

**TINKERS HEART A815 ARDNO UPDATE REPORT**

---

**1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 1.1 The Tinkers Heart feature lies near the junction of the A815 and the B839, Hells Glen Road from Lochgoilhead. The feature is marked by a set of white quartz stones which are set in the surface of the old road in the shape of a heart. This marks a traditional spot where it is understood that weddings were carried out. History suggests that in the 1920s, the road was resurfaced and this covered the feature. The road has now been realigned slightly as part of a project carried out in the 1970s. The section of road which had formerly contained the heart was bypassed with the heart now becoming isolated in an adjacent field next to the new road. The heart feature has been restored and is offered some protection by a post and chain fence.
- 1.2 A group called “Here We Are” are promoting the site and it is understood they have been successful in securing grant funding for carrying out restoration works and scrub clearing around the site.
- 1.3 It is also understood that the promoters are looking to secure additional grant funding. This additional funding is required to better promote the site, provide safe off-road parking and generally enhance the site to promote its historic value and significance.
- 1.4 It is understood that the land on which the Tinkers Heart is located is in private ownership. The land owner would need to approve any proposals to further enhance the feature. The Heart of Travellers Trust have indicated that they would like to acquire the land and have asked for a letter of support from the Council in this respect.

**2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Area Committee delegates authority to the Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure to:
- Provide a letter of support to the Heart of Travellers Trust for the land to be acquired by the Trust.

**TINKERS HEART A815 ARDNO UPDATE REPORT**

---

**3.0 INTRODUCTION**

- 3.1 The Tinkers Heart is a historic feature located near the junction of the A815 and the B839, Hells Glen Road from Lochgoilhead. A group has been formed who are further promoting the feature following some restoration and scrub clearance together with a post and chain fence which currently offers some protection to the feature.
- 3.2 The group are seeking support from the Council to assist in pursuing further grant funding from third parties.

**4.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 4.1 It is recommended that the Area Committee delegates authority to the Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure to:
- Provide a letter of support to the Heart of Travellers Trust for the land to be acquired by the Trust.

**5.0 BACKGROUND**

- 5.1 The feature is located off the carriageway, the immediate area has now been cleared of scrub and a small post and chain fence has been put in place to offer a degree of protection to this historic feature.
- 5.2 The promoting group have indicated that they would like to have the feature recognised by the provision of brown tourist signs. In line with national guidance, brown tourist signs can only be promoted in situations where sufficient car parking is available. In order to progress this it will be necessary to liaise with the landowner.
- 5.3 As part of the ongoing restoration project, the promoting group are looking to secure third party grant funding to further enhance the site, potentially provide car parking facilities and also to have the site recognised through brown tourist signs.

5.4 Through this report, the promoting group are seeking a letter of support from the Area Committee which can be used to help them secure third party funding and to provide advice as roads authority in terms of signing and parking provision.

## **6.0 CONCLUSION**

6.1 There is no identified funding for the Roads Department to deliver / build either of the proposals that would provide parking and pedestrian access at the site.

## **7.0 IMPLICATIONS**

7.1	Policy	None
7.2	Financial	Any Funding through the Roads Revenue Budget will negatively impact on Roads Maintenance and Repairs
7.3	Legal	None
7.4	HR	None
7.5	Equalities	None
7.6	Risk	None
7.7	Customer Services	None

**Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure** Pippa Milne

**Head of Roads & Amenity Services** Jim Smith

**For further information contact:** Kevin McIntosh, Roads Performance Manager,  
Tel: 01546 604621