



Helen Wilson  
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7 January 2008

Dear Helen,

### **Glenachulish Draft Signs Plan**

I thank you for your email of 11 December with attachments, and apologise for the delay in replying. My thanks to all concerned for this positive initiative in signage, which responds completely to the recommendations I made in my Report. The proposed signs are well positioned and look clear and succinct to me. I hope the style meets general approval.

Maybe the plaque 3D at point 6 would look best no more than say 1m. off the ground, as although within the forest boundary it is in the semi-open tree fringes. On the other hand the crossing point in the semi-derelict fence on the FC boundary requires, I think, a marked post to guide walkers on a descending traverse through the boggy ground on the best point to enter the forest and join the path .

I am not sure if a post is needed for descent at the crossing point of the derelict fence on the western route as there is less of a traverse and walkers would tend to gravitate towards the top of the pathwork, but this is a wide open squelchy area.

I have often had difficulty in finding where to enter a forest plantation from above, or where to leave the forest road; and after following a clear path down it is frustrating to arrive at a road system with nothing but ring signs indicating circular walks! This breaks the mould!

I have consulted Hebe Carus, MCofS Access & Conservation Officer, and she concurs with this response.

When the signs are installed, I can arrange for an appropriate addendum to my Report on the MCofS website and maybe a brief notice in 'The Scottish Mountaineer'. You may wish to inform 'TGO' and 'Trail Walker'. Scottish Mountaineering Trust, the publishers of the Scottish Mountaineering Club guidebooks, are a quite separate organisation from MCofS.

If you would let me know when significant remedial work on the paths is done, I should be pleased to adjust my Report – meantime, I appreciate your funding problems!

Referring to Cruach Ardrain, I assume you will be considering signage for walkers at the junctions of the zig-zag approach track, and that you will let me know of further proposals for the short length of path required from the end of the track to the crest of the ridge.

I note that you are awaiting a decision on the proposed hydro scheme at Allt Coire Chaorach before finalising plans for car parking and paths on the north-east approach to Ben More.

Referring to the access problem on Ben Lui, I recall that detailed plans had been made, but abandoned because of problems raised by Network Rail over crossing the railway, and there was some talk of forming a crossing beside a stream below a bridge.

Best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

Mike Newbury