

SEVERN ESTUARY PARTNERSHIP

Joint Advisory Committee Meeting



11.00am-1.00pm, Tuesday 10th November 2009, Chepstow Hotel, Chepstow

Minutes

ACTION

Attendees (28)

George Ashworth, Monmouthshire County Council (SEP MG Chair)
 Rhoda Ballinger, Cardiff University
 Chris Barrow, Bristol City Council
 Derek Biddie, Forest of Dean District Council
 John Buttivant, Environment Agency South West
 Hannah Dineen, Cardiff County Council
 Stephen Foster, E-On
 Emily Greenall – Countryside Council for Wales
 James Harris, Monmouthshire County Council (SECG Chairman)
 Jean Hanks, Quedgeley Parish Council
 Sue Howard, Countryside Council for Wales
 Sue Hughes, Glamorgan - Gwent Archaeological Trust
 Ian Kear, Stroud District Council
 Bill Kelloway, Cardiff Council
 Richard Lloyd, Newport City Council
 John Marks, Vale of Glamorgan Council
 Christine Marsh, Severn Estuary Partnership (SEP)
 Rhys Morgan, Environment Agency Wales
 Jonathan Mullard, Severn Estuary Partnership
 Rob Niblett, Gloucestershire County Council
 Charlotte Pagendam – Natural England
 Paul Parker, Severn Estuary Partnership (SEP)
 Chris Pearce, E-On
 Rebecca Seaman, Somerset County Council
 David Shatford, Member of the public
 Ken Tatem, Environment Agency SW
 Humphrey Temperley, North Devon and Somerset Coastal Group
 Cllr Peter Tyzack, South Gloucestershire Council – SEP JAC Chairman

1 Welcome

PT

Peter Tyzack Welcomed delegates to the Joint Advisory Committee meeting.

Apologies for Absence

Tim Farr - Chairman, Severn - Trent RFDC
 Dean Jackson-Johns – Caldicot & Wentlooge Levels IDB
 Eve Leegwater – Environment Agency
 Don Metcalf -
 Adrian Evans – Vale of Glamorgan

Minutes of the Last Meeting (12th May 2009) & Matters Arising

Minutes of the last JAC meeting were approved as a true record. There were no

matters arising

No.	Action	Person	Progress
01/09	PP to look into SEP involvement in Mermaid Quay Rally 10 th -12 th July 2009	PP	Complete
02/09	SEP to finalise and distribute 'Forward SEP Meeting Timetable'	JM	Complete

2 Estuary Groups – Common Platform

2.1 Association of Severn Estuary Relevant Authorities (ASERA) progress report

CM & SH

Christine Marsh (ASERA Officer)

Christine Marsh introduced herself as the new ASERA Implementation Officer and gave an update on the work that had taken place over the past 4 months to re-launch the management scheme for the European Marine Site to include the SAC designation and update the SPA and RAMSAR designations. Christine provided an update on the workshop which took place on the 23rd September and the ongoing work with the relevant authorities to update the activity proformas to meet the deadline of the 11th December 2009. The ASERA Management Group Meeting took place in the afternoon and will be reported separately.

Sue Howard from Countryside Council for Wales gave a brief update on the status of the Severn Estuary SAC designation. The designation has been accepted by Europe; however CCW and NE are awaiting confirmation from DEFRA in order to be able to formally declare the site as internationally important for its habitats and fish species.

2.2 Severn Estuary Coastal Group (SECG) progress report

DH

David Harris (Chairman of the SECG)

Dave Harris offered a brief update on the progress with the Severn SMP2. Key stakeholder meetings took place in June and August at Penarth, Bristol and Gloucester. The public consultation commenced on 5th October and is open until the 10th January 2010, all documents are available to the public on the SECG website, the Policy Statement document has been split into 16 theme areas to facilitate reading. Stakeholders are able to respond online, in hard copy or via email. Elected Member meetings are taking place prior to the open public consultation exhibitions, on the 11th, 12th and 13th November in Penarth, Bristol and Gloucester respectively. Responses from the consultation will feed into the final plan in January 2010. The expected date for the final sign off of the plan is June 2010, however this is dependant on formal approval being given from each local authority, the EA, DEFRA, CCW, NE and WAG.

The Flood Risk Management Strategy is the implementation tool for the shoreline management plan; it will determine appropriate policy and implementation levels for the estuary and is being developed by the EA 1 year in arrears of the SMP2.

2.3 North Devon & Somerset Coastal Group (NDSCG) progress report

HT

Humphrey Temperley gave an update from the North Devon & Somerset Coastal

Group. Following the 2 rounds of informal consultations, and the existing formal consultation, local authorities have a better understanding of coastal erosion budgets, therefore now is a good time to apply to the EA for project funding.

At present, the Bristol Channel Coastal Group incorporates three sectoral coastal groups, namely; SECG, ND&SCG and S&CBCG. These three groups continue to meet however the wider Bristol Channel Coastal Group adds value by bringing together these sectoral groups.

2.4 Bristol Channel Yachting Association (BCYA)

DS

Don Sutherland (Chair of BCYA) and the Royal Yachting Associations representative for South West England sent his apologies.

3 SEP Management Group Update

GA & JM

George Ashworth reminded everyone that two Management Group meetings and a forum had taken place since the last JAC, all had been very successful.

The draft Strategic Business Plan is in its final stages of formulation before it goes online for consultation.

The Management Group will shortly be meeting with Chris Parry and Jane Davidson to find out more about the Marine Bill. The Severn Estuary Partnership will be able to offer corroborative thinking on joint issues.

The Partnership is currently going through a new phase and more members are needed in order to ensure that the partnership is successfully involved in the sustainable future of the estuary.

Jonathan Mullard gave a short update on the Partnership, highlighting progress over the last six months and the outcomes from the workshop at the last JAC day in May 2009. Jonathan also outlined potential ways forward for the Partnership which included a review of the Strategy for the Severn Estuary and a baseline State of the Severn report. He then moved on to introduce a workshop session which presented an opportunity for JAC members to steer the direction of the Partnership's Strategic Business Plan.

The Workshops consisted of four groups exploring the following agreed roles of SEP and outlining the actions and outcomes they would like to see delivered over the five years of the Plan. There were:

- Establishing a Set of Principles
- Acting as a Co-ordinating Body
- Promoting and Publicising
- Adding Value and Filling Gaps

The conclusions of these workshop sessions will directly feed into the production of the Severn Estuary Partnership Strategic Business Plan.

4 AOB & dates of future JAC Meeting

SEP Strategic Business Plan

Humphrey Temperly emphasised that the SEP's Strategic Business Plan needed to be outcome orientated. Jonathan confirmed that this is what he was hoping to achieve with the input of members.

The SEP and Policy, Planning Issues and Consultations

Jonathan gave an update on the Marine Bill indicating that SEP would be responding to the consultation on this document. He was currently in discussion with the Solway and Dee Estuaries regarding cross boundary issues.

The next JAC Meeting will be held on 11th May 2010. The venue is yet to be confirmed.

The meeting closed at 13:00