

Minutes of meeting of the Environment Thematic Group of West Lancashire LSP

Natural Environment Sub Group

11th March 2010

Present: Richard Small (Chair) – Liverpool John Moores University
Tina Iball – WLBC, Environment
Steve Kent – WLBC, Countryside
Dominic Rigby – LCC, Countryside
Dave Dunlop – Wildlife Trust
Norman Pickavance - Edge Hill University

Apologies: Tim Graham – Wildlife Trust
Fiona Cruchley – LCC, Environment
Gillian Whitfield - WLBC, Planning Policy
Peter Jepson – LCC, Ecology

	Action
<p>1. <u>Introductions and apologies</u></p> <p>RS welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending. RS introduced Norman Pickavance as a new member to the group. Norman works as the Grounds Manager at Edge Hill University.</p>	
<p>2. <u>Minutes of the last meeting</u></p> <p>The minutes of the last meeting were agreed to be a true record.</p> <p>DR responded to the query raised by Dave Hall at the last meeting regarding national coastal footpaths. DR informed the group that the coastal footpaths along the Ribble Estuary are well defined. There is a gap in the coastal network at Hundred End which is currently being investigated.</p> <p>RS enquired if Tracey Jardine received any 'environmental' type applications to the Give it A Go Competition. TI has subsequently enquired about this but all information is currently confidential.</p>	TI
<p>3. <u>ETG Action Plan Progress Updates</u></p> <p>TI informed the group that it's important to ensure the action plan progress report is fully up to date as we come to the end of the financial year. She encouraged members to report on actions completed, provide timescales for those still ongoing and raise any issues that might make some actions undeliverable. The Action Plan will then be revised for 2010-11.</p> <p>Members of the group provided updates on some of the actions which can be found in the accompanying action plan progress update document. TI requested all members add to this document as required and return before the end of the month.</p>	All

	DR raised the issue that lots of other work is going on through partners who are unable to attend this meeting e.g. Gorse Hill Nature Reserve, WWT, RSPB, Woodland Trust etc. DR will try to incorporate this through his partnership working with these organisations.	DR
4.	<p><u>NI 188 Climate Change Adaptation</u></p> <p>TI informed the group that she is currently undertaking risk assessments and business continuity plans to prepare Council services for the projected changes in climate now and in the future. This work will also be extended to involve LSP partners and would like the group to think about how this relates to the natural environment within West Lancashire.</p> <p>Dave Dunlop circulated some information produced by Natural England: Responding to the impacts of climate change on the natural environment: Lancashire Amoundness Plain. This will need to be looked at and applied at a local level.</p>	TI/DD
5.	<p><u>BHS and LNCS Site Surveys</u></p> <p>TI informed the group that the Lancashire Natural Environment Service is now up and running with ecologists in place at LCC who are starting to survey priority BHS sites this year. Those being prioritised are those in Council ownership or those required to inform the LDF.</p> <p>2 LNCS sites have also been prioritised as they are required to inform the LDF, which will be surveyed this year with money received from DCLG. TI is currently pulling together a brief. SK requested that Hunters Hill also be included if funding allows, TI to investigate.</p>	TI
6.	<p><u>Any Other Business</u></p> <p>SK raised the Woodlands from Waste project which entails the wooding of landfill sites on Platt Lane and Mill Dam Lane, utilising organic growth medium derived from waste. Could come under objectives A, C and D.</p> <p>NP requested a list of abbreviations used for organisations before the next meeting.</p>	
7.	<p><u>Date of next meeting</u></p> <p>TI to arrange electronically in June. Plenty of notice to be provided.</p>	TI