

**MINUTES SEFTON COAST PARTNERSHIP BOARD
MEETING
31 January 2008 – FORMBY LIBRARY**



Present

Ted Jackson MBE (TJ) - Chair (Sefton Coast Partnership)
Andrew Brockbank (AB) – National Trust
Andrew Hall (AH) - Sefton Council (PERD)
Rajan Paul (RP)– Sefton Council (Leisure Services)
Jen Lewis (JL) - Chair History & Archaeology Task Group
Dave McAleavy (DMc)– Nature Conservation and Shoreline Management Task Group
John Houston (JH) - SCP
Ralph Gregson MBE (RG)
Alice Kimpton (MD) -Natural England
Sam Alston (SM) – Natural England
Lord Fearn – Sefton Council
Cllr Bob Roberts – Sefton Council
David Taylor (DT)– Golf Clubs
Peter Sandman – (PS) Sefton Council (Tourism)
Tony Baker (TB) - RSPB
Rachel Northover (RN) - Sefton Council (Coast and Countryside)
Jim Ramsay (JR) - Quartermaster NWRFCA
Annie Worsley (AW) – Edge Hill University and Research Task Group
Paul Nolan (PN) – Mersey Forest

Apologies

Ceri Jones – Sefton Council (PERD)
Major Bill Hunter MBE BEM TD - NWRFCA
Cllr. Ian Moncur - Sefton Council
Cllr Tattersall - Sefton Council
Lorna Lander – Sefton Council (PERD)
Graham Lymbery – Sefton Council (Coastal Defense)
Carole Carroll – Merseywaterfront
Peter Moreton – Merseywaterfront
Will Moody – Sefton Council (PERD)

1. Apologies	Action
Apologies were read out and the chair welcomed Jim Ramsay.	
2. Minutes of 18th October 2007	

Agreed	
3. Matters Arising from the Minutes	
Eurosites Workshop conf was held with the help of NWCF and the SCP and proved very successful. Well attended. Good range of attendees. JH attended on behalf of the SCP.	
4. Landscape Partnership	
<p>TJ not proposing to make changes to Board membership at this stage. New partners possibly in future. JH reported on meeting with Lottery Project Officer, very positive (TJ, DMc and JH attended). JH produced a full progress report together with a summary of the scheme. See attached.</p> <p>Audience Plan – lottery officer requested more evidence of workshops and consultation to be sure we know the audience.</p> <p>Landscape Strategy – will show Board’s vision to be completed by JH and will require a special meeting to be called early in March.</p> <p>Through Tasks Groups – to give a portfolio of documents.</p> <p>Summary of Scheme – explains the 4 themes. 20 projects in total at various stages of development. JH suggested need to bottom out and agree the vision, aim.</p> <p>Scheme boundary = core zone and wider zone to reflect landscape.</p> <p>Management structure = 1 x FT manager, 1 x FT project officer and 1 x PT admin. Plus DMc as lead contact. Reporting will be via Leisure and Tourism Committee. A draft memo of understanding is required for all partners to sign up to.</p> <p>TJ asked who manages people on short term contracts? DMc replied that SMBC is the financially accountable body. VAT questions and procurement laws need to be considered. AB felt all this would be covered under memo of understanding. Legal advice is required as partners will need to sign up essentially</p>	JH

<p>to a 10 year contract.</p> <p>RG questioned amount to be spent on admin costs over project delivery. Also revenue for maintaining staff for the 10 years. JH answered that each project would consider sustainability within it, to be borne by the partners. DMc added that the staffing proposal is lower than other LPS and so not excessive. Accommodation costs will be looked at - using ADC will help keep these low.</p> <p>DMc asked that work programme not be agreed at this meeting as not complete enough yet. TJ – partnership agreement to ensure that partners who sign up to deliver projects are not responsible for those projects which may not be achieved. Suggested that Sefton legal be approached to provide advice. DMc said that he understood that all the Board would need to sign up and not just the project leaders. Risks would be looked at before project agreed.</p> <p>RG asked about the waiting period between lottery decisions ‘ - will get a planning grant then full funding start for the 3 year delivery phase. Staff not in post in between. AB asked about double counting for core work – JH said would have distinct outputs for this.</p> <p>March meeting, board members and others who want to be involved. DT asked about Golf Clubs and other private landowners. JH suggested some projects would cover them such as nature conservation and interpretation/publications.</p>	
5. Nature Conservation Strategy	
<p>Update from DMc. 8 week consultation period begun in September. Didn't get to Formby Area Committee due to circumstances beyond our control. Will go in Feb. now.</p> <p>Report to Formby will be slightly different to Crosby and Southport as now have a new position statement from NE on Dune Restoration Project. This was circulated to the Board members.</p> <p>AK asked if should present Pos Stat. to committees before NCS is taken. Sam (Natural England) added</p>	

