

working towards a sustainable village

# In Trust

Update from the Uplawmoor Development Trust

Autumn 2020  
[www.uplawmoor.org](http://www.uplawmoor.org)



## NEILSTON-UPLAWMOOR COMMUNITY LINK

### Other News

#### Covid 19

We have been unable to arrange any work parties due to the pandemic. Hopefully in the not too distant future, we will get back to carrying out improvements to the village paths with our willing volunteers

**Paths for All** is an organisation which provides funds to groups like ours to buy materials and hire equipment to improve our village paths. We were successful in our application in the Spring this year for funds and were awarded £890. We will order materials using the money and store it for future use.

**Plans to deliver a new, off-road and fully accessible path linking Neilston and Uplawmoor for walking, cycling and wheeling have been taking shape over the last few months, and are now on track for further development.**

Some older residents may just remember the days when steam trains from Glasgow ran through Neilston to Uplawmoor, all that remained of the former route down to the Ayrshire coast. The link with Uplawmoor was dismantled in the early 1960s. The photo below shows the Glasgow Central to Uplawmoor service leaving Neilston on 8 August 1960, exactly



60 years ago. The track bed is still very visible at places, and this presents a marvellous opportunity to connect the two communities and provide a safe, level and scenic off-road route in open

countryside.

Just before lockdown, we held meetings to hear residents' views about a proposal to do just that. The responses were overwhelmingly positive, although there are issues still to be resolved in such an ambitious project.



(Continued Page 2)

## Other News (cont'd)

**Loch Libo** – a visit to Loch Libo owned and operated by Scottish Wildlife Trust will reveal lots of biodiversity in terms of birds such as whooper swans, tufted duck, teal and widgeon, and abundant plant life. It's right on our doorstep!

UDT has improved the path from Uplawmoor Wood to Lochlibo road, but still sturdy footwear is recommended for a visit to the reserve, as the paths are not surfaced and tend to get muddy in places in all but the driest of spells.

See SWT website for further details:  
[scottishwildlifetrust.org.uk](http://scottishwildlifetrust.org.uk)

## NEILSTON-UPLAWMOOR COMMUNITY LINK (cont'd)

Sustrans, the national cycling and walking charity, has funded the work to date on concept

design, landowner and community engagement through its Places for Everyone programme funded by Transport Scotland.



Approval has now been received to move on to the vital detailed, Stage 3, design stage, involving more focussed discussions with everyone in both communities. A link to the Stage 1&2 report can be seen on UDT Website - [www.uplawmoor.org](http://www.uplawmoor.org). NB: design layouts are indicative only; further community discussions will begin again as soon as COVID regulations allow.

**Martin Houston, Uplawmoor Development Trust:**

*"We are delighted to be working closely with Neilston Development Trust on this exciting project to bring the two villages closer together. Also there is a degree of optimism that the project might stretch to include improvements to pathways and biodiversity in Uplawmoor Wood, but more information on this will come a bit later."*

**Pauline Gallacher, Neilston Development Trust:**

*"Active travel within Neilston and beyond has long been a focus for NDT, so we're very excited to see this link developing. Great to be working with skilled designers: and our neighbours in Uplawmoor too"*

**John Shelton, at ERC Roads & Transportation said:**

*"This project has made great progress towards delivery on a large section of East Renfrewshire Council's strategic cycle corridor no 1, linking Barrhead and Uplawmoor and opens up further areas of East Renfrewshire Council's beautiful landscape to safe leisure activity."*

**Michael Melton, Infrastructure Coordinator at Sustrans:**

*"When complete, the link will transform travel options between Neilston and Uplawmoor, and provide a connection between Uplawmoor and the railway line into Glasgow for people walking, cycling and wheeling. It also provides a great example of how two communities can work together to improve active travel links"*



### Contact us

t: 01505 850777

e: [udt@btinternet.com](mailto:udt@btinternet.com)

w: [www.uplawmoor.org](http://www.uplawmoor.org)

and on Facebook



