

SATIN Case Study Bracklinn Bespoke Steel Timber Bridge

Organisation Name

Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park Authority & Callander Development Trust

Infrastructure Location

Bracklinn Falls, Callander

Date of Completion

16-Nov-2010



Context

Previous bridge over Bracklinn Falls was washed out in floods in 2004 and gorge was completely re-landscaped. Need for a new bridge as both a path link and a viewing platform in its own right came out as a clear priority during core paths community consultations. Access restrictions to site necessitated an innovative approach and partners decided that an unusual design would bring more visitors to the site.

Technical Aspects



20metre span bespoke steel timber bridge supported by four 12metre Douglas Fir trunks in an A-frame shape with copper roof. Other materials were steel and larch. Ground works included the creation of a new eastern abutment and the carving of a western abutment out of the pudding rock. Installation involved hand winching of completed structure across temporary beams as show in photograph.

Outcomes



Financing

Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park Authority £56k plus free project management, Forth Valley and Lomond LEADER £50k and Scottish Natural Heritage £9,900.

Evaluation

Most successful aspects are extremely positive visitor feedback and increase in car park occupancy along with national press interest and coverage. We were also extremely pleased with the condition of the surrounding site following project completion. Only unsuccessful element of the project was that it was completed behind schedule.

Key Learning Points

Success in securing large funding pots was on the basis of using buzz words and showing innovation. Most importantly, the project was sold on the basis of economic development of the surrounding area and businesses and not solely on its value as a path link. The main learning point was that, although a small team ensured that the wider site was minimally damaged, it also allowed timescales to slip and therefore the funding package should be designed with flexibility in mind. Finally, LEADER is a good source of funding for such innovative projects as long as: other funders provide cash up front to allow cash flow; project is split into payment stages to minimise bureaucracy; agreement is made early on with regards to level of LEADER promotion through press and publications.

Contact Details

[Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park Authority](#)