton Road were identified by forum members as being busy and not lightly trafficked.

George read out the key aim of the act, and asked how this was being considered in the proposals. He also found the reference in draft guidance to 1.5 minimum width for pedestrians (1.2m where street furniture restricted the width over short distances).

George asked if there was a priority for enforcement of overspent time in car parks. John explained that there was no priority for car park patrolling. Dave asked if the implementation of legislation fits in with other action to reduce car dependency. John advised of the Scottish Government commitment to a reduction by 20% in car kilometres by 2030, and investment aimed to increase active travel. He also pointed out some intervention was beyond local government, explaining that the significant, but temporary increase in fuel costs had a more dramatic effect on car use.

Andy noted that this has been to council committee on 25th September 2023, Fair Work, Economic Growth and Infrastructure Committee. Committee minute is here and the Report no 255-2023 here

It was agreed that George would produce a draft response, with Dave and Andy offering assistance and comment.

All present thanked John Berry for his time and a frank discussion of the exemptions.

GG/DR /AL

- **3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting 11/12/2023** proposed by Sam Murphy, seconded by Andrew Llanwarne.
- 4. Matters arising from the minutes
 - 3/5a) John W advised that DCC were about to carry out work identified at the Sidlaw Ave plantations including removal of old fencing to open up woodland access and improve drainage and path surfaces, raised as issues at the Forum by Mr Garrigan at the Forum in May 2023 and subject of a letter to the council from the Forum.
 - 3/5b) John W advised that the letter had been drafted and comment requested from Andrew and David MacDougall, but David had yet to respond. John to try David again.
 - 6c) Urban Re-Leaf. Andrew advised that the project was about to start. John W to

JW/ DMacD

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	ask Viola Marx DCC for an update.	
	6e) Sustainable Transport Delivery Plan comments were submitted from the	
	Forum.	
5.	Promotion and Infrastructure	
	a) Planning Applications. Online Portal is here:-	
	http://idoxwam.dundeecity.gov.uk/idoxpa-web/	
	Sam and Andrew asked about the report in the paper about the Football	
	Stadium development. John W to make enquiries and provide information as	
	soon as available, particularly if it affect Core Path access to Camperdown	
	Park. Planning Permission in Principle is here <u>24/00096/PPPM</u>	
	b) Access improvements – Broughty Ferry Active Travel Project is largely	
	complete and the Dighty Bridge official opening is on Sunday 3 rd March – all	
	welcome. 12noon ribbon cutting, activities 11am to 3pm. David explained that	
	there were still some raised table (large speed humps) to be installed on the	
	Esplanade which will make crossing the road easier as well as slowing traffic.	All
	A further celebration will be held on 6th May at Castle Green/Beach front area.	
6.	Statutory Functions	
	a) Section 11 applications – none received	
	b) Core Path issues – Storm Damage. John W advised that repeated storms had	
	washed out paths and brought down trees. The council was working to restore	JW
	green spaces, but currently 8 Core Paths have storm related obstructions.	
7.	AOCB	
	a) Magdalen Railway Footbridge replacement next engagement is on 22 nd	
	February at Blackness Library 2-3pm. If you would like to attend, please let	
	John W know as the organisers have asked to limit 2 attendees per group.	All/JW
	Info on the project is here	
	b) Gourdie Farm/Core Path 7 improvements Sam provided an update on the	
	project. The final design stage was drawing to a close with tweaks and	SM
	budget pricing underway. This would lead to the second stage funding	
	application to Paths for All's Ian Findlay Fund for construction possibly	
	starting in 2024. There was a discussion about the project path route and	
	specification. All agreed it would be a great link. Also highlighted was the	
	Swallow Hotel Roundabout improvement, where a contractor was being	
	identified by DCC, (works to take about 52 weeks) and other routes proposed	
	by the Jacobs Western Gateway Active Travel study, which will take some	
	years to get to construction stage.	
	Sam Closed the meeting	
7.	DONM – 13/5/24 - location to be advised, request for City Centre from David.	

