



TAYSIDE BIODIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP

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Water & Wetlands Sub-Group

Minutes of Meeting held on Monday 22nd September 2008
 Tay 2 meeting room, SEPA Perth (Whitefriars)

Present:

Catherine Lloyd (CL)	Tayside Biodiversity Partnership
Ian Lorimer (Minute-taker) (IL)	SEPA
Bruce Campbell (Chair) (BC)	SEPA
Susan Veitch (SV)	PKC
Nikki MacIntyre (NM)	SNH

Apologies: Ross Gardiner, **RG** (FRS), Alastair Steven, **AS** (SSE), David Summers, **DS** (TDSFB).

1.	<p>Introductions & Apologies</p> <p>BC welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were noted.</p>
2.	<p>Minutes of previous meeting</p> <p>Minutes from the last meeting were accepted without change.</p>
3.	<p>Riparian Seminar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Title suggested by BC accepted by group – Sustainable River Management for Biodiversity, Fish and People • Date 29th Jan 2009 • SEPA to produce flyer for event and forward to CL to advertise on TBP website – Action IL • Previous delegate list to be circulated to group to check for additions / removals – Action CL • AS has secured the bulk of funding necessary for the Seminar and the TBAF will hopefully be able to cover any shortfall. • Trevor Hastings to be approached about chairing the Seminar – Action RG • IL to check Birnam booking arrangements with AS. <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jenny Mant – RRC – Confirmed by BC • David Gilvear – Stirling Uni. – Confirmed by BC • Roy Richardson – SEPA - Action IL • Mike Donaghy – WWF – Action SV • David Gowans – Moray Council - Action SV • Bob Morrison - Action SV • Calum Sinclair – RAFTS- Action DS <p>CL hopes to be able to administer the booking forms and delegate packs if the TBP admin officer vacancy can be filled in time.</p>
4.	<p>Updates on action proformas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scottish Golf Environment Group – Golf Course ponds project reports to coastal group – should this not be more appropriate to be brought in to W & W – CL to investigate.

	<p>SUDS – SEPA to provide input to seminar on Fri 20th Feb in Forfar. Biodiversity & Greenspace – Dusty Gedge – Green roofs, Ed Mayer – Swifts in Buildings. Paul Schaefer – CIRIA manual – Can they arrange a workshop in Scotland? SV to approach. SV asked whether there is a very basic SUDS Ponds guidance document aimed at developers who seem to be struggling to put good practice in to place. IL to ask Neil McLean (SEPA) about what guidance is available.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water Voles and Mink Project – Kindrogan project on – going. No progress to date with Kinross – shire vole and mink survey. • FW Pearl Mussel Awareness –Raising and Translocation Project – No translocation to be undertaken due to juvenile mussels being found in the Lochay and Dochart. • Salmon in the Classroom – Report for 2008 to be circulated to the group – 8 schools took part this year on a rotational basis. Hope to take this to secondary schools but this will depend on continued input by the Countryside Ranger service following funding changes. • River Tay Tributary Improvement Initiative – Inchewan Burn project completed. Need to review list of other projects – Remove Dochart? Kinnaird Burn surveyed by RRC and no recommendations for intervention were highlighted as the Burn is recovering naturally. The Petrol station owners are looking into the future of the engineering works at the bottom, especially the Gabion mattress. Action for all to suggest candidates for improvements. It is thought that improvements to a weir on the Coupar Burn are to be instigated by TDSFB. • Otter / mammal road deaths – CL is now attending the Scottish trunk roads forum which comprises Transerv, BEAR, LBAP officers and the local authorities. Mammal road death survey in place but scope needs to be widened. Local surveys can feed in to this. • Perth Lade enhancement Project – No progress to date on this. CL pointed out that if sand martin wall is to be incorporated then this needs to be in place over the winter. Repairs to the weir on the R. Almond will need to be progressed first. SV to check on progress. • R. Earn Japanese Knotweed Eradication and Habitat Improvement – Update to be sought from DS. • Tayside Mesotrophic Lochs Project – New design for tea towels to advertise project being finalised.
5.	<p>Steering Group Update Invasive plants seminar at Battlby on 11th Nov. Minutes to come but little happening at present. Farming and Upland groups to merge. Agreed by group that Coast and Estuaries group should not merge with Water and Wetlands. Suggested that Karen Phillips give an update next year on the Esk's.</p>
6.	<p>AOCB – Biodiversity Festival, 1-10th May 2009 , Dundee, 'What on earth is biodiversity'.</p>
7.	<p>Hand over of Chair –</p> <p>BC is taking up a new post and has handed the chair of the group over to IL. The group wished to express their thanks to Bruce for his valued input to the group.</p>
8.	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>Next meeting to be held on 24th February 2009, IL to contact AS about venue.</p>