



TAYSIDE BIODIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP

Steering Group Meeting

Tuesday 27 January 2004 at 10.00 a.m.

at Seerad, Boxden Business Park, Lamerkine Drive, Perth, PH1 1RZ

Present:

M Smith (Chair)	DCC
Catherine Lloyd	TBP
John Miskelly	NFUS
Shona Hill	SNH
Christine Hall	SAC
Carol Littlewood	FWAG
Alan Hendry	SEERAD
Mike Strachan	Forestry Commission
Jo Long	SEPA
Mark Simmons	P & KC
Alison Anderson	DCC
Pam Coutts	Angus Council
Liz Garson	SNH
Karl Monday	NTS
Doug Flint	P & KC

Apologies:

M Price	Centre for Mountain Studies
Richard Lockett	FWAG

No	Item	Action
1	Apologies As above.	
2	Minutes of Previous Meeting of 30 October 2003 4.1 Should read "Scottish Forestry Grant Scheme" not "Scottish Bursary Grant Scheme". 4.4. Third paragraph should read "Invasive Species" not "Evasive Species".	
3	Matters Arising There were no matters arising from the minutes.	
4	Sub Group Leaders Reports	
4.1	Woodlands – Mike Strachan A copy of the draft Woodlands Plans are going to Catherine Lloyd in the near future. These were all discussed at the last meeting. Hoping to get others involved i.e., Woodland Trees and Scottish Woodlands. They are looking to meet twice a year. The next planned meeting is on 22 June when there will be a field visit.	
4.2	Farmlands – Christine Hall via Carol Littlewood At the last meeting the Farming Group discussed potential projects and Richard Lockwood and Christine Hall had a subsequent meeting to try to access additional funding. This has not yet been successful and due to lack of time they have not been able to progress projects apart from the Barn Owl project which SNH will fund.	

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	<p>The Group is becoming demoralised, due to the lack of funding. A meeting is organised for April to discuss future funding. Carol Littlewood of the Forfar and Kinross FWAG has applied for European money in the sum of £630,000 but the problem is match funding. The Angus Trust will support Perth & Kinross Quality of Life but the deadline is short. The sum of £200,000 is required and it must be linking existing habitats. Merrill Smith suggested putting in the bid whether they have the full match funding or not.</p> <p>Two HAPS are being processed for the next tranche. One is finished and awaiting feedback. Carol Littlewood will have a draft ready by the end of the month.</p>	CW	
4.3	<p>Uplands – Catherine Lloyd on Behalf of Martin Price</p> <p>The last meeting was postponed but will go ahead in February. There is still no improvement in progress with two outstanding HAPS. The guest speaker at the last meeting was from the Deer Commission for Scotland. A potential Water Vole Project is being considered. There should be another meeting within 4 – 5 weeks. The sub group is working well.</p>		
4.4	<p>Water and Wetlands – Jo Long</p> <p>A meeting was held two weeks ago, which was very constructive with one new member joining the group from the Montrose Rangers. Jo Long reported that they had got one HAP and two SAPS being developed and they should be able to pass out action schedules to persons at the end of the month. There will be two consultation drafts to go out. By the end of Spring there should be 15 applications ready for HAPS and SAPS. It was agreed to have group drafts ready by the end of April. Bids are going through for the River Tay project but the outcome will not be known until the middle of March. Liz Garson gave a general explanation as to where the money is to be used.</p> <p><i>Salmon in the Class Room</i></p> <p>All equipment has been bought and the project is being overseen by Alison Steven. There has been a glitch in the project with regard to taking salmon eggs into the classroom. They are being put back into the river to see if they survive. If this succeeds the project can go ahead.</p>		
4.5	<p>Estuary and Coast – Shona Hill</p> <p>Two weeks ago only five responses had been received with regard to dates for meetings. The group has come to the conclusion that people do not have time to go to meetings. Meetings are only a mechanism to make things happen. After discussion it was decided that for the Coastal Group it is less appropriate to have meetings but more appropriate to have some other form of communication. It was proposed that this be reviewed in the future with regard to communication, what is happening to make things work better and what is appropriate. Each sub group's needs are different.</p>		
4.6	<p>Urban – Alison Anderson</p> <p>The Group had a meeting last week to discuss projects already being worked on. Eight projects are being actioned with the Invasive Species on the Dighty, the next project. The next meeting will be an action meeting to talk about new projects i.e., building an Osprey Platform and nesting sites in Dundee. The next meeting will be held on 21 April. Unfortunately there will not be a representative from Perth and Kinross. Doug Flint and Alison Anderson will discuss to get someone for the next meeting.</p> <p>The group has applied for funding from the Scottish Executive for a Sustainable Action Grant.</p> <p>After discussion, it was agreed that the Biodiversity Action Plan is helpful. It has been able to target certain things and can be referred to for projects. It is a focus for forward planning.</p>		DF/AA

