



Promoting and facilitating environmental sustainability in Swansea

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**Swansea Environment Forum Executive Committee Meeting
Thursday 17th September 2020 (online via MS Teams)**

PRESENT

Name	Role	Representing	Abbrev.
Deb Hill	Chair	Swansea Council (Nature Conservation)	DH
Alyx Baharie	Treasurer	Swansea CVS	AB
Philip McDonnell	Secretary	SEF Coordinator	PM
Andrew Davies		individual	AD
Heidi Smith		Swansea University	HS
John Childs		Friends of the Earth	JC
Peter Anderson		VocalEyes	PA
John Sayce		Wheelrights	JS
Steve Bolchover		The Environment Centre	SB
Ciaran O'Brien		Penllergare Trust	CO
Julia Owens		Swansea Council (Housing)	JO

APOLOGIES

Name	Role	Representing	Abbrev.
Hamish Osborn	Vice Chair	Natural Resources Wales	HO
Chris Lindley		Swansea Council (AONB)	CL
Rhian Corcoran		The Environment Centre	RC
Ruth Williams		RISW	RW
Helen Grey		NRW	HG

Item No		Action by
pre	<p>Pre-meeting Presentations <i>Biophilic Living Project with (Carwyn Davies / David Dolman)</i> Representatives from Hacer Developments provided a presentation on the proposals for the development at Picton Yard (former Woolworth store) including context, partners, components, management structures, etc.</p> <p>It was agreed SEF should maintain close links with the project.</p>	

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	<p>It was also proposed that a further presentation(s) be given to LCSB, the Nature Partnership and others.</p> <p><i>Biodiversity Supplementary Planning Guidance Consultation draft (Rachel Willis and Deb Hill, Swansea Council)</i></p> <p>Rachel presented on the draft Biodiversity SPG and then the new Trees, Hedgerows and Woodland SPG, encouraging members to respond to the current consultation on these.</p> <p>Rachel was asked to provide links to the consultation documents and a copy of her presentation for circulation.</p>	<p>PM to arrange LCSB session</p> <p>PM to circulate</p>
1.	<p>Intros, Apologies and Conflicts of Interest</p> <p>Apologies were listed.</p> <p>No conflicts of interest were declared.</p>	
2.	<p>Minutes of last meeting held 16/07/20