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Selkirk & Lindean Access Project

The idea for the Selkirk and Lindean Access project was originated from members of the Lindean community who were keen to improve the access route to Lindean community woodland and link areas of existing woodland and riverside paths to create a walk from Lindean to Selkirk.

Members of the Lindean Community Woodland Group formed a formal community association to manage part of the access project and to take responsibility for the management of the community woodland in general. Members of the association have worked hard carrying out community consultations, securing additional funding for the access improvement costs, completing an engineers report on the access specifications and producing a management plan detailing all work within the project.

A one kilometre stretch of poor quality track leading from the main road to the community woodland has been improved, much to the joy of local residents. Upgrading this track has allowed woodland management activities, such as thinning and felling to take place, as well as providing a more reliable and less hazardous access route for groups visiting the woodland. Together with additional path improvements within the woodland, this project will enable the woods to be visited by local special needs and school groups, as well as the local community.

In Selkirk, an informal path runs from the recently landscaped and planted embankment next to the Selkirk Glass car park and, adjacent to the River Ettrick, wanders past an abandoned gravel pit and derelict land before following the river bank through willow scrub and over gravel bars. This path was surveyed by Ian Forbes and a management plan produced suggesting path improvement works and the installation of a small bird hide overlooking the River Ettrick. The recommendations of tree planting, path improvements, Japanese knotweed clearing, willow pruning and the installation of wooden steps, have been carried out by the Scottish Wildlife Trust conservation volunteers to create an enjoyable riverside walk on the bank of the River Ettrick.

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