DCF = Dundee Cycling Forum
DCC = Dundee City Council
LDP = Local Development Plan
NCN = National Cycle Network

Contact info

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Dundee Local Access Forum Minutes Monday 13th May 2024, 7 – 9:30pm 1, Shore Terrace

PRESENT: Sam Murphy Western Gateway Community/Convenor

Dave Rennie Ramblers

John Whyman (secretary) Outdoor Access Officer DCC

George Gammack Living Streets

David Martin Cycling Groups/Dundee Cycling Forum

APOLOGIES:

Kate Treharne Community Growing Spaces
Alison Abercrombie Dundee City Council (Biodiversity)

John Brush Sidlaw Path Network Group

Andrew Llanwarne FoE Tayside

No	Item	Action
1.	Welcome & Introductions	
	John W advised that John Brush has asked to come off the invitation list	
2.	Minutes of the Previous Meeting 12/2/2024 proposed by Sam Murphy,	
	seconded by George Gammack.	
3.	Matters arising from the minutes	
	4. Works at Sidlaw Ave (now known as Sidlaw Drive) has been completed with	
	improved drainage, built paths and removal of old woodland plantation fencing.	
	4. John W is still to receive any communication from David MacDougall and will	JW
	ask again. 4. John W applicated for not following action point and will contact Viola Mary at	JW
	4. John W apologised for not following action point and will contact Viola Marx at DCC for an Urban ReLeaf update and email to members.	JVV
	DCC for all Orball NeLear update and email to members.	
5.	Promotion and Infrastructure	
	b) Planning Applications. Online Portal is here:-	
	http://idoxwam.dundeecity.gov.uk/idoxpa-web/	
	Link to Football Stadium application was shared in the February Minutes.	
	There will be another chance to comment when the full application for	
	construction is submitted. John W to contact members when the application is	JW
	submitted. No other notable applications recently.	
	b) Access improvements – Broughty Ferry Active Travel Project opening was	
	on 6 th May. There is still some minor work including table tops at crossing	
	points on the Esplanade, but the main work is complete. John W is assisting	
	engineers on Green Circular and NCN signage.	JW
	Sam gave an update on the Swallow Hotel Circle. Springfield have a webpage for	
	the project here Work is to start 17 th June. The works will result in extra lanes	
	at the junction and traffic lights with pedestrian crossings. Members noted that	
	it may take a few minutes to cross the road with multiple buttons to push, but	

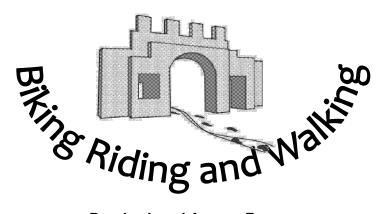
	information event at the hotel on 28 th May and should be complete in Summer 2025.	SM
6.	Statutory Functions	
	c) Section 11 applications – none received	
	d) Core Path issues – none other than Storm Damage see below.	1) A /
7.	AOCB	JW
<i>1</i> .	 c) Pavement Parking Exemptions George and John W explained the draft report. Dave R raised the Shared Space that John Berry had discussed at the last meeting. After discussion, George was asked to include an additional paragraph advising that the Forum had concerns about about pedestrians sharing the road with motor vehicles, and that none of the locations on the exemptions were suitable to be Shared Space. It was also noted that enforcement had begun, and that there was some negative publicity in the local media with the expectation that more exemptions would be requested by driver residents. Sam thanked the subgroup for the effort to put the report together. There was a vote on adopting the report with the addition, which was carried unanimously. John W to email members when the statutory consultation period starts. d) Storm Damage Update – John W advised that work had been carried out to repair the washed out paths in Camperdown and a path in Templeton Woods ripped up during 2022 storms. Most trees blocking paths had been removed, although more trees coming down recently had added to the list. Locations with outstanding work includes: 1. Core Path 7 bridge washed out at Benvie (private) 2. Templeton Woods several paths (CP1a, CP8, CP15b) blocked with fallen trees (DCC) – some work carried out, but larger work still to go ahead. 3. A90 underpass/Core Path 40 washed out (Transport Scotland) – work 	GG/AL DR/JW
	advised to be undertaken by Amey in the next 4 weeks, while replacing drains. Discussion about the repeated impact of storms on paths and the length of time paths including Core Paths are blocked. John asked to draft a letter to head of Neighbourhood Services to ask "When will work take place to open the paths, including Core Paths in Templeton Woods?" and "Given the possible future frequency of storms affecting outdoor access, can the council put in place systems to enable paths to be cleared or repaired more quickly?" e) Gourdie Farm/Core Path 7 improvements Sam provided an update on the project to fund and construct a surfaced path link from Dykes of Gray to Myrekirk Road. The final design stage was complete, and application to secure construction funding had succeeded, but there was still a predicted shortfall. Next step is a project induction with Paths for All the main funder and to tender for work and apply for the required additional funding. f) Ramblers Scottish Path Map – John W advised that the council had been approached to promote a new path mapping website. After checking whether the Ramblers Scottish Path Map carried out the same function, he wanted to advise the Forum on the success of the Ramblers map in identifying and recording paths in Dundee. While it is a little complicated to add information, there are many paths on the map making it a useful resource. Info here and map is here	JW
	g) 2024 AGM preparation – Discussion of location (possibly 1, Shore Terrace or Baxter Park), date (5 th or 12 th August), promotion and speaker. Preferred speaker agreed as Caishlan Sweeney from the Eden project. David M to share with John email address. Fall back options - John to email members for more ideas.	DM/JV

	h) Fowlis Den Storm Damage restoration – David M advised that local volunteers had rebuilt the path and stepping stones through Fowlis Den, and the route was useable again.	
	Sam Closed the meeting	
7.	DONM – 5 th or 12 th August	

