



**TAYSIDE BIODIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP
MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING**

Tuesday 19th May, 2009

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
Catherine Lloyd (CL)	Tayside Biodiversity Partnership
Carolyn Deasley (CD)	Scottish Natural Heritage (Item 1-2 only)
Tim Barratt (TB)	Forestry Commission (Item 1-2 only)
Douglas Calderwood (DC)	Perth Quality of Life Trust (Item 1-2 only)

Apologies:

Esther Rogers-Nicoll (ERN)	Perth & Kinross Council
Evelyn Kerr (EK)	Perth Quality of Life Trust

		Action
1	<p>SITA TAYSIDE BIODIVERSITY ACTION FUND – PROJECT ASSESSMENT PANEL</p> <p>a. Project Assessment Panel 9042 – Dunbarney & Forgandenny Church Eco-congregation- Green teens - Church Wildlife Garden Related to the Green Graveyard project and involving young people (CL). Recommendation- Support £500. Medium priority. Applicants should provide more detail on target species; install ‘swift’ boxes; use locally sourced seeds for wildflower beds; consult with DC and other Eco-congregation groups; provide a report in due course.</p> <p>9176– Auchtergaven & Moneydie Church - Wildflower Garden A holistic project on a large new site at Bankfoot by hardworking people. (CL) Recommendation: Accept. Medium Priority. Support £1467.</p> <p>9110– Community Greenspace – Turret Burn Regeneration Part of a big project. Change of wildflower management, involving community consultation, references to Tayside LBAP, an exemplary application, etc. (CD). Despite this, panel thought that the applicant needs to be more specific about the funding they are requesting of SITA. Recommendation: Deferred.</p> <p>b. Revision of the TBAF Application Guidelines Copy has been distributed to members at this meeting. CL stressed that the revised version is stricter and clearer. TB suggested that slightly vague wording could open opportunities for panel to discuss various aspects. Electronic copy is available on the website. Panel discussed the maximum fund that should be available and whether funding a large amount to a single project is desirable.</p> <p>c. Publicity Reporting and Feedback RSPB never mentioned our funding during their Reception presentation on 1st May, though they used the SITA Trust logo.</p>	

	<p>CL will ask partners to include SITA logo at their presentations and provide digital logos to them.</p> <p>## Enquiry by DC about swift box application by Angus care home→ It was refused but welcome if they resubmit. Aiming for the July deadline will be good (CL).</p> <p>## Enquiry by PC about Angus Council's Millennium forest project→ It should be site specific (DC).</p> <p>## Enquiry by DC about the access issue raised at Muirhead Red Squirrel & Wildlife Sanctuary (8413) → Still in negotiation in the Angus Council access forum (PC).</p> <p>## Some good news! CD: Angus and Dundee volunteers organised Little Terns wardening, starting from next week. DC: Muirton Wildlife Trust for Environmental Education, Little Ring Plover Habitat Enhancement (8021) had positive impacts on kids involved.</p>	CL
2	<p>MINUTES OF LAST MEETING on 27 January 2009 Agreed.</p>	
3	<p>MATTERS ARISING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Planning Manual: the accompanying Biodiversity Advice Notes will be completed this week. UK wide planning tool is under way. Perth and Kinross will be used as a pilot: Peter Marshall would help. - Voice Technology Equipment: CL found that recording is not helpful as there would necessarily be a large backlog of work for the Clerical Assistant who has to transcribe it. Currently therefore not really using it. - 	
4	<p>WORK PROGRAMME/CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT <Tayside LBAP co-ordinator work programme: 4th quarter report> → Co-ordinate and support the work of the TBP Annual report for SNH is being prepared and will be completed before next Steering Group meeting.</p> <p>→ Promote awareness and enhancement of biodiversity in Tayside</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Talks & presentations: good attendance at Dobbies at Monifieth (c 150 people); trying to meet different audience groups. - Press release and media coverage: articles and press release prepared for various seminars and workshops including national newspapers about orchards. -Website update: Looking for student placement to review the site and make proposals to update it. <p>→ Maintain the TBP Steering Group and deliver Sub-Groups, outputs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coast & Estuaries: David Lampard is acting as Chair, but is not in a position to fully take over as sub-group leader and join the Steering Group. - Urban: Much has been achieved, particularly with Swift projects. ZOOM In2 project masterminded by the sub-group. - Woodland: Good progress has been made; many activities are related to orchards; Orchard project officer will soon be in place; proposing 800-tree planting to celebrate Perth's 800th anniversary as a city. (should be good for PR). -Education: CL reported successful Biodiversity Festival press coverage (STV, Radio Scotland (twice), Radio Tay, all the local papers). Overall, the Festival was a remarkable partnership contribution; rangers were very helpful; With PC, Angus Council lunchtime seminars were finalised (it will be helpful, if Angus Council education officer could get in touch.); CL will approach Dennis Dick to see if he would like to be involved in the sub-group. Summit to Sand newsletter is out; receiving a lot of emails asking for help or expertise. <p>→ Promote joint working with organisations</p>	<p>CL</p> <p>CL</p>

