

TAYSIDE BIODIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP

STEERING GROUP MEETING

MINUTES OF MEETING

TUESDAY 25 JANUARY 2005 AT 10.00 AM

BOARD ROOM, COUNTY BUILDING, ANGUS COUNCIL, FORFAR

Present: Martin Price (Chair) CMS, Perth College

Catherine Lloyd TBP
Carol Littlewood FWAG
David Mitchell SNH

Pam Coutts Angus Council

Liz Garson SNH Carolyn Warwick SNH

Mark Simmons Perth & Kinross Council

Jo Long SEPA

Merrill Smith Dundee City Council

In Attendance: Angela Paterson CMS, Perth College

Apologies: Mike Strachan Forestry Commission

Jo Lenthall Scottish Biodiversity Forum

Alison Anderson Dundee City Council
Alex Anderson Angus Council
Alan Hendry SEERAD

Andrew Williams Scottish Field Studies Assoc

Uwe Stoneman SWT

Stewart Roberts Angus Council

Doug Flint Perth & Kinross Council

Bruce Anderson RSBP

1	Apologies	
	As above	
2	Minutes of Previous Meeting on 27 April 04	
	The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.	
3	Matters Arising	
	M Simmons reported that the Tayside Biodiversity Exhibition at Perth Museum finished mid	
	January. This had been very successful Visitor figures were in the region of 22k and positive	
	feedback had been received. The exhibition panels are now available for anyone who has a	MS
	unit to hold them. SNH could possibly consider getting such a unit. M Smith to get details to C	CL
	Lloyd for costings. Uses suggested: Tayside House, SET, visitors centres, rangers centres.	
4	Minutes of Workshop on 26 October 2004	
	The workshop was discussed and it was agreed that it had been a successful day with a good	
	turnout and contributions from all participants. M Price stated that we need to ensure that we	
	make the link to Community Planning. The new Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004 will	
	hopefully make everyone think more about biodiversity issues.	
	Agreed the following organisations should be involved:	
	NTS: Richard Luxmoore will speak to rangers at Killiecrankie	
	SWT: Simon Milne will look into and get back to M Price. C Littlewood will ask Grant Baird	
	(SWT/farmer) to come on the Farmlands Group	
	RSPB: Bruce Anderson currently doesn't attend the Steering Group Meeting	
	DFSB (District Salmon Fishers Board): Water & Wetlands	
	GCT (Game Conservancy Trust): Ian McCall keen to be involved	