DCF = Dundee Cycling Forum DCC = Dundee City Council LDP = Local Development Plan NCN = National Cycle Network

Contact info

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Dundee Local Access Forum Notes of EGM Monday 12th August 2024, 6 – 8:30pm 1, Shore Terrace

PRESENT: Sam Murphy Western Gateway Community/Convenor

David Martin Cycling Groups/Dundee Cycling Forum
John Whyman (secretary) Outdoor Access Officer DCC

Nick Cole Perth and Kinross Access Forum

IN ATTENDENCE

Ian Ford Friends of Riverside Nature Park

APOLOGIES:

George Gammack Living Streets

Kate Treharne Community Growing Spaces

Andrew Llanwarne FoE Tayside

Gill Town

No	Item	Action
1.	Welcome & Introductions After introductions, and a discussion about the numbers of members present, the AGM was reconvened as an Extraordinary General Meeting EGM. Nick Cole provided some background with his experience on the National Access Forum, as some other local authorities have struggled to maintain membership and momentum of Access Forums and no longer have operating Fora. Action John to contact all members to get some feedback on the improving the forum and setting up an alterative date for the AGM	JW
2.	Presentation - Changing Our Access Behaviour for Wildlife Conservation, lan Ford, Friends of Riverside Nature Park and John Whyman, Outdoor Access Officer DCC. Ian and John explained the partnership and conservation project to save the Skylark at the Nature Park. A pilot project started in 2016 after local naturalists raised concerns about the low numbers of skylarks after opening the nature park to the public in 2011. An initial public survey was followed by signs, information and patrolling to ask visitors and dogs to stay on the paths during the nesting season and repeated each year since. A off lead area was also signed. After some initial resistance, compliance improved and the numbers of skylarks have increased to 20 singing males. In 2019 Dundee Council adopted a new rule in the Open Space Management Rules adopting the change officially. Enforcement under the Rules is not needed as the signs and education effort has worked. Sam thanked Ian for his work and for the presentation	
3.	Minutes of previous AGM could not be adopted without members to propose and second	

Annual Report - Sam Murphy, Convenor of Dundee's Local Access Forum Sam gave a report of the year with some facts and figures including the number of meetings. While there has been less statutory work than in 2023, the forum has been active discussing large planning applications and prepared a detailed response for the consultation into Pavement Parking Exemptions. In 2023 the Forum approached the council asking for improvement at Core Paths 16 and 16b where tree plantations and fencing works had affected the muddy paths. The Council funded path surfacing and drainage work, and CP 16 and CP 16b are much improved. John added a little more information from the Access Strategy monitoring. He also explained he had enjoyed working with volunteers to renovate the Mountain Bike Skills Trail in Templeton Woods. 5. **Update from Dundee Cycling Forum** David provided a short update on the work of the Cycling Forum including the effort to engage with Dundee City Council senior officers and councillors, to make the case for active travel infrastructure. The forum is anticipating the next stage in consultations relating to the Active Freeways and delivery of the Sustainable Transport Delivery Plan. Election of Forum Members and Officers was deferred to a rescheduled AGM 6. 7. **AOCB** a) Storm Damage Sam explained that she has received a response to the letter for contingency planning to enable Core Paths to be reopened more quickly after storms. Core Paths in Templeton Woods had remained closed for months after Storm Babet. The response said that the council was considering options. Sam pointed out this did not fully answer the questions and will respond to ask for an update when the contingency plan was in place. b) Bell St car park and Constitution Underpass closure Sam asked if the diversion was in place, and John advised it was not and would contact Sustainable Transport, as he thought the diversion had been agreed in Sam Closed the meeting 7. DONM - TBA as the rescheduled AGM

DCF = Dundee Cycling Forum
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Dundee Local Access Forum Notes of AGM Monday 16th December 2024, 6 – 8:30pm Baxter Park Centre

PRESENT: Sam Murphy Western Gateway Community/Convenor

David Martin Cycling Groups/Dundee Cycling Forum
John Whyman (secretary) Outdoor Access Officer DCC