	<p>Make sure that, when hired, P&K biodiversity officer takes on some tasks so that CL's workload decreases!</p> <p>→ BARS monitoring - Worked with Stephanie Shaw; proforma will need to be updated by the end of the year and the latest SITA TBAF projects added.</p> <p>→ Holidays and TOIL CL holiday: "7" days underused.</p> <p>→ Contingency - Iain Campbell (permanent TBP Assistant) is being extremely helpful; two temps pre-Christmas were also good.</p> <p><Proposed priorities 2009-10></p> <p>→ Co-ordinate and support the work of the TBP - 2007-2010 Report should include a section about the benefits of biodiversity (MP) - To get an overview, list last two years' projects, funding, partnership, number of involved people (e.g. rangers) and each Council's contribution (BH) - One page summary + more detail would be helpful; should prepare a draft before Steering Group meeting - Important for PR and to convince the local councils to provide more funding</p> <p>→ Promote awareness and enhancement of biodiversity in Tayside - Dundee Sensation exhibition provided some opportunities for PR.</p> <p>→ Maintain the TBP Steering Group - Upland: need more focus, especially relating to overlap with Cairngorm National Park BAP as the Park expands; organise upland meetings. - Tayside Swift Interest Group needs Chair, CL may ask P&K biodiversity officer. - Nestbox Trials: Some boxes are not used due to planning issues, may remove them and use at other sites. - Sand Martin Interest Group needs more input. - Zoom In 2: raising awareness of partnership; allowing more person to person delivery; publicised in Courier - Woodland: aiming to set up a subgroup for orchard (perhaps, include Scottish Enterprise Tayside); CL needs to focus on biodiversity aspects rather than help all. - Tayside Biodiversity Festival 2010: a month-long event would include Scottish Biodiversity Week: try to get placements to assist with management and marketing.</p> <p>→ Promote community involvement - TBAF: CL normally needs 10 days to assist applicants</p> <p>→ Promote joint working - CL will provide more detail about 'Promote biodiversity in local authorities and other agencies' as it states 35 days, e.g. specific activities or breakdown by councils.</p> <p># This is the last year of a three-year period → need overall plan!</p>	CL
5	<p>TBP Website Visitor numbers have been fluctuating; bumble bees, orchards, swifts attracted interest.</p>	
6	<p>FINANCES BH: Budget update for future planning will be sent out before Steering Group meeting. Pointed out that some sub-groups spent less than their allotted budget and some sub-groups do not need money as they are covered by other organisations.</p>	BH
7	<p>TBP beyond March 2010 A meeting with the three Councils took place on 1 May. - The Councils wish to keep funding a Tayside Biodiversity Officer but need to find the</p>	

	<p>necessary additional funds; there should be a joint agreement between three Councils to ensure security for staff</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CL needs admin support; - Preferred location for CL is Perth; P&K Council is one possibility + MP approached Scottish Environment Link and Forestry Commission for other options - BH noted that Steering Group should be aware of Councils' stance and the funding situation. - Include this issue (TBP beyond March 2010) in Steering Group Meeting agenda 	CL
8	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING Wednesday, 5 August 2009 at Perth College</p>	

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