



BIOSPHERE RESERVE PARTNERSHIP MEETING Minutes

**Friday 9th November 2018
RHS Rosemoor**

Members Present:

Michael Winter (Chairman)
 Mark Wallace (Vice Chairman & Beaford Arts)
 Andrew Austen (NDC)
 Phil Byers (Vice-Chair & Chamber of Commerce)
 Jenny Carey-Wood (AONB)
 Mark Prior (Forestry Commission)
 Robert Down (Coastwise)
 James Symanticz (NHS)
 Lisa Schneidau (DWT)
 Cllr. Rodney Cann (NDC)
 Doug Eltham (DCC)
 Mike Moser (Nature Improvement Group)
 Jo Traill-Thomson (Natural England)
 Andrew Butler (NFU)
 Brett Grosvenor (Environment Agency)
 Tim Jones (Biosphere Foundation)

BR Team Present:

Andy Bell
 Jane Hart
 Gigha Klinkenborg
 Chrissie Ingle

Guests

Sarah Young (WWF)
 Claire Moody (PFND)
 Kelly Johnson (Beaford Arts)

Item	Issues	Action agreed
1. Chairman's welcome and Introductions	The Chairman made introductions, welcomed Partners.	
2. Apologies		
3. Minutes	Minutes were agreed with 1 amendment.	
4. Matters arising	<p>Highway signs Highways signs – the signs will now be installed during the first week of December on the A39, and the week after on the A361.</p> <p>Petroc – meeting with Vice Principle, not formal agreement but AB will chase</p> <p>Kenya visit – just getting UNESCO approval – WWF are linking with MW to do a visit.</p> <p>Lisa S joined the meeting 13.40</p>	AB will chase

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<p>5. Update from working group chairs</p>	<p>Phil Byers - Green Economy</p> <p>We will be linking with Viridor and Barnstaple Chamber of Commerce for a training day to help businesses to understand waste reduction. Schools training in the morning and Businesses in the afternoon.</p> <p>External Marketing training day is planned with Plymouth College of Arts – transport issues to ND visit</p> <p>Digital BR – PB met with North Devon Torridge District Councils and the Regional Manager of BT. Just waiting to finalise the resulting draft paper. It is a positive and exciting opportunity.</p> <p>LEP have funded for digital skills partnership – could be supported by the Digital Biosphere – Will use digital technologies to monitor change/progress/sustainability.</p> <p>Mark Prior - Woodland Interreg bid unsuccessful. There are some forestry element within BCHT-woodland path for tourism. PAWS – assessment – conservation features ready for restoration RHS Rosemoor Woods for water project Landscape pioneer SWEEP – remote sensing earth observations will help us to develop a new interface from the Copernicus satellite. We will be able to use the data to track what happening, such as monitoring illegal felling, as well as size of forestry. This will help to develop management plans. The South West Woodland Directory now has over 300 businesses – we are looking at how that can be developed further.</p> <p>Future development of £50m budget for the woodland carbon challenge which links to ecosystem services and Natural Capital (LP) and additional funding for woodland management. There must be a balance between what we have and what we need – better management.</p> <p>AB met with Swedish forestry agency regarding a potential project on forestry connectivity with landowners and managers – Swedish – looking at collaboration between Finland, Sweden, the UK, and France funded by Swedish forest agency</p> <p>Mike Moser Nature Improvement Group</p> <p>Devon’s special species we have 96 threatened species, 33 of which are here in the BR. Some are critical, such as the freshwater pearl mussel, marsh fritillary, willow tit, scrambled egg lichen and the hazel gloves fungus.</p>	<p>PB to circulate draft document</p>

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	<p>Eight is the 33 are sand dune specialist, 5 in culm, 8 forest, and 4 marine (Lundy) – use for public engagement</p> <p>We are keen to be targeting into Land management scheme – safeguarding by farmers (LP) How make more space for nature – bigger better joined up – how much and where the land – need larger wild areas, naturalised rivers, or wilder habitats which could contribute to economy. And mech for farmers and nature. Identify areas and link to environmental land management schemes.</p> <p>Lisa Schneidau –Catchment Partnership Lisa will provide access to share the minutes, agendas etc. via Dropbox.</p> <p>Last meeting – was in early September, a one-day meeting In the morning there was a refresh of the Catchment Partnership Terms of Reference on how we connect with other partnerships across country.</p> <p>Not just project development but also look at ‘knotty issues’ such as education of farmers in water quality requirements Water environment grant bids – Four have now gone through to the next round. Ensuring all projects are RPA compliant We will hear in December/early January if successful.</p> <p>There has been a great deal of interest in ELMS scheme – four facilitation projects in the BR until 2020.</p> <p>Michael W Research Group</p> <p>SWEEP and various other activities Interreg, BCHT - 3 at the University of Exeter – it will be a centre of positive research and 2 experts from business. We have managed to secure a £1m endowment which could fund a research fellow for 5 years plus two Phd students.</p> <p>A Biosphere book of papers to bring all the research together, Land between the Moors’ is an academic book but is reasonably priced (£10-15).</p>	
Landscape Pioneer	<p>Jo Traill-Thompson – Presentation</p> <p>A better way of working with farmers - 2 years in – starting to get some resources.</p> <p>Environmental planner working on Net Gain plus a task and finish group, and a Land Management trial from Defra.</p> <p>We know what we want to test to feed into new scheme trial. Not Agri-environment scheme – ideas</p>	

