

TAYSIDE BIODIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP

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Tayside Urban Working Group

1st December 2011 10.30am

Esther's (very brief)notes of meeting held at Ranger Room, Forfar Loch

- 1. Welcome & apologies (sorry don't have an accurate note of who was there)
- 2. matters arising from previous minutes- CL copy of memorandum of agreement to be sent to Cairngorm National Park
- 3. no update on Nature on Track- we are to go ahead, & link in with others

4.

- Community Gardens& allotments- PKC shortlist of allotment sites- Diane Cassidy has shortlist of allotment sites- CD asked are these shown on LDP at least as green space- yes
- Urban Grassland- DW has had setback in his project as Housing associations have merged- Battleby wildflower meadow now has proper management plan and may become a demonstration area-(really good for the nationally rare yellow rattle)
- Invasive spp- Ben Tyler- Forth Fisheries Trust- PKC supportive, but no money. "Monifieth ecofest"- trying to include some items on invasives
- Green/Living Roofs- Extension at Forfar. CL still involved@ Arbroath Abbey
- Zoom in 2- Experimenting with phone apps or digital cameras- maybe launch in Scottish Biodiversity week, 20.20 project? "Nature in time"?
- Zoom in 3 Perhaps poster instead of p/cs & do it web-based
- Sand Martins- SM & Swifts not merged. Advice & survey needed
- Urban Watercourse initiative-Perth Lade- St Catherine's retail park best place for sand martin holes- retail park being redeveloped- any chance of incorporation at this stage? CL to follow up
- Dighty- no information
- Swift project- some new nest sites identified- mostly in Angus, plan on focusing on the Glens next year
- Green Graveyard- PKC still has 24 sites still trying to change grassland management
- Perth Bat Project- Infrastructure for this project in Perth isn't in place, but do it in Angus through Bats in schools

- 5. New Projects- 14 transfers from Education group
 - Bats in schools- awareness raising in schools done by Rangerstying it in with ecoschool info. Strathmartine to be prototype- start in Spring
 - Orchards- how to get protected? Could they be designated as local nature reserve or something?- not really possible in terms of current legislation. "Appletreeman" recommended as useful website
 - Zoomin4Bees- "Unbeelieveable", "bee careful", "bee ware", -homes for bees- ideas required
 - Sheltered housing- driven by Ranger service- bird tables etc- this project is stalling at present because of rats coming in to feed!
 - Contacts for businesses to work with for biodiversity- SCRI suggested
- 6. Date of next meeting Friday 24th February 10.30am- possible venue Battleby-Carolyn to see if room available.