



# TAYSIDE BIODIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP

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## SWIFT & HIRUNDINE INTEREST GROUP SURVEY MAPPING SESSION

Friday, 15 September 2005 - Dundee Botanic Gardens

### NOTE OF MEETING

		ACTION
	<p><b>Present</b> (<i>though not all for all of the time</i>)</p> <p>Clare Darlaston - Concern for Swifts (Scotland)            Catherine Lloyd - Tayside Biodiversity Co-ordinator            Kate Farrer - SEPA            Charlie McPherson - Scone resident            Danielle Muir - Perth and Kinross Ranger Service            Craig Borland - Angus Ranger Service            Lawson Grant - Forfar resident            David Ferguson - Dundee Ranger Service            David Shepherd - Dundee Ranger Service</p>	[SNH, RSPB and SOC should perhaps have been included?]
	<p><b>Apologies</b></p> <p>Carol Littlewood - Angus Farming &amp; Wildlife Advisory Group            Ron Youngman - Bird Recorder, Perth &amp; Kinross            Doreen Bell - Scottish Water            Andrew Rodger - Private Architect            Vicky Hilton - National Trust for Scotland            Jan Hendry - Scottish Wildlife Trust</p>	
	<p><i>Copied to:</i>            George Potts, Dundee Ranger Service; David Hughes, Dundee Ranger Service; Dave Henderson, Dundee Museum; Les Banks, Dundee City Council (Planning); Alison Anderson, DDC (Urban Sub-Group Leader); John Porter, Dundee Sustainable Construction Working Group; Tom McGrath, Angus Ranger Service; Ian Ford, Broughty Ferry Environmental Project; Pam Coutts, Angus Council (Planning); Ann Lolley, Broughty Ferry Environmental Project; Dan Carmichael, Angus Bird Recorder; Chris McGregor, SNH (Airlie); Alistair Godfrey, P&amp;KC Ranger Service, Mark Simmons, Perth Museum; David Williamson, P&amp;KC (Environment Services); Esther Rogers-Nicol, P&amp;KC (Planning); Uwe Stoneman, SWT; Bruce Anderson, RSPB; BTO; SOC; Morag Green, Eco-Congregation.</p>	
B.1	<p>The purpose of the meeting was</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to plot Swift Town Survey results on a variety of maps</li> <li>discuss AOCB</li> </ul>	
B.2.	There was a good response to the survey. A total number of recorders and records	

	<p>needs to be ascertained for a future report.</p> <p>Could each “volunteer co-ordinator/collector” provide a brief note about this - it would be interesting to know how many (approx) records came in from the public as a response to the articles. One or two may be swallows - as reported in barns or in remote farms. Some records may need to be verified.</p> <p>CL will hold all records until they can be entered into a database. She will ask each local authority to enter the appropriate information into their GIS.</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>CL</p>
B.3	Perth and Kinross (part): Charlie McPherson: 6 surveyors - records at 19 places, including Perth as one (although there are several locations there).	
B.4.	<i>Perth and Kinross (part): Daniele Muir -</i>	<i>DM</i>
B.5.	<i>Catherine Lloyd (Tayside-wide) -</i>	<i>CL</i>
B.6.	<i>Kate Farrer -</i>	<i>KF</i>
B.7.	<i>Angus records: Craig Borland -</i>	<i>CB</i>
B.8.	<p><i>Dundee records: David Ferguson (and David Hughes?) -</i></p> <p><i>(please also photocopy old records and survey results and pass to CL)</i></p>	<p><i>DF/David Hughes</i></p> <p><i>Pass survey results to CL</i></p>
B.9.	<p><i>Clare Darlaston -</i></p> <p><i>(CD will check e-mailed records from various people)</i></p>	<i>CD to submit records</i>
B.10	<i>Broughty Ferry records are absent. (CL to contact Anne Lolley)</i>	<i>CL /Ann Lolley</i>
B.11	The RSPB were provided with survey forms. SOC/SNH were not targeted for the survey. Should we note on the contacts list who are members of these organisations? CD to submit last year’s records.	CL/CD
	<b>MAPPING SESSION</b>	
B.12	<p>Red dots were placed on OS maps for Perthshire - NB we need another colour for feeding areas that are not also possible nesting areas - such as river/loch/park areas. More specific areas were noted on the town plan of Dundee. (We need another for Perth and perhaps Crieff/Comrie).</p> <p>However this does need to be backed up by a data base. CD suggests we all use the same format so that databases can be merged.</p>	CD to include a copy of data base page - could others please comment if they have other ideas.

