

Newborough Liaison Partnership Meeting Tuesday 23rd January 2007

MINUTES

Present: Jonathan Levell, Robert Williams, Liz Webb, Michael Webb, Simon Hunt, Duncan Brown, Gavin Gatehouse, Wil Sandison, Helena Burrows, Maureen Parry-Williams, Phillip Thomas, Kate Evans, Geoff Radford, Ann Hesson, Martin Bailey, Martin Hollingham, Rita Garrall, John Tripp, Iwan Parry, Alwyn Jones, John Ratcliff, Delyth Owen, Hugh Knott. **Facilitators:** Catrin Ellis Jones, Margaret Peters

Decision	Action	Who	When
<p>The LP would like very explicit explanations and justifications for changes proposed in the FDP, especially any proposals for clearfell zones (covering areas not greater than 5 ha, but greater than 0.25 ha) appearing in the draft FDP</p> <p>This is to safeguard against the possibility, and avoid any misunderstanding, which might lead to reduction of the area of the forest “by stealth”</p>	<p>Draw up detailed and specific descriptions of the reasons for each (any) area of proposed clearfelling to appear in the draft FDP, and make these justifications accessible during the “drop-in” consultations in March</p>	<p>Jon Levell</p>	<p>1st 2 weeks in February, alongside creation of the FDP</p>
<p>A definition of “natural reserve” relevant and specific to the Newborough Forest is necessary. The LP would like to see a principle of “minimal intervention” upheld in this definition. The particulars of Newborough mean that natural reserve <i>sensu stricto</i> is not helpful as, for example, considerations about Health and Safety are not compatible with this type of management in its purest definition.</p>	<p>Define, generally, or specifically for each discrete zone, the nature of the management to be applied to Newborough’s “natural reserve” areas.</p>	<p>Jon Levell</p>	<p>1st 2 weeks in February, alongside creation of the FDP</p>
<p>The LP agrees that it would be very helpful /necessary for the FDP planner to refer to the final set of options</p>	<p>Refer in particular, to relevant minutes of the Habs & Species T&F group, where they discuss and agree the principals of minimum intervention relevant to “natural reserve”. Note,</p>	<p>Jon Levell</p>	<p>1st 2 weeks in February, alongside creation of the FDP</p>

agreed by the task and finish groups, and those of the Habitats and Species T&F group in particular, for clarification, or for more detail, if he is uncertain about the meaning of summary recommendations.	that they recommended not 1% of the plantation area, but at least 10% be managed in this way Generally, refer to the detailed work in the final, recommended options grids of the T&F groups for clarification/detail whenever appropriate		
Further specialist advice is needed to clarify matters about the hydrology of the Forest & Warren	Seek and consider reviews of the CEH preliminary hydrological report, including Martin Hollingham's review document	Jon Levell	ASAP
It would be useful to access Martin Hollingham's comments on the CEH preliminary hydrological report	Post "Comments on the CEH preliminary hydrological report for the Newborough Liaison Partnership and The Annual Hydrological Monitoring Report for Newborough 2006" on the website	Jon Levell to arrange	ASAP
The recommendation referring to Wood Fuel System for community heating is not considered relevant by the LP, and as far as the LP is concerned it has no champions	Remove references to this in the "Recommendations / CCW Response / FCW Response" and the "Newborough Forest Design Plan Brief"	Jon Levell	Effective now
The LP want to express their great eagerness to see CCW's Conservation Objectives for the Forest and Warren, and indicate a certain element of frustration that nothing has appeared yet	CCW is to be pressed as strongly as possible to publish these objectives	John Ratcliff	ASAP, and at the very latest, in advance of the next consultation meetings (March drop-ins)
The LP urges that documents to be discussed at meetings are sent in advance to all LP members, allowing them reasonable time to review information, before the meeting. This way, meetings have a better chance of being effective and constructive!	All LP who agree to make comments, supply supporting documents, etc., do so bearing the timings of forthcoming meetings in mind.	All	From now on

LP decided that more time is needed to read and digest the "Recommendations / CCW Response / FCW Response" and the "Newborough Forest Design Plan Brief"	Members to read and send any comments to Jon Levell directly, and/or if they have comments regarding the CCW response, to send these to John Ratcliff directly	All	Before the 1 st week in February
	Issues arising or ones that require clarification/discussion/explanation will be discussed at another meeting, to be convened within 2 weeks		
Another meeting must be called to allow feedback of the "Recommendations / CCW Response / FCW Response" and the "Newborough Forest Design Plan Brief" to be aired, but the principal objective of the meeting will be to discuss the way forward, how to make things actually happen...	Bring ideas & proposals to the next meeting that might lead to moving forward; encouraging new members to participate; make best use of the opportunity provided by the drop in consultation meetings; new ways of working, etc. Consider what opportunities exist or can be created for positive action, informed by both the positive experiences as well as the frustrations of the LP process; don't just dwell on the negatives.	All	Bring ideas to the next meeting
	Contact Lindsey to arrange a date and communicate date of next meeting to the LP	Jon Levell	24 th Jan and communicate with the LP ASAP thereafter

Arising from the Presentation by the Abergwyngregyn Partnership

Some differences were noted and discussed briefly between the practical management of the Abergwyngregyn Partnership and The Newborough Liaison Partnership, especially:

- a) the Aber Partnership operates as an open "Forum", spin-off limited companies have been formed in order to attract funding and realize various projects;
- b) the Abergwyngregyn Partnership operates wholly bilingually; and
- c) the very great support offered by Gwynedd Council, and in particular the Local Regeneration Officer employed by Gwynedd Council. Representatives of the Aber Partnership suggested that many of their physical successes, e.g. restoration of the Mill and opening the Café there, which have been important in capturing and maintaining the support of partners, including the local community, would have been very difficult to achieve without this local government support.

The LP expressed some disappointment at the apparent lack of interest and support they have received from Anglesey Council, despite efforts by Simon Hunt to engender further practical support. Can the LP or a new group or "Forum" lobby and command more effective support from Anglesey Council?

Outstanding issues to be raised in forthcoming discussion on “What Next?”

The LP identified serious concerns relating to the time scope in time of the FDP. As the FDP is only a plan for the short term (next 5 years), and the LP has been concerned with longer term, as well as immediate concerns and opportunities, it is apparent that some very important and sensitive issues raised and discussed in detail during the workings of the LP and its various Task & Finish groups, might not be relevant or referred to at all in *this* FDP.

The LP note, however, that many of these longer term issues are the most important and are *not going to go away*. They will have to be addresses in the next, or some future FDPs. The next LP meeting should come up with workable ideas about how to ensure that the work done to date by the LP is not somehow *lost*, and that relevant thinking is carried forward into and strengthens future FDP and Forest and Warren management.