	Davie Parish to be invited to attend the Farmland sub-group meetings (C Littlewood) RHET Education Sub group, Gill Lawrie is involved NHS: Bruce Dicke leaving and not being replaced. NHS: Strathcathro hoping to be involved. Need to approach their Estates Managers Scottish Water: Had previously been involved as a Corresponding Member of the Wetlands Group but there has now been a change of staff. J Long to approach their Land Agents (Youngs) to try to get them involved. Woodland Trust: Dundee Red Squirrel Group has a Woodland Trust representative (and the Group reports back to the Urban sub-group); they are also on the Woodland sub-group. Heather Trust: they are corresponding members of the Upland sub-group. Deer commission: get them involved in Steering Group? John Craig attends Upland Group. Discussions took place on What We are Doing Well and Where Can We Improve (outcomes	
	from Workshop attached) Local Record Centre (LRC) – we need to work out how we are going to do this in Tayside. Agreed we need 2/3 hours at the next Steering Group Meeting to discuss this. Hopefully by then we may also have some extra people involved and we can focus on this issue. Cost was a major issue when this was discussed 2 years ago; there will be a big resource implication. Would need 2/3 discussions and presentations from key people.	MP/CL
	C Warwick will find out progress on this process and timescales. C Warwick to discuss with N Taylor (and possibly involve him in this). Try and have the meeting which should link up with Steering Group meeting, hopefully before the summer. C Warwick to action and then see if can arrange add-on meeting. (C Warwick is not in her new position until 7 March but will pick up then)	CW
	C Lloyd to include in her Annual Report a couple of pages on what we learnt from the Strategic Workshop.	CL
	There were no further issues arising from the 26 October meeting.	
5	Reports from Sub Group Leaders	
5.1	Woodlands	
	Update from M Strachan attached	
5.2	Farmland - C Littlewood Meeting took place on 12 January with several new sub-group members. No new projects; Barn Owl project continues. No new HAPs and SAPs will be prepared unless necessary, due to time restraints. C Littlewood working on Information Sheet for Farmers going into RSS. Meeting to be held in June and site visit to farm to be arranged.	
	1st Tranche HAP Reviews - C Littlewood to circulate all sub-group members and Lead Partners to see if any changes are required.	C L'wood
5.3	Uplands – M Price M Price had now resigned as Chair. Had hoped Andy Williams from the Kindrogan Centre would take over but he has since left. M Price to approach Mr Williams' replacement to ask if he would take on the sub-group Chair.	MP
5.4	Water and Wetlands - J Long Last meeting held in mid December 04. SNH were not able to attend but has Nicki McIntyre involved now.	
	Proposing to hold a seminar on Working Around Watercourses. Suggested contact made with the Tweed Foundation for speakers and Institute of Fisheries & Management to co-chair/co-fund. J Long been in contact with Angus Council. Need to target local authorities, Anglers Groups and landowners. C Warwick suggested including something on permitted development rights. Date of seminar to be confirmed, likely to be towards the end of the year.	
	An Invasive Species Seminar (Dundee-based) also to be considered.	
5.5	Estuary and Coast D Mitchell	
5.5	Estuary and Coast – D Mitchell This group has been in abeyance for over a year. D Mitchell took over as Chair in October. Hoping to hold meeting in March/April to resurrect group and bring people back to the idea of the LBAP	
5.6	Urban - P Coutts (on behalf of Alison Anderson)	
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	LBAP review was discussed. More public-friendly version of actions passed round for comment (attached). A Anderson requested feedback from the group. Suggested this could perhaps be used as a model for all other groups?	
	A key member of the Urban Sub Group, Kate Farrar of the Dundee Ranger Service, has moved to SEPA.	
	M Price mentioned the Urban Wildlife Award for excellence for best urban nature reserve awarded by the Urban Forum of the UK MAB (Man and Biosphere) Programme. There has only been one award so far in Scotland. M Smith to pass on to A Anderson to action.	MS
5.7	Education – C Lloyd Meeting held in December; next one to be held in February. C Lloyd's report attached.	
6	Finance Report from D Flint circulated. PKC ordering C Lloyd's IT equipment today. M Smith discussed report (in D Flint's absence). Agreed this was more relevant to the Management Team and that the Steering Group only need a summary or if there are any particular issues to be discussed. Finance is OK at the moment and budget has been set up.	
	SITA M Price reported on the proposal from PQLF (Perth Quality of Life Trust) through SITA to set up a Tayside Biodiversity Action Fund. PQLT to make decisions on funding projects, based on recommendations from TBP. Criteria need to be set up. C Lloyd proposed all project applications come to TBP Steering Group for ratification.	
	Funding will hopefully be £100,000 pa for 3 years. SITA funding is to be matched – 10.2% from Council, SNH, Forestry Commission, etc. This needs to be checked, restrictions on who can provide the 10.2%?	
	L Garson queried area covered by funding; need confirmation that would cover all 3 local authority areas, i.e., Angus, Dundee as well as PKC. (subsequent to meeting: confirmation that funding will cover all three local authority areas)	
	M Price indicated that TBP cannot sign legal documents as we are not a legal entity – clarification needed on this.	
	Discussions needed ASAP with PKC and PQLT and then clarify with SITA. DF/CL/MP to action.	DF/CL/MP
7	Forward Plans and Priorities Already discussed. Needs to be tabled to next meeting. Fits into UKBAP Target review. Should be key part of next meeting. Review to be carried out by May. Need similar reports to A Anderson's from all other sub groups. Circulate and give Sub Groups until 15 April for feedback/complete their own report.	
8	Website C Lloyd met Claire Bailey (website developer) last week. Menu to be reorganised. Copyright mentioned re photos – C Lloyd will give all info and then put on list at end or add to each photo (photos mainly from SNH and SEPA). J Long to get contact name from SEPA for approval; rest have been checked. Introduction to be improved; information section – suggest different named sections. Funding newsletter and general LBAP newsletter to be included. Annual report and 3 year review are already included. Fun Zone to be included.	JL
	Out of date draft HAPs need to be replaced (take whole lot off and add 2 nd tranche ones later). Set up and have date for comments. Clarify on website what is draft. Include list of ones that are coming. 'Under construction' has been included. More work for developer than envisaged but no extra costs incurred. There will be a maintenance fee of approximately £200pa. C Lloyd may be trained or C Bailey will continue meanwhile. Agreed C Bailey to continue for this year.	
	Formal launch – discussed how this should be done. Get local papers interested, possible tie in with Scottish Biodiversity Week. C Lloyd will check to see if any environmental days coming up soon.	
	Publications Planning manual currently being updated. C Lloyd meeting with Planning Department in PKC –	CL

