

Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries European Marine Site Relevant Authorities Group

Notes of Meeting held on Wednesday 11th May 2006
At Wildfowl and Wetlands Centre, Penclacwydd, Llanelli

1. Present:

Deb Hill	CC Swansea	Trevor Theobald	Pembrokeshire CC
Rebecca Wright	CCW	David Poulter	Carmarthenshire C.C
Kate Collins	EAW	Jane Hodges	PCNPA
Phil Coates	SWSFC		

Apologies for absence:

Jeff Morgan	Dwr Cymru	Ziggy Otto	CCW
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2. Minutes of the previous meeting, held on 2nd March 2006 were approved subject to the following:

- i) In 7. Should read: Whilst budget pressures have eased over previous crisis levels, SWSFC services are under intense pressure eg calls to regulate Three Rivers
- ii) in 7. Should read Joint Unitary Development Plan.

3. Matters Arising

- i) Re.4. Reg33 package are being revised inline with the comments received so that all packages will be to the same style, deadline TBC
- ii) Re.5. JH was still unable to confirm PCNPA contribution of £1500 and would inform DH. **Action JH**
- iii) Re. 6. Panels were shown to the group. They were welcomed, albeit that they were a little too wordy.

4. Appointment of Project Officer

The agreed time scales were adhered to and DH thanked the sub-group involved with the interview process.

Interviews were carried out on the 5th May, 5 candidates were interviewed and the standard of applicants was high, the appointment is in progress.

DH to chase whether letters were sent to unsuccessful candidates after short listing. **Action DH**

5. Management Scheme

i. Work Programme

- Its was agreed that the priority for the RAGs work programme was to deliver the management scheme within 2 years, as this is the period for which funding is secured.
- RW to circulate HD guidance to the group so that we can refresh what we are expected to produce. Also to ask if CCW would give a talk to the group on the above. **Action RW**
- The general feeling was to have a short issues document with a short consultation period. This would involve 3 months (June-Dec) in which to finish off activities database and GIS maps with a view to having a draft by September using the stake holder group for public involvement, then hold a liaison group meeting in December.
- RW agree to review the work programme and email to the group for comment before the next meeting. **Action RW**
- It was decided the group would meet once a month during the project officer's probation period, this would then change to what is considered appropriate.
- Liaison opportunities of RAG Chairs & project officers for EMSs in Wales was discussed.

ii. Management of Project officer

- KC to investigate the possibility of a desk in EAW Haverfordwest office, for a couple of day a week. **Action KC**
- DP offered the use of CCC's meetings room.
- DP to investigate the possibility of a room in CCC for a couple of days a week. **Action DP**
- DH to explore the possibility of a laptop for the officer at City & Council of Swansea.
Action DH
- It was noted that the project officer would have to be in Swansea to undertake website maintenance and for use of GIS programmes.
- Additional costs of IT, travel and mobile phone require further consideration
- Training opportunities need to be identified and any PPE required.

6. Review of Issues and Activities Documents

DH had still not received any comments on the issues and activities documents, it was agreed that this would now be taken over by the Project Officer.

7. Partner Updates

CCW: RW indicated that a public inquiry into sand dredging at Helwick Bank would be held on 20th June for 2½ weeks in Swansea.

CCC: DP secondment on wind farms will continue for a further year, however this does not allow him to assist in coastal matters which he would raise internally ie Isabel Macho – ecologist, had expressed an interest.

There was storm damage to a section of the millennium coastal path.

PCC: TT reports that the JUDP still on-going.

8. Any Other Business

i) Two government consultations have been announced that will look at amending the transposition of the Habitats Directive in England and Wales, and the transposition of the Wild Birds Directive and Habitats Directive beyond UK territorial waters, the offshore Marine Conservation Regulations.

ii) Gower AONB 50th Anniversary went ahead with lot of media coverage of the EMS

iii) A vice chair has not been elected, to be discussed at next meeting

9. Date of Next Meeting

to be held at the Wetlands Centre on:

12th June 2006, commencing at 13.30

14th July 2006, commencing at 13.30

15th August 2006, commencing at 13.30