No	Item	Action
5	<p>Financial Update – Merrill Smith The Financial Sub Group has been to date concentrating on established funding for the Biodiversity Co-ordinator's post. As this is now secured, future meetings will try to find funding for projects.</p> <p>The group will be finding financial information and communicating this with the sub groups. It will not be undertaking applications itself.</p>	
6	<p>Education Sub Group – Catherine Lloyd A meeting was held in November with a guest speaker attending from Wave Magazine. Out of a distribution of 67,000 over five local authorities, to all schools, 20,000 are in the Dundee and Angus areas. It costs £600 per article to insert. Propose to include information about the TBAP. Comments were asked for, for future issues.</p> <p>Biodiversity Calendar. The group is keen to take this or the year planner idea forward.</p>	
7	<p>Three Year Review Everyone was happy with the three year review.</p> <p>Once the final changes have been made, a coloured photocopy will be sent out to everyone. Doug Flint stated that when applying for funding he will utilise this document. An annual report is still to be completed. All members will receive two copies and Catherine will print out more if required.</p>	
8	<p>Business Plan – D Flint Catherine Lloyd and Doug Flint followed SNH guidelines on the grant application system to produce the Business Plan.</p> <p>The Partnership still has no formal status. It exists as a voluntary partnership.</p> <p>The main objectives and views for the partnership were considered and formulated together. The structure of the partnership and effectiveness of delivery should be reviewed in the future.</p> <p><i>Developing Awareness</i> Perth & Kinross Council plan to have an Awareness Programme on the TBAP across the Council by the end of this year. Catherine Lloyd and Doug Flint will review the information on the Partnership Development Objectives and report back to a future steering group.</p> <p><i>Structure & Effectiveness</i> It was agreed that the above were one and the same and should be discussed by the partnership to determine the most effective structure we should adopt. Liz Garson was concerned that the next Steering Group Meeting's agenda would be overfull if there is going to be a discussion about the Partnership's aims and objectives as well. After discussion it was decided to go ahead with the plan as it stands.</p> <p>(There was one minor change under Objective 2 – change "complete" to "continue".)</p> <p>It was agreed we would ratify this as the TBAP's Business Plan with two changes as discussed.</p> <p><i>Constitution</i> It was agreed that we should continue as we are without a formal constitution.</p>	CL/DF
9	<p>Biodiversity Co-ordinator's Post – Merrill Smith Merrill Smith had contacted the Partnership Members before the meeting regarding the continuing of Catherine Lloyd in the post of Biodiversity Co-ordinator. Discussion took place round the table regarding the expectation of the post etc. Merrill Smith agreed to send everyone a job description. It was agreed that the Work Plan would be reviewed with reference to the job description.</p> <p>After more discussion it was unanimously agreed that Catherine Lloyd's employment</p>	MS

No	Item	Action
10	<p>would continue.</p> <p>AOCB</p> <p>10.1 Time Table for Monitoring Programme – Liz Garson</p> <p>The time table for the Monitoring Programme was that by 11 March Lead Partners should have completed the next round of monitoring then in March the Sub Groups will undertake their monitoring.</p> <p>In April the Annual Report has to be written based on the actions that are monitored. Catherine Lloyd is planning to get this done next week. Liz Garson suggested sending it out to the lead partners in order to get the floppy discs out to lead partners next week.</p> <p>10.2 Lynn Campbell, the co-ordinator in Clackmannanshire is leaving in June and there will be roughly a two month gap between her departure and a new start.</p> <p>10.3 The AGM is still going ahead on 14 May in Perth</p> <p>10.4 It was agreed to circulate the Annual Report by e.mail.</p> <p>10.5 Perth & Kinross Council will invite the Partner Members along to the Tayside Biodiversity Exhibition. Mark Simmons will get back with a date. The date of the opening is to be advised.</p> <p>11 Date of Next Meeting 27 April 2004 at 10.30 a.m. at Dundee City Council, Committee Room 1, 14 City Square, Dundee</p> <p>Dates of Future Meetings: 2004 – 27 July, 26 October All 10.00 a.m. to 12 Noon All Tuesday 2005 - 25 January, 26 April, 26 July, 25 October</p>	CL