**Perthshire Tourism Partnership**

**Note of Meeting/ 1 July 2020 – 14.00 – 15.30**

**Attendees**

Alan Graham, Perth & Kinross Council

Adrian Blundell, Dunkeld and Birnam Tourism Association

Caroline Warburton, VisitScotland

David Smythe, Perthshire Tourism Partnership

Jonathan Wilson, Dewar’s Aberfeldy Distillery

George Laurie, TRACKS

Suzanne Cumiskey, Perth & Kinross Council

Sue Cole, Blairgowrie and East Perthshire Association

Rose La Terriere, Rannoch Tourism Association

Roy Jenney, Culture PK

Vicki Unite, Perthshire Chamber of Commerce

Peter Crane, Cairngorm National Park Authority

**Apologies**

Allan Minto, Golf Perthshire

Stuart McLaren, Crieff Tourism Association

Rhona Metcalfe, Blair Atholl & Area Tourist Assoc (BAATA)

Andrew Donaldson, Breadalbane Co-operative

Councillor Tom Gray, Perth & Kinross Council

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Agenda**  | **Note of Meeting**  | **Action**  |
| 1. Welcome & Introductions
 | David Smythe, Chairperson PTP welcomed everyone to the meeting which is the first meeting of the group since lockdown and follows the cancellation of the scheduled meeting in April 2020. David ahs been representing Perthshire Tourism Partnership at the Business Support Taskforce which is comprised of all business support services (Business Gateway, Growbiz, FSB, Perthshire Chamber of Commerce, Perth & Kinross Council)  |  |
| 1. Local Tourism Associations Updates
 | **Visit Aberfeldy*** LTA Meeting regularly & monitoring situation closely
* Concern over lifting of travel restriction on 3 July 2020 and visitors not planning ahead
* No public toilet facility in Kenmore, no comfort schemes open, timing out of sync
* Looking to develop their own guidelines/charter for visitors
 | SC to find out what waste services plans are for public toilet provision in Kenmore. |
|  | **Loch Leven Tourism Association*** Hotels adapted quickly to offer takeaway food delivery service
* Loch Leven Heritage Trail has been well utilised, no conflict between residents/visitors
* Loch Leven Larder adapted to set up an outdoor café area
* The change of date for outdoor bars reopening caused issues with businesses preparing to re-open however being advised date had moved to 6 July 2020
* Noticed huge uplift in town visitation as soon as golf clubs opened
 | CW to contact GL regarding briefing by VS to LLTA. |
|  | **Blairgowrie and East Perthshire Tourism Association*** Reported issues at Loch Clunie in relation to inconsiderate camping and anti-social behaviour
* Visitors seem to be coming from east (not south or west) & some acting irresponsibly and littering the Lochside
* Businesses had adapted very quickly to providing takeaway services
 |  |
|  | **Cairngorm National Park Authority** * Re-Opening plan on website <https://cairngorms.co.uk/working-together/publications/publication/487/>
* Reported issues in relation to inconsiderate camping and anti-social behaviour / 8 seasonal rangers in post to help manage Park area
* Focusing on re-opening of toilets & car parks and communicating the ‘plan ahead’ message
* Noted crowdsourced website https://www.lockdownloo.com/
* A93 Road Issues - A93 has three electric variable sign boards ordered – one facing north in Glenshee to use for - Linn of Dee Full etc
* To date have focused on promotion of short countryside walks for resident audience & are developing new video content on responsible access
* Video https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=207538950423620
 | PC will share new video content once completed with group |
|  | **Rannoch & Tummel Association*** Reported issues in relation to inconsiderate camping and anti-social behaviour
* Two hotels in area are not re-opening in 2020, cannot make business viable due to 2m social distancing requirement
* Dunalastair Hotel Suites re-opening
* One other hotel is changing ownership
 |  |
|  | **Historic Environment Scotland** * Re-opening information not yet published but is imminent
 |  |
|  | **Dunkeld and Birnam Tourism Association*** DBTA website development is ongoing and have published visitor charter
* Developing new video content for the website
