

Ayrshire and Lanarkshire Timber Transport Group

Meeting Minutes 19th June 2012

1. **Minutes of meeting 15th November 2011** - Minutes were approved by the group.
2. **South of Scotland Timber Transport Officer Update** - James England (JE)
 - a. **Road Closure Information** - JE commented that road closure information was being received in advance of the works and generally working well.
 - b. **Timber Transport Management Plans** - based on experience from Argyll these documents that detail the conditions for a particular road are a good way to formalise agreements.
 - c. **Refreshed Partnership Charter** - The Forum has refreshed its Partnering Charter to reflect the expansion of groups across North England and to re-assert our commitment to the partnering approach to dealing with Timber Transport issues. Eleven chairs of timber transport groups signed on behalf of their members as did the other longstanding member organisations of the Forum. The Partnering Charter sets out the values and aspirations of the Forum and can be seen www.timbertransportforum.org.uk/Upload/Documents/41_FinalA4Charter.pdf
 - d. **Feedback from the Timber Transport Conference** in March - well attended and some interesting speakers further details and the presentations can be downloaded here: www.timbertransportforum.org.uk/Upload/Documents/41_TTFConference2012Report.pdf
 - e. **Convoying Leaflet**. A leaflet to highlight the issues of convoying was discussed. JE has circulated these to local processing facilities and key hauliers.
 - f. **Windfarm Infrastructure** - JE mentioned that in D&G they had managed to get a paragraph on developers needing to consider windfarm infrastructure if there are forest areas involved. It was thought that this should be pushed in other areas.
 - g. **Final Roadex seminar** - was discussed and the presentations are online.
3. **Agreed Route Maps.**
 - a. A new website will be created so that all the TTG's in the UK can be hosted on one website.
 - b. Any ARM changes such as Arran ideally need to be made before the launch.
 - c. South Lanarkshire route map is to be developed - JE happy to help with this.
4. **Local Timber Transport Issues:**
 - a. **Police Report** - Sandy Philips, Strathclyde Police Force mentioned about the need to self regulate and the partnership approach was welcomed.
5. **Strategic Timber Transport Scheme.**
 - a. An update was given on the next round which is due to close in November 2012 any bids will need to be developed as soon as possible.
 - b. a discussion over STTS projects highlighted three possible projects:
 - i. C1 Forest Bypass
 - ii. IT management system for dealing with consultation routes
 - iii. North of Straiton
6. **AOCB**
 - a. The disease *phytophthora ramorum* was discussed and its impact on Japanese larch.
 - b. Unbranded timber lorries were discussed and the difficulties of tracking these vehicles down.
7. **Date of next meeting** 13th December 2012 - South Ayrshire Council