



TAYSIDE BIODIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP

c/o Dundee City Council, Leisure and Communities Department, Floor 13, Tayside House, Crichton Street. DD1 3RA.
E-mail: tayside.biodiversity@ukf.net; Website: www.taysidebiodiversity.co.uk

URBAN SUB-GROUP

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 18th October 2007
at Angus Council, Orchardbank, Forfar

PRESENT:	Alison Anderson (AA)	Dundee City Council
	Catherine Lloyd (CL)	Tayside Biodiversity Partnership
	George Potts (GP)	Dundee CRS
	Ann Lolley (AL)	BFEP
	Pam Coutts (PC)	Angus Council

Item	Minute	Action
1.	Apologies Esther Rogers-Nicoll (ER-N) - Perth and Kinross Council, Craig Borland (CB) - Angus Countryside Rangers, Kate Baird (KB) - SEPA, Carolyn Deasley (CD) - SNH, Ian Ford (IF) - Broughty Ferry Environmental Project	
2.	Minutes of previous meeting were agreed. Matters Arising None	
3.	ZOOM AA updated the group on a meeting between AA / CD and Bridget England from Bumblebee Conservation Trust (BBCT). BBCT agreed to help with project with materials / checking text / illustrations and 2 walks in Biodiversity Week. AA to write draft text for <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Freepost card• General leaflet• Survey Form• ID Sheet Drafts will be e-mailed out to group for comment. AA to meet Alison Herman from SNH re design.	AA
	Group decided in addition to matters already discussed that the survey sheet should contain as many spaces for records as possible / who to contact for more survey sheets / and a return date of 1st November (no year). It was also decided that TBP should get survey forms not BBCT. TBP will pass records on to BBCT. There would be a link on the TBP website for participants to log their sightings and downloads of information.	
	Group also recommended that the project should be launched at the Dundee Spring Flower Show 19th-21st April. There will also be opportunity to promote the project at events like Dundee Botanic Garden Funday and Angus Walking Festival.	
4.	Priority Actions- updates	
i)	USG1 – Urban Red Squirrel Initiative AA reported that the Red Squirrel Project for Tayside had begun. The project officer Ken Neil had contacted groups in P+K and Angus and was organising a launch and some interpretation materials for each area. Ken will be drawing up a list of priority actions which can be achieved in over the next 6 months.	
ii)	USG2 – Acoustic Ecology AL reported that the project has been signed off with the BLF. However action points such as the links made with the organisations over the life of the project will continue and ideas for action on the ground such as a couple of meadow areas will be followed up.	AL

- iii) USG3 – Greenspace, Community Gardens and Allotments**
 CL reported that the booklet was nearing completion. CL adding some sections and will send these for comment asap. **CL**
 CL requested that the 3 Local Authorities contribute £200 each for the booklet.
 CL reported that the Orchard Seminar organised by Perth and Kinross Countryside Trust had been very well attended by 85 participants, 40 apologies were received. CL recommended that TBP are closely associated with the project. **AA/PC/ER-N**
- iv) USG4 – Urban Grassland Management**
 CB - still waiting for information about plot size, cutting regimes, how many plots for Forfar Loch. This will depend on what Dundee are doing. Possibility of using plots in Dudhope Park on the back of Acoustic Ecology project.
 CL reported that there will be a grassland management seminar on 1st November in Perth. A representative from Chester-le-Street will be describing a successful project from NE England.
- v) USG5 – Invasive Species Project**
 PC updated the group on the continuing issue of the section 75 agreement at Baldovan. The developer is trying to fight the conditions (GH removal) and Angus Council legal team are now involved. AA asked PC to pass on the group's thanks to those involved for their continued efforts and to keep up the good work. **PC**
 AA reported that she had attended a meeting at Abertay University who are acting as consultants for DCC Engineers. The Water Framework Directive and its impact on the Dighty is the subject of the research. AA recommended that an invasive species management plan should be an outcome of the research.
- vi) USG6 – Green/Living Roofs**
 CL reported that she had been in touch with Dusty Gedge and was encouraging him to come up to Tayside to do a couple of day seminars. **CL**
- vii) USG7 – Local Patch Project**
 No update
- USG7a - ZOOM / Bumblebees**
 see item 3
- viii) USG8 – Sand Martins in Tayside**
 AL reported that the sand martin nesting banks at Broughty Ferry had been extremely successful this year. This is, in part, due to the maintenance carried out earlier in the year.
 PC updated the group on the delivery of sand for sand martin nesting bank for the Orchardbank site in Forfar.
 The virtual sand martin group continues to keep in contact.
- ix) USG9 – Urban Watercourse Initiative**
 CL still to put HAP on website **CL**
- x) USG10 – Tayside Town Swift Project**
 GP reported that CD had been in touch about Swift records for Dundee and the CRS are committed to helping the project.
 AL suggested that some BFEP volunteers might be interested in helping. **AL**
- xi) USG11 – Green Kirk and Graveyard Initiative**
 CL reported that the workshops planned for Oct / Nov had been postponed until Feb 08. **CL**
 BFEP still working with St Aidans despite not getting funding - AL to meet minister. **AL**
 CB was arranging event in April in Angus **CB**
- 5. AOCB**
 None
- 7. Date of next meeting**
 10am, Monday 21st January 2008 - Camperdown Mansion House - Courtyard Office