Nick Cole Perth and Kinross Access Forum

George Gammack Living Streets

Duncan Neill Friends of Baxter Park

Billy Thomson Active Travel Co-ordinator, L&C
John Berry Sustainable Transport Team DCC

APOLOGIES:

Colin Clement Stobswell Forum

Alison Abercrombie DCC Greenspace Team
Kate Treharne Community Growing Spaces

Andrew Llanwarne FoE Tayside

Mary Harwood Scottish Wildlife Trust Dundee Group
Dave Rennie Monifieth Hillwalking and Rambling Club

Gill Town
Averil Anderson
Sheila Wallace
Evelyn Archibald
Steps to Health, L&C
Dundee Ramblers
Caley Hillwalking Club

Steve Docherty

No	Item	Action
1.	Welcome & Introductions	
	Sam led the round table introductions, All included some information about the	
	group they represented.12 th August AGM postponed due to not being Quorate	
	Minutes of the Last AGM John W advised that as David was the only member of	
	the Forum present at last year's AGM and this year's meeting that the last AGM	
	could not be proposed and seconded.	
2.	Purpose of the Forum and summary of previous work	
	John W introduced the 2 sides to the forum's work 1) the statutory /legal work	
	linked to the Core Path Plan and Section 11 exemption for closing Core Paths for	
	the BBC music event in Camperdown 2) the access issues of interest to the forum	
	members such as asking bodies for path improvement. Photos, letters and the	
	Core Path plan were shown as examples of previous and current work.	
3.	What the Forum has done well and what has not gone well George shared his	
	experience of assessing the proposed street exemptions for Dundee's pavement	
	parking legislation. He recently made a deputation at Council Committee	

	representing the recommendations of the forum, but the recommendations did not	
	change the council adoption of the exempt streets, in particular 2 streets where legalising pavement parking significantly disadvantages people with disabilities.	
	He acknowledged the support of the Forum and in particular the subgroup set up	
	to look into the issue. The subgroup is looking to query the result.	
4.	Group Representation	
	Sam asked if any non-members present would like to join. Duncan and Billy both agreed. Mary Harwood of the Scottish Wildlife Trust has advised she is retiring from the Forum. David Rennie no longer represents Dundee Ramblers, but would like to represent Monifieth Hillwalking and Rambling Club. John W is retiring from the Council. There has been no decision about the Access Officer post, but DCC are looking to support the forum with another member of staff for a temporary period.	
5.	Options for the Forum – Focus and Meeting frequency, hybrid and	
	locations. Several possible changes to the way the forum works were discussed. Andy Llanwarne and David Rennie had provided suggestions to John ahead of the meeting. All present agreed that only face to face were better than hybrid meetings. 4 times a year was reasonable, but could be made flexible depending on work load. Meeting places. Comments included that Baxter Park is not appealing after dark and would be better in the summer. The Community Libraries had been good venues although David explained wifi turns off at Blackness Library soon after the meeting starts. John asked Billy about the possibility of using Ancrum Centre for the next meeting. Billy to enquire. David reminded the forum of enjoyable site visit meetings in particular a BBQ meeting at Templeton Woods. Andy Llanwarne had also requested this. Discussion followed about the difference between group representation and whether membership was open to individuals. Interested individuals form a contact list who are invited to meetings. However only full members, representing groups can vote to elect members etc. After more discussion the Focus of the Forum was agreed to remain the same. Forum to hold a summer BBQ meeting. John W asked about bus users, John B advised that there was no bus user group and Nick advised that buses were beyond the scope of outdoor access forums and active travel. However, routes to and from bus stops would be within the remit of BRAW. No changes to the Constitution were requested or suggested though for communications Billy suggested that a WhatsApp group could be formed for informal discussion between meetings. This was discussed, agreed as having some use, but deferred to the next meeting. John's retirement gave a cause to	BT SM
	relook at communication. John W agreed to contact all members and ask for	
	permission to share emails and phone contact between members for Forum	
6	business. Election of Forum Members and Officers	
6.	New members Billy and Duncan were proposed by David and seconded by Sam,	
	carried unanimously. Duncan advised his membership was subject to confirmation	
	by members of the Friends of Baxter Park at their next meeting. John W to update	JW
	the membership list on the Council webpage.	
7.	Closing Remarks	
	John W is retiring from the Council, and will no longer be attending forum	
	meetings. He thanked all members for their passion and knowledge over the	
	years, making working for access in Dundee a pleasure.	
_	Sam Closed the meeting	DT
7.	DONM – 17th or 25th March 2025 – BT to advise if Ancrum Centre is available	BT

LDP = Local Development Plan NCN = National Cycle Network L&C Leisure and Culture Dundee

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