

## ALPS update for Management Group 5th March 2012

- **Reporting:** An interim funding claim (for all SCDF and Clachan costs incurred to date) has been submitted to HLF. The final claim to SNH has also been submitted, a claim to the Forestry Commission (relating to Carnoch and the tree festival), and a sixth ERDF Revenue Claim. We are currently up to date with all reports/claims.
- **ALPS Newsletter:** The fourth ALPS newsletter has been completed and has been sent to the printers. It should be available for distribution on the week of the 12<sup>th</sup> March.
- **Clachan Church:** The temporary 'floating' road has been constructed and the scaffolding erected. Work on the roof is due to start on the week of the 5<sup>th</sup> March.
- **Clachan Chapel:** Leslie F Hunter (conservation architect) visited the chapel on the 25<sup>th</sup> February to make an assessment of the structure. This was organised by the Graveyards Project (supported by Historic Scotland) with no cost to ALPS. A report is expected in March/April.
- **Graveyard Project:** A draft report on the condition of all gravestones in the burial ground has been completed by Gordon Cameron.
- **Smiddy Wood:** All official plantings have now been completed, although the school are planning to plant an additional ca. 200 trees gifted by the Woodland Trust.
- **Ardheslaig path:** A detailed specification is now available for works on this route. A contractor's meeting has been organised for the 5<sup>th</sup> March.
- **Archaeological Trail:** Four contractors expressed an interest in this work after seeing the announcement. All visited the site with SB, although only two ultimately submitted tenders. It is hoped that a decision can be reached by the MG on Monday evening (5<sup>th</sup>).
- **Interpretation:** Updated drafts of the maps to be used in the new walks leaflets have been prepared by Valerie Hodgkinson, a new draft of the proposed Carnoch leaflet, and a first draft of the proposed Milton leaflet. SB met with Donald Fischer (geologist) on the 4<sup>th</sup> February to discuss the proposed geological trail.
- **Coillegille path.** During the recent heli-lift, ca. 20 tonnes of path material were dropped for distribution along the Coillegille track to improve surfacing of particularly boggy areas.
- **Limekiln:** Measurements have been made of the steel bars required to prop up the draw arch. These need to be in place before the arrival of Martin Wildgoose in May.
- **Events:** A preliminary list of events for 2012 has been drafted and circulated. It is intended to publish this formally towards the end of March.
- **Bardic School:** Lewis MacKinnon (Nova Scotian Gaelic singer, songwriter, author and poet) has agreed to be a key speaker at the school. Aonghas MacNeacail and Ruairidh MacIlleathain will also be returning.
- **Beechwood Seat:** Dan Macrae has agreed to undertake the construction work. A price has been agreed and work will commence once the carved seat slabs are delivered.