



**TAYSIDE BIODIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP
MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING**

Wednesday 12th November, 2008

Perth College

DRAFT MINUTES OF MEETING

Present:

Martin Price (Chair) (MP)	CMS, Perth College
Jin Park (Secretary) (JP)	CMS, Perth College
Pam Coutts (PC)	Angus Council
Bryan Harris (BH)	Dundee City Council
Esther Rogers-Nicoll (ERN)	Perth & Kinross Council
Catherine Lloyd (CL)	Tayside Biodiversity Partnership
Carolyn Deasley (CD)	Scottish Natural Heritage
Tim Barratt (TB)	Forestry Commission (Item 1-2 only)
Douglas Calderwood (DC)	Perth Quality of Life Trust (Item 1-2 only)
Evelyn Kerr (EK)	Perth Quality of Life Trust (Item 1-2 only)

		Action
1	<p>SITA TAYSIDE BIODIVERSITY ACTION FUND – PROJECT ASSESSMENT PANEL DC explained the amount of money that we can spend this year. The financial year starts from September and ends in August. We cannot use interest to support projects but it can be used for administration cost and promotional fund. DC to provide total of interest yet to be used.</p> <p>a. Project Assessment Panel</p> <p>8160 – Environmental Arts Development –Baxter’s Bugs & Birds Project Biodiversity and Community engagement benefits. Seems a lot of money being asked for a relatively small site + project officer’s role is not convincing.</p> <p>Recommendation: Accept. Medium priority. Give £4500 to start up the project in year 1 on the condition that they will have to look for other available funding for years 2 and 3, e.g. “Woodlands for Around Towns” from the Forestry Commission. Philip Chambers of the FCS would be able to advise regarding WIAT funding. They would be welcome to apply a second time to the SITA TBAF for additional match-funding. A breakdown of the project officer’s tasks and where the £4,500 is going to be used is required as soon as possible, together with “actual costs”.</p> <p>8408 – Scottish Wildlife Trust – Montrose Basin Wetland Grazing Project This is a RAMSAR and SSSI site. DC explained that 10 % of administration cost can be included which can be used for training. Good record of designation (TB, CD). A management plan will be required after one year (PC, MP).and an SRDP application should be considered to ensure ongoing maintenance</p> <p>Recommendation: Accept. High Priority. Support £7102 subject to providing a long-term management plan as part of their reporting.</p> <p>8413 – Muirhead Red Squirrel & Wildlife Sanctuary – Habitat Boxes Concern about access and “artificial” feeding area. (CD, TB). PC will find out the access issue.</p> <p>Recommendation: Accept. Medium Priority. Support £1500 on condition that public access is confirmed in liaison with Angus Council.</p> <p>8414 - FWAG - Supporting Tayside’s Tree Sparrows –Phase 2 FWAG is already working with a school group. Phase 1 monitoring is underway and a report</p>	<p>DC</p> <p>PC</p>

	<p>will be ready soon (CL). Good publicity. Keen teachers are involved. Good track record of the project officer, Carol Littlewood.</p> <p>Recommendation: Accept. High Priority. Support £7368/ year2. Looking forward to a report from Phase 1 and continuing report from Phase 2.</p> <p>8415 – Bat Conservation Trust – Perth –fectly Batty –a Perth City Bat Project Joined up project between three partners. Some of the items cannot be purchased under TBAF and the applicant will be informed of this. Equipment bought will stay in Perth but can be borrowed (PC).</p> <p>Recommendation: Accept. High Priority. Support £9515 subject to confirming which items can be purchased.</p> <p>8416 – Scottish Native Woods – Highland Perthshire Aspen Restoration Project TB explained the difficulty of seedling Aspens (takes 10-15 years) + their importance for six other UK BAP species.</p> <p>Recommendation: Accept. High Priority. Support the requested amount (£35250) but amend £12000 for third year.</p> <p>8427 – Scottish Wildlife Trust – Osprey Tracking Project A fascinating project but uncertain about its benefits to the biodiversity of Tayside. We will support any project that would help the population of Ospreys in Tayside e.g. managing their habitats, etc.: SWT to be informed about this.</p> <p>Recommendation: Reject.</p> <p>8016 – RSPB – Floodplain Grazing Marsh Biodiversity Enhancement - additional funding</p> <p>Recommendation: Accept. Support £2000 per year for 3 years, subject to publicity for TBAF support on site and in publications and any related materials.</p> <p>b. Revision of the TBAF Application Guidelines Revision done, only slightly amended. (DC/CL). CL will circulate the revised guidelines by email to get feedback by the end of November.</p> <p>c. Publicity Reporting and Feedback Large agencies (SWT, RSPB) tend to neglect acknowledging TBAF support. DC will ensure that any organisation receiving TBAF support provides publicity on site and in any material related to the projects (articles, press releases, brochures, etc.). This rule will be applied to existing projects, and linked to payments and prospects of future funding.</p>	CL
2	<p>MINUTES OF LAST MEETING on 22nd August 2008 Agreed.</p>	
3	<p>MATTERS ARISING - Planning Manual: a revised electronic version is not ready yet (the original version was removed from the website) and will be uploaded to the website when finalised. Hard copies will be distributed to local authorities (CL has a distribution list) before next meeting; the first batch of Biodiversity Advice Notes will also be circulated.</p>	CL
4	<p>WORK PROGRAMME/CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT -> Promote awareness of biodiversity – Attended various meetings including the one with Dundee Sensation re. 2009 April national exhibition and Feb workshops: CL had to do administrator's job e.g. arranging publicity material (banners, leaflets) to use in events: Interviews with Scotland on Sunday, Perthshire Advertiser, Sunday Times for Orchard Festival + photocalls for Courier at Cairn o'Mhor and Historic Orchard Forum: Articles for Eco Congregation Newsletter, Trellis Newsletter, Scottish Biodiversity Forum Newsletter: Radio Tay (2) + BBC Radio Scotland (2).</p> <p>-> Water & Wetlands - Discussed the merger of C&E sub group with W&W sub-group: it was</p>	