<p>that DRP is only one part of the more important NCS document. (Natural England's approach has evolved as a new organisation and wants to bring clarity to the situation and ensure people understand the difference between DRP and Woodland Plan work). Sam took up Nick's suggestion from the last minutes, a map based approach or visualisation of what the landscape would look like. Lord Fearn said Position Statement should be circulated to committee members before the meeting.</p> <p>TJ said land managers were all prepared to sign up to the NCS as it stood at last meeting. Individual projects will be taken to cabinet at a future time. AB welcomed Natural England's further version. Felt that all the projects within the NCS would need further consideration before being presented to committee. But the Strategy overall must be accepted!!</p> <p>RP said 'NE will no longer clear fell' should go a long way with Formby members. Felt that Board members should attend the FAC to support the NCS so that bodies such as LWT can be seen to be behind it.</p> <p>Cllr Roberts said that trust had to be gained from scratch; Sam agreed that NE had got it wrong, PR wise, in the past.</p> <p>DMc to send details for meeting to Board Members and all who can attend please do. AK to circulate to the Area Committee, append it to the committee report and have it at the door, suggested Lord Fearn. He also suggested that the PS be signed NE.</p>	<p>DMc AK</p>
<p>6. Annual Forum 2008</p>	
<p>Annual Forum 28th June, Southport Floral Hall Programme being developed by LLL TG, to consider Audience / Training Plan, MF, CLC projects etc.</p> <p>Volunteer Awards – form circulated. Closing date 2nd May 2008.</p>	
<p>7. Annual Report</p>	
<p>AH reminded everyone to submit information for 2007 by end of February 2008.</p>	<p>ALL</p>

8. Radar Tower	
<p>AH gave a brief update. Feasibility, consultancy work going on. Report went to CAC. Mersey basin Campaign leading. Interest from MWRP. All Board members will receive an invite to a meeting. DMC said land around the Tower even if building does not go ahead would probably come over to the Crosby Coastal Park (Leisure). There would be an impact on sea angling; H&S etc. probably take these issues up through the Beach Consultation Group.</p>	
9. Another Place	
<p>AH reported twenty of the one hundred statues are currently in storage. These await a licence from DEFRA's marine consent unit, agreement from the nature conservation group and possibly planning permission before they can be relocated. At present its not possible to say when the necessary consents will be in place, but we are working on these. We have recently secured £200,000 for the statues maintenance. We hope to secure another £158,000 shortly for their relocation and for the erection of permanent safety markers.</p>	
10. Task Group Upates	
<p>NCS – see above.</p> <p>A&H – JL reported papers from conference at printers. Hard copy will be available Mid March. 1000 copies @ £20. Launch possibly at Forum. Agreed. DMC also suggested at the September Conference. NAW 8-10 events.</p> <p>Research – AW outlined 3 major conferences. NERC funded research - AW involved in this. Flood programme £673k research project looking at flood risk potential in Sefton and impacts of climate change and modelling.</p> <p>Student conference at Edge Hill in May.</p> <p>Imcor – European funded project.</p> <p>Academic Research Season – any student undergrad project ideas please pass to the Research Group.</p> <p>AW suggested that the relationship between</p>	<p>RN/AW</p>

<p>geomorphology, climatological drivers, nature and the dynamic dune situation is still poorly understood. (Note: would AW present something at the Forum on this?). Noted that AK had been on both the politics show and Countryfile, getting the message out.</p> <p>Cllr Roberts mentioned article in the Herald by Clare Curtis Thomas regarding coastal defences at Hightown. Response was that a study looking at defence options is out to consultation (GL leading).</p> <p>LLL – RN - as discussed – Forum, Events Programme, LPS projects, all to be discussed at next meeting on 4th February.</p> <p>T&C – RG - SNC website redesigned.</p> <p>MWRP - signage bid on reserve list and Coastal path shortlisted Marketing plan finalised.</p> <p>Coastlines – NH co-ordinating the 2 editions.</p> <p>AH mentioned Quality Coast best practice bid and if successful the final event would be held in Sefton in 2011?</p> <p>Woodland Owners – PN – Forest Plan review underway. NSCLC/land managers work – presentation to Task Group was very well received and will go on Mersey Forest Website. Looking at repeating this annually.</p>	
11. AOB	
<p>Ceri Jones leaving end of March and Major Doug Farrington retired as Conservation Officer at NWRCFA</p>	
12. Date of Next Meeting	
<p>Date for Diaries - Next Board Meetings 10am 13th March, ADC 10 am 22nd May, Formby Library 10am 9 October, Formby Library</p>	