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	<p>that will feed into it (it needs to be public money for public goods)</p> <p>Take Farms pressures – how do we ask them to deliver Natural Capital? We have three objectives: To enable farms business to understand Natural Capital and their options</p> <p>Scenario analysis – what payments from public investment but also other people (business, food chain suppliers, etc.)</p> <p>Getting a team in place to work on the detail (April time) Cumbria pioneer trial has been approved.</p> <p>Start April 2019 – 2 phases Year 1 deep dive into farm businesses and planning at Landscape scale – We need to make the aims clear, not just government but place based.</p> <p>Y2 trial it with budget for Defra – detail to be determined.</p> <p>Looking at how farmers can meet environmental markets (clean water recreation etc) in future.</p> <p>Investigating what it takes for farmers to become enthusiastic to meet environmental potential and make farmers more environment minded.</p> <p>Already have some things can be linked to such as TVFF, Wistlandpound that we can build on.</p> <p>Questions: LS - what will be done to meet all NC proposals JTT - working through NC offered, to achieve different levels</p> <p>How much would platinum spec and who would pay? We need to look at what Gold, Silver and bronze might look like.</p> <p>Test rationale of public money for public goods – look at different levels, how do you expand that to a landscape scale? MW – not sure of economic climate/ variables at that time – hard to gauge AButler need a good cross-section of farmers JTT – limited by funds to deliver JCW – prioritise what you want to do – couple of challenging areas JTT – the diversity will be sectors rather than habitats – only 3.</p> <p>Needs to be transferable. Other trials will be testing other bits of Agri-Environment schemes.</p> <p>MW – variety comes with farmers. Stuart hall talking to hard to reach farmers in Torridge.</p> <p>MW - Should be more public engagement – need to be innovative to engage. Access, local food initiatives, etc.</p> <p>Thanks from chair to JTT – for hard work.</p>	

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<p>Plastic Free North Devon</p>	<p>Mark Wallace - BR engagement with community Flagship campaign to introduce BR to public. Working with PFND as they have the interest of public. John Vernon wrote the plan – to look at public facing aspect of strategy document.</p> <p>The aim is to get more people engaged in Connection – which causes people to then take action in what they value. Connections we talk about as Biosphere Partnership, are not what local people feel – their values are different.</p> <p>When asked what is the value of land? Not one person gave £ - they then used the responses to make a play which went out to other nature improvement areas. – this brought the unengaged audiences into the discussion.</p> <p>The Natural Capital model misses the stuff that's not easily measured – activity in support of shared value of something (such as forests).</p> <p>Kelly – how bring shared social values? 1. Pride, activate that 2. Threat (environmental) can be overwhelming at global level so we must link it to local issues in order to motivate. 3. Find actions – that are useful – Partnerships speak to people, the collective reach can be huge. We need all partners to agree to run a shared campaign. “The greatest threat to our planet is the belief that ‘someone else will save it”</p> <p>We must find champions and also those that could be motivated, to make action appealing and easy.</p> <p>Campaign – central resource, BR, AONB, etc, work with Marketing department, or help if they don't have one.</p> <p>Claire – showed PFND videos on their stand at Gold Coast Oceanfest with the very successful water bar.</p> <p>The films have been shared with consortium, so are showing all around North Devon.</p> <p>PFND 1 year, formed consortium. We have achieved so much because of Blue Planet Two (60% of population watched the series). Plastic is very emotive, we can use it as a gateway issue in order to get people involved.</p> <p>Community led action (use the North Devon connection) to stimulate change in other areas.</p> <p>The AONB contributed funding for the water bar which has been at 8 events this year.</p> <p>Beach ambassador programme has resulted in 1,400 face-to-face engagements. Beach cleaning and park cleans. Targeted Tourism action – pdfs, leaflets, etc</p>	