	<p>It may be that where there are several records for one place/street etc, not all repeat records need to be on the data base.</p> <p>All asked to record places (settlements) where they are certain that there are <u>no</u> <u>swifts</u> - on the basis of residence or several visits.</p>	ALL
B.13	It would be useful to note key buildings - such as Castle Carrick on Loch Goil, which is the only site for swift nest sites in the vicinity.	ALL
B.14	It was apparent at the meeting that there were some surveying gaps this year. It was agreed that one area, the Angus coast, would be additionally targeted in 2006. CB to take forward. CL to ask Angus FWAG if a short article could be included in a future Angus FWAG Newsletter to ask members if they know of any swift nesting sites.	CB CL to ask Angus FWAG for help.
B.15	Please note that anecdotes and general observations are also useful - e.g. the occurrence of 5 swifts still around one nest site on 22-23 Aug. this year (where was that?) and LG/CD have noted more high flying/feeding this year than usual with swifts descending later and for less time.	ALL
	<b>PROJECTS</b>	
B.16	<p>CD reported back on the interest of Hillcrest Housing Association and the agreement to include provision for swifts at Burnside Mills and Lawside Works (Dundee).</p> <p>Hillcrest will also include provision for swifts in its forthcoming design guide. CD to keep DF and DS advised of progress. Also other projects in Glasgow, North Lanarkshire and South Lanarkshire were noted - two in particular which were initiated by local residents.</p>	CD
B.17	Bracken Primary School, Forfar - a teacher has requested swift bricks in new building (CD noted only Bracken Primary School, St Mary's NW Dundee, and Wellbrae, Forfar - can someone confirm details?	CB/LG can you add a few details to this?
B.18	Any news of the Monart housing development (Perth) nest boxes?	Esther Rogers-Nicoll, PKC
B.19	As Glasgow City Council now has its weekly Planning List on line, CD is scanning these for applications in swift priority areas and sending a letter to the Director of Planning (copy available on request from CD); this is not time-consuming. No response has yet been received. Is this something others maybe able to take on board within local authority areas?	ALL
	<b>PUBLICITY AND MATERIALS</b>	
B.20	CD had issued CL's Town Swift Survey poster as a base to similar ones for Galloway and Kirkintoloch. CL has also circulated to Fife, Stirling and Clacks LBAPs for their own use if they wish.	
B.21	Leaflet/survey forms. CL pointed out that the posters and leaflets had to be done without a dedicated budget. It was suggested that, particularly having demonstrated the success of this year's survey, funding might be sought from RSPB, SOC and SNH for next year's printing. Aim to have these ready for Easter 2006 to coincide with the Dundee Spring Flower Festival.	CL to apply for funding
B.22	A 'swift theme' was discussed as a possibility for the Rangers' display at the 2006	DS to discuss with George

	Dundee Spring Flower Festival. DS said that large-scale maps and survey forms could be provided and the 'wildlife roof' demonstration model could be featured. CL said she would be happy to link with such a display. Survey results and a further swift themed display could also be featured at the September Flower Festival.	Potts
B.23	CL said that BTCV had helped make nestboxes for a biodiversity project in Stirling and that this could perhaps be replicated in Dundee.	CL to contact BTCV
B.24	CL advised everyone of the BTO's annual National Nest Box Week (mid-February) and suggested a Tayside-wide article be prepared to coincide with this regarding the importance of the size and placing of the entrance to swift nest boxes.	CD
B.25	CD noted articles in BTO, RSPB, Herald and Scotsman - dates were Herald - Feb 7 ; Scotsman magazine - July 16.	
B.26	It is recognised that the Concern for Swifts (Scotland) leaflet is badly out of date. CD needs to apply for funding to reprint. She has received a promise of £100 from the RSPB, and would like the other half or a proportion (i.e. £50 - £100 ) to come from developer or building company as sponsorship. CB/LG will approach. If anyone has any contacts, please contact CD.	CB/LG CD
B.27	More copies of the Dutch nest site conservation videos were requested.	Contact CD direct for copies. CD to contact Chris Mulder
B.28	CD has nearly completed the rough text of the Good Practice document and will circulate ASAP for comment.	CD
B.29	CD has prepared a draft contract clause relating to the possible discovery of swift nest sites during a contract. Aimed specifically at North Lanarkshire Council, the document could be adapted for other contracts.	Contact CD for details
B.30	Edinburgh City Council has issued a consultation design guide relating to species on the LBAP. It is suggested that while the planning section is very useful the section relating to swifts has one or two mistakes and should perhaps not be issued to interested people yet; CD hopes the mistakes will be corrected.	Copies are available from CL
B.31	There was also a general point made that photographs used in information leaflets, etc. should be fully credited, as should plans drawn up for specific projects. Photos of projects should also identify the project.	ALL
B.32	CD has approached RSPB (twice) to suggest they could produce guidance on the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004 in relation to swifts (and probably other species as well). Her proposal has been declined on both occasions (contact was Duncan Orr-Ewing) - it is felt that this is important, as contractors on the whole are willing to help if they know what to look for and what to do. C. McP suggested that he might be able to assist.	CD to e-mail C.McP with details.
	<b>CONTACTS ETC</b>	
B.33	CL reported that the Perthshire Housing Association had asked advice for biodiversity enhancement at one of their Perth developments. All suggestions for the inclusion of integral swift nestboxes had been dismissed. CL has provided general information to the PHA and will follow up again in due course.	CL
B.34	DS has connections with Communities Scotland - could he find out who to	DS to contact CD please

	approach re CS adopting a general principal of agreement with swift nest site conservation/creation where appropriate - as this would be a useful "lever" when approaching Housing Associations.	
B.35	As above - it would be useful to compile a list of significant contacts for Tayside - CD gives her below: could everyone add to it if possible? If you have details concerning planners, architects, developers, housing associations, please give brief details <i>[these will only be shared between CD/CL and will not appear on any list that is circulated]</i>	ALL
	<b>AOCB</b>	
B.36	CD thanked CL for co-ordinating the 2005 survey and for arranging the meeting - she thought it was very good to meet up with so many others at a super venue.  CL thanked Alasdair Hood of the Dundee Botanic Gardens for the provision of a free meeting room and to Alison Anderson of Dundee City Council for funding the lunch and refreshments.	
B.37	It was proposed that the next meeting of the Swift Interest Group should take place ahead of the new survey year, i.e. March or April 2006; date and venue to be advised in the New Year.	CD/CL

### **CONTACT DETAILS LISTING**

*Please add to these details and return them to CL. Please include either e-mail or telephone, plus address if appropriate.*

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