	suggested householders guide to be revamped, now done.	
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	No response about planning manual? Full draft will be sent out to everyone. Publication	
	planned for March. Funding for Manual, Advice Notes, householders and developers' leaflet:	
	£5k from Scottish Executive, £3k PKC Planning Department, £3k shortfall. Approach	
	Angus/Dundee Councils for top up. If not, will have to adapt accordingly (need this financial	
	year). Tayside publications, including leaflets, will be the first in Scotland. PDF to be included	
_	in website. 2 nd Tranche.	
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	C Lloyd can circulate list, add column what UK BAP priorities are.	
	If there is a matienal and model and LLAD to accom	
	If there is a national one, need local HAP to cover.	
	C Lloyd – UK website, how often is this updated? C Lloyd picked up out of date information. C	CL
	Lloyd gets asked 6 monthly for updates – she will look into this.	
10	Monitoring – Future Timeframes	
	MP read email re UKBAP Timetable review. We need all the different groups to see where	
	they are on this. Possible to get standardised and put on database.	
	C Lloyd to get training on BARS on 31/1. We will have to report between July and September	
	this year - C Lloyd to confirm. Final report at the end of the year.	
	Ongoing process – PQLT will also have to monitor projects.	
	For monitoring all subgroups, include project details in pro forma	
11	Local Action Grant Scheme	
	No fund set up yet for biodiversity – C Warwick to action.	CW
12	Agenda of future meetings	
	MP asked for any suggestions/amendments – agreed to continue as before	
13	AOCB	
	C Lloyd – key outputs/annual overview of past 9 months – circulate to management group	
	Presentations – C Lloyd to attend:	
	Eco congregation day in Dunblane (Green Graveyard initiative)	
	Dundee Spring garden show, April	
	Angus show (alongside FWAG stall)?	
	Glamis Countryside festival – had biodiversity boards?	
	Angus Walking Festival – 2-6 June	
	CL to possibly go to Scone Game Fair (with FWAG)	
14	Future Meetings	
	It has now been decided to hold the next Steering Group meeting on Friday 6 May at Dundee	
	City Council offices – MS to arrange venue and possibly hold Local Record Centre meeting at	
	the same time (if so need lunch and longer meeting)	
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	Focus on forward plan at next meeting (and what comes out of UKBAP review)	
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	Further meetings – Thursday 25 August, Perth College	
	24 November – Angus Council	
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	The meeting closed and MP thanked Angus Council for the venue and excellent lunch.	
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