	<p>decided to keep the two sub-groups separate for the time being. Potential for the Tayside Pond Initiative to receive good response from communities and developers as proposal is to work with local authorities on Sustainable Urban Drainage improvements. Perhaps ask Scottish Water for funding for assistance with the Riparian Seminar in January?</p> <p>-> Urban – Student placements have been very helpful, e.g. Orchard and Biodiversity Festivals, Swift database inputting and the Green Graveyard Initiative. Liaison with PKC and Dundee University about student placements to roll out pilot projects 09/10: encouraged Swifts walks with PKC & DCC Rangers: Edward Mayer will give a talk at Feb 2009 in Dundee: Tayside Swift Newsletter 2nd issue needs money for May 2009: Community Garden booklets have been distributed and still very popular in Nov! Zoom project – PC suggested giving a Certificate to the teenagers who worked on the Broughty Ferry bumblebee murals; Living roofs - Organised a talk and workshop by Dusty Gedge in Feb 2009 in Dundee; funding still needed though.</p> <p>-> Woodland- Visit to SCRI orchard as part of subgroup meeting has led to a new community-based project: Orchard Festival went very well. Historic Scotland could be a potential partner in the orchards work. 20 people attended the cider making course, of which 2 were keen to use the knowledge commercially: Wildlife Tree Project will go ahead: Attended Tayside & Fife Red Squirrel Forum meeting (July).</p> <p>-> Education - Organised a series of 5 lunchtime seminars for Angus Council staff (20-26 people attending each time):</p> <p>->Training- attended International Orchards and Groves Conference, Sheffield (funded by the Forestry Commission).</p> <p>-> Contingency - DCC Voice Technology equipment partially installed; voice recognition still to come. Will need training.: Interviews held for permanent staff on 13th October; new clerical assistant chosen but no news as to when they are expected to start. BH will check with Peter Sandwell. In the meantime, CL has been assisted by two short-term temps.</p> <p>-> MP suggests that a second issue of the “From Summit to Sand” Newsletter should be ready before the event at Sensation early May 2009 + use student placements as much as possible.</p>	BH
5	<p>TBP Website Visitor numbers are continuously increasing.</p>	
6	<p>FINANCES -> BH brought the budget and spending report: all is on track. -> CD: all SNH funding for TBP will cease from 1 April 2009, when funding previously administered by SNH will be allocated by the Scottish Government (SG). A formula (which has not been set out yet) will be used to allocate money. Legacy funding will be ring-fenced to local authorities and managed by the SG. Funding for TBP 2009-2011 will be legacy funding. CD will prepare a letter confirming that no funding is available from the SNH beyond the end of March 2009 and send it to Chief Executives and Head of Councils. MP requested that SNH write him a letter as Chair of the Partnership. MP will then write a letter to the Councils to request funding to fill this gap. -> May need to allow some money for sub-groups. (BH/ CL)</p>	CD/ MP
7	<p>Single Outcome Agreement When SOA priorities are set, it is difficult to prioritise biodiversity and natural environment compared to other themes. (BH)</p>	
8	<p>AOCB - CD explained that a Strategic Review of LBAPs was being fast-tracked by SNH by the end of March 2009; Ro Scott taking forward. - BH announced the launch of the website: www.dundeepartnership.co.uk/environment.</p>	
9	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING Tuesday, 27 January 2009, Perth College.</p>	