



TAYSIDE BIODIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP

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Water & Wetlands Sub-Group

Minutes of Meeting held on Monday 24th February 2009
 SSE Board Room, Clunie Power Station

Present:

Catherine Lloyd (CL)	Tayside Biodiversity Partnership
Ian Lorimer (Chair) (IL)	SEPA
Ross Gardiner (RG)	FRS
Alistair Steven (AS)	SSE
Nikki MacIntyre (NM)	SNH
Helen Gray (HG)	Cairngorms Water Vole Conservation Project

Apologies: Susan Veitch **SV** (PKC), David Summers, **DS** (TDSFB).

1.	<p>Introductions & Apologies</p> <p>AS welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were noted. IL made his apologies for being late after getting lost!</p>
2.	<p>Minutes of previous meeting</p> <p>Minutes from the last meeting were accepted without change.</p>
3.	<p>Presentation by Helen Gray on Water Vole Conservation Project.</p> <p>Helen Gray gave a presentation on her work with the Cairngorms Water Vole Conservation Project. The project is attempting to record Water Vole distribution and to remove Mink where present. The project has been very successful and is to be expanded geographically to include much of Tayside. It is hoped that the group can provide support to the project and pass on useful contacts in the area to Helen.</p> <p>Action all.</p> <p>IL will forward Helen's contact details to the group.</p> <p>Helen to be requested to add TBAP logo to their website and leaflets. Action CL to send TBAP logo to Helen.</p>
4.	<p>Feedback from Riparian Seminar.</p> <p>Riparian Seminar feedback was circulated to group. Feedback was very positive and IL has e-mailed the speakers and chair to thank them for their contributions. CL has had copies of the presentations uploaded to the TBAP website.</p>
5.	<p>Priority Projects Progress Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perth Lade Enhancement – Persephone Beer – Sustainable Transport Officer with PKC has begun a project on the Lade but there has unfortunately been no dialogue with the group to date. It is hoped that the interested parties can align their aims and to this end NM will represent the W&W sub group at a meeting on 24th March. Action SV to ascertain from Persephone what work is proposed and timeframes. • Mammal road deaths – Nothing to report. • Tayside Ponds Initiative - Action SV to provide a list of PKC / Scottish Water managed SUDS in

	<p>the area so that potential sites for projects with community involvement can be chosen.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R. Earn Japanese Knotweed Eradication Project – TDSFB staff have received training in herbicide application in readiness for an initial application once the stands begin active growth. A further application is planned for later in the year. • R. Tay Tributary Improvement Initiative – No update available. • Salmon in the Classroom – Business planning process is ongoing at present in SNH so the funding position for this year is not yet known. AS and RG are to look at the old interactive CD to assess whether it can be uploaded to the web or if hard copies can be made available for dissemination. • Freshwater Pearl Mussel Awareness raising / translocation – The translocation part of this project has been abandoned after discovery of viable populations in the rivers intended for introduction. Awareness raising will continue.
6.	<p>Draft River Basin Plans – Draft RBMP's are now out for consultation. Anyone wishing to make comments through the group can pass to CL for collation.</p>
7.	<p>AOCB</p> <p>A grant application has been received by SNH to carry out Sparling survey work on the lower Tay.</p> <p>Dighty (Dundee) project is set to start now that funding has been secured.</p> <p>Ideas for events for Tayside Biodiversity week (1-10th May) are still being sought. Ideas to CL.</p>
8.	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>Next meeting to be held on 19th May 2009, IL to arrange venue. (Strathearn House, Broxden, Perth)</p>

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