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PROPOSALS AND BUDGET COST FOR REMEDIAL WORKS TO COASTAL FOOPATH AT SEAGREENS JOHNSHAVEN

9th December 2019

Rev A

Our Ref Q4936

Issue and revision record

Revision	Date	Originator	Description
-	28 th Oct 2019		First Draft
Α	29 th Dec 2019		Rev A

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Introduction

W M Donald Ltd was contacted by Maxine Murphy, a volunteer worker with the MERCHAT / Tangleha Artists Collective. This organization is currently working to safeguard and where appropriate upgrade sections of the existing coastal footpath between Johnshaven and St Cyrus.

Background

The Coastal Trail is a public footpath path which features a number of natural and man-made harbours. In recent years the trail has deteriorated and, in some places, has become impassable. The path has degraded largely through coastal erosion and general neglect. The aim of the current project is to upgrade and reconstruct key sections of the path to future proof the route by reducing the future risk of erosion damage before the path becomes irreparable.

Brief

Prepare a short report detailing observations, proposals and a budget cost for carrying out improvement works to a short section of the coastal path from Seagreens toward St Cyrus.

Site Visit

A site meeting was arranged and attended by volunteers from the MERCHAT / Tangleha Artists Collective and Ewan Riddoch of W M Donald Ltd. The route was walked and the areas in need of attention identified.

Site Location



Figure 1 - Site Location Plan



Figure 2 - Satellite View of Location

Extent of Works

The extent of the works considered by this report is a section of path that extends from Seagreens cottages southward to ward St Cyrus for approximately 180m (See Fig 2).

Start Location

OS X (Eastings) 377974, OS Y (Northings) 765843

End Location

OS X (Eastings) 377814, OS Y (Northings) 765858

Observations

The existing path is single track. High seas / storms have undermined supporting ground below wall that supported the path. (see Fig 4) There is evidence that the path was historically much wider than can be seen today. Sections of the original path have collapsed and the sea has removed the path material. There is evidence of historic repairs to the base of the wall





Figure 3 – Exist Path - Typical View to North

Figure 4 - Remaining Walls

Localised erosion of the sandstone cliff has caused landslides. The path has been diverted locally to avoid these areas.

Some localised minor repair works have been carried out however the coastal slope has not been hardened and the works are at risk of being washed out by winter storms (see Fig 5).



Figure 5 - Typical Temporary Path Reinstatement

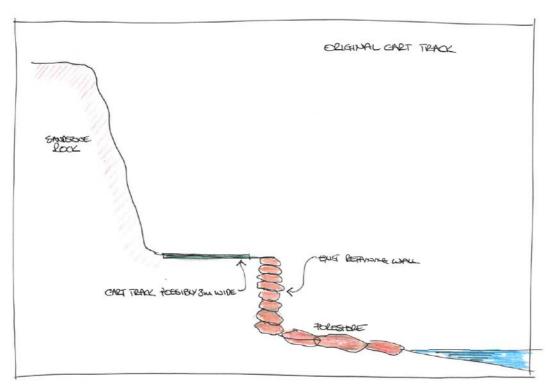


Figure 6 - Typical Section - Historic Cart Track

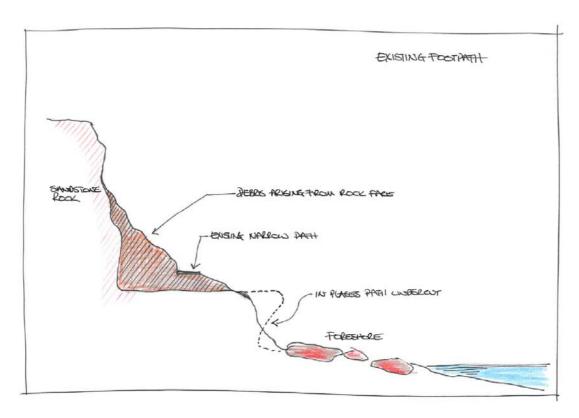


Figure 7 – Typical Section - Existing Single File Path

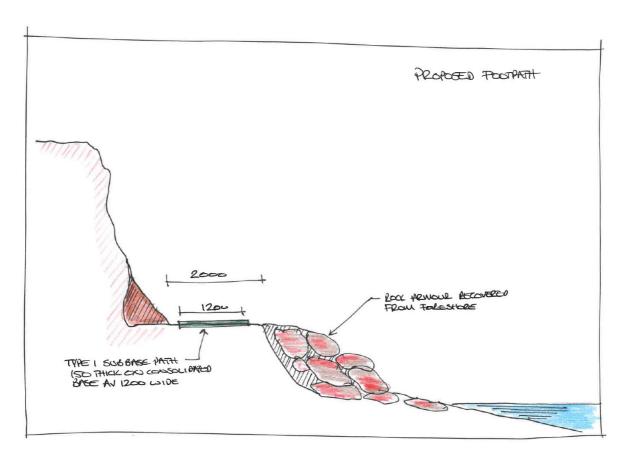


Figure 8 - Typical Section - Proposed Footpath

Access Constraints

There are number of site access constraints on access road to Seagreens. These constrains limit the size of machinery that can access the site.

Agreements must be in place to temporarily occupy small area of land near the start of the works to allow materials to be placed and re-handled to their final location

Narrow bridge with possible weight restriction on access road 100m from A92 (See Fig 9)



Figure 9 - Existing Bridge on Access Road

Concrete Tank stops at either side of the access road – hard opening size 3.60m (See Fig 10)



Figure 10 - Existing Tank Stops on Access Road

Very little vehicle turning space at Seagreens. Delivery vehicles for plant and materials will require to be maximum of 6 wheel rigid or tractor and trailer. Access road is not suitable for articulated or low loader vehicles.

Budget Cost

We have allowed for all Civil works in connection with the proposed realignment of the existing footpath including recovery and placement of existing rock armour from foreshore, supplying and laying Type 1 sub base to from base for footpath with an average width of 1200mm and forming timber drainage grips and path crossings where required. £13,200 (Ex VAT)

See Fig 8 for typical Cross Section Drawing through the proposed works.

No allowance has been made in the Budget for the cost of obtaining permits or permissions from, Aberdeenshire Council, SEPA, SNH or any other 3rd party organisation, overseeing body or other individuals or organisations that may have an interest in these works or the surrounding areas.

This is a coastal path and subject to the full force of the sea. There are no performance guarantees offered with the path work especially with regard to storm events.

End of Report