* 2m social distancing proving an issue for several businesses
* Country Sport Estates no funding support from Scottish Government
* Notable increase in number of motorhomes/tourers
* B&B Fund query on eligibility & determining hardship
 | AB to share new video content once available |
|  | **Culture PK*** All Culture Perth & Kinross buildings remain closed.
* Team working hard behind the scenes to prepare for re-opening as soon as possible from 15th July 2020. (Museums and Libraries feature in Phase 3 of SG plans)
* First phase of opening will be quite different from previous model; Focus will be on Mobile and Books on Wheels services. They plan to launch a 'click & collect' service for Library book loans. They will also focus on opening a limited number of buildings initially: AK Bell Library, Perth Museum and Art Gallery and Blairgowrie Library at staggered dates from 15th July onwards.
* Social distancing and increased hand hygiene will be the focus, along with limited capacities into buildings and quarantining of returned library books.
 |  |
| VisitScotland Update  | Caroline Warburton, VisitScotland presented on regional recovery plan * Phased approach to destination marketing aligning with ScotGov 4Rs
* Reset content being developed for domestic, family, VFR markets (Sketching Scotland featuring Scottish Crannog Centre, Little Adventures, Scotland at Night, Tour Guide Tales featuring Blair Castle)
* Localised campaigns ahead of 15 July 2020 with local messaging (Days Out in Perthshire) which can be updated as the different phases are reached
* Phase 3 and 4. Only In Scotland campaign still relevant. New hero film being produced. Calls on Scots to travel in Scotland ‘*Only in Scotland can travelling so little make such a big difference’*
* Regional films also in development x 15/CTA To enjoy what’s on your doorstep
* Visitor Pledge Content ‘How to enjoy Scotland Responsibly’ Pushing responsible tourism messages. - <https://www.visitscotland.org/supporting-your-business/advice/coronavirus-recovery/visitor-charter>
* Good to go scheme launched. <https://goodtogo.visitbritain.com/your-business-good-to-go-scotland>
 | See attached slide deck |
| Perth & Kinross Council Update  | Perth & Kinross Council have been in respond mode and now moving to recovery. Focus has been on grant processing and Perth & Kinross Council has received 4000 applications across all grant schemes . The Newly Self-Employed Hardship Fund, 300 applications, 214 approved. The B&B Hardship Fund has had limited take up, criteria have now been amended to include those with a business bank account. Both Newly Self-employed Hardship Fund and the B&B Hardship Fund expected to close 10 July 2020, although not confirmed.PKC Economic Recovery Plan 2020-2023 developed which is going to Committee end of July 2020.Within the plan a proposal is for funding towards a destination marketing campaign focused on domestic market recovery.Guidance for Shops and Businesses is now open for applications <https://www.pkc.gov.uk/coronavirus/business>PKC aware of ongoing issues nationally and across Perthshire with inconsiderate camping. (waste and litter, human waste, damage to verges, parking restricting roads, damage (e.g. wood for fires) and antisocial behaviour) Perth & Kinross Council have set up a multi agency group who will be meeting regularly to look at solutions to these issues. Group met tis week to discuss short, medium, long term actions. Public Toilets also an ongoing issue. A reopening plan has been drafted but not published. Pitlochry and Dunkeld will open 3 July 2020. ScotGov Guidance on cleaning protocols for public toilets only issued. Some issues are the reliance on comfort schemes and hospitality not fully re-opened. SC to circulate plan as soon as available.Flytipping Fund is open <https://www.pkc.gov.uk/flytippingfund>.If you have any issues you would like to raise please contact Roddy Ross, Team Leader, Safer Communities Team on roddy.ross@pkc.gov.uk or myself and we'll get these raised. | SC CIRCULATE PUBLIC TOILET PLAN ASAP.  |
| A.O.B.  | No other issues were raised under A.O.B. |  |
| D.O.N.M. | August 2020 -Proposes group meet in 6 weeks |  |