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	<p>Support SAS plastic free communities. MW – ask BR partners to talk to their network – will create a tool kit of challenges for local people to do once a month. DCC – have litter pack – who owns beach and guidance on what to do with waste and Risk Assess template RC – 3600 houses trial – collecting black rubbish waste only 3 weeks, , remove all restrictions on recycling good increase in recycling RC – thanks to Claire for what she’s doing. MW – thanks to RC too.</p>	
<p>Pledge for Nature</p>	<p>Mike Moser Pledge for nature proposal – large number of people contributing to environmental activities Task and finish working since last Partnership to develop proposal. Find new ways of working – pilot new initiative – to see if we can engage people in voluntary coordinated action. Engage and excite. Will work on calls to action using pledges (such as big butterfly count model) pledge action, Map what they are doing Funding plan A – ¾ from our heritage, matched by the District and County Councils. The coordinator to be hosted by the Biosphere Foundation.</p> <p>Submit expression of interest to the Heritage Lottery Fund at the end November, then back to Councillors. We would hope to have a coordinator in place early next year.</p> <p>JCW – issues with language – pledge not well understood with young people.</p> <p>How are the 2 initiatives linked? They are separate. Pledge for Nature will be stepping stone into the other.</p> <p>Pledge will preach to the choir then bring in those others that are engaged to do more. Simple actions that can be done to improve the BR. To create a community function and actions for nature that people can buy into. Plastic free then what next, appreciate engagement with people with their Biosphere. LS – opportunity to plug own campaigns into – particularly pledge. Such as land owners pledging to read the new water regulations. Should be used by us all. AButler The language needs to be carefully done so that it’s not all doom and gloom, but positive things.</p>	
<p>Marine Pioneer</p>	<p>Mapping I gaining momentum, SWEEP habitats and condition- and benefits Ecosystem services – SWEEP/WWF WWF spend mapping - Fisheries project herring – partnership, research and management plans Films. NCP – positive noises form European grant team.</p>	

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	<p>Marine Working Group growth and database,</p> <p>Pioneer legacy – natural capital – testing value, Social capital – necessary to take on these new kinds of approaches -, evaluation of projects impacts, - goals or targets money/time – change resulting?</p> <p>Important to getting Listen, collect information and use that data to inform what we do</p> <p>Our planet, 6 big news stories, plastic cups, MPA managers to come to North Devon. Clear line between Biosphere and natural capital plans, realms, How do we learn and share what you do? Challenges with working with communities- test some work arounds.</p> <p>that</p> <p>Attending local festivals. What next? Need to start thinking about citizen science projects – with fishers, and looking at other opportunities</p> <p>MM – nice to have WWF – innovative things- exciting. Potential from WWF to broaden out what we are doing to other areas? SY will talk to forums.</p> <p>Plan B – looking at</p> <p>MP and LP looking at financing into future JCW – very different approaches to meet the same outputs AB – resource levels different, SY – also lack of data in Marine – need to use other methods too. JCW – would like more involvement such as tourism. MW – could do this with BCHT</p>	
Foundation update	<p>Tim Jones – apologies for arriving late, Foundation – focus on projects bids etc. Engaging with Defra, Business dept, dept of health developing initiatives to approach those dept. LEP chair NC top of his agenda. Looking at finance – Jo has been looking at green finance initiatives, Green bonds, etc. broad principle coming out now that is let us look for private as well as public investment in environment. Sustainability managers – Bank of England Is there a viable market for ecosystem services? Tim Smitt? Hydrographic office in Taunton, geospatial mapping. – how that might link with the Marine Pioneer. Budget – clean energy – plastic management Engaging with Coast communications looking at story board that helps us have discussions – foundation focussed but complementary to Biosphere work New trustee – Lord Robin Teverson SWW – PR 19 review, looking at investment strategy – was upstream thinking but having dialogue of what that might look like. Discussion with climate change committee</p>	

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	<p data-bbox="464 165 1038 253">Explore, at a much higher-level, opportunities to create a funding stream and demonstrate to business what can be invested in.</p> <p data-bbox="464 286 1007 374">Strategy will be brought to BP – for debate potentially before Christmas – needs to be as collaborative as possible.</p> <p data-bbox="464 407 1062 468">AB – foundation should work to support work of all partners – work as a natural capital trust.</p>	

<p>1. Health & Wellbeing Project Update 10 mins</p>	<p>James – exciting time being in health care – Matt hancock – need to focus on disease prevention and social prescribing. Waking up to health conference –</p> <p>Projects – life chances bid – Big lottery – improved care fund – 3 pilot, Ilfracombe Barnstaple, two or more long term conditions, and isolated people. Community builders in surgery who will use , community connectors who link in with local projects – such as a walking group – to help people. Link with local groups to help people. Activity and community connecting – beat the streets – full time engagement coordinator, 3 months: key fob, beat boxes, swipe with key fob, walk the most miles and prizes for that, 6 months signposting to other activities – having good outputs. Sport England pay half but need to find 50% match (45,000). You could have them focussed on particular areas.</p> <p>AB – SWEEP European centre for Urban and rural comparison of health and environment (n devon and Plymouth) . May be alignment with that project.</p>	
<p>AOB</p>	<p>Glover review – protected landscape – DCC are putting a response of the review – recommending that other designation including international such as biosphere are also considered in planning etc. Please respond to consultation Concern of loss of European funding for remote rural areas. – asked for a discussion with the economic team at county -Biosphere should be part of that discussion. Concern over SME farming and tourism – need to push these issues</p> <p>LS – riverbase and management plan consultation Environment bill act please respond personally.</p>	<p>MW/AB to format a response to glover report from BR</p>
<p>Date of next meeting</p>	<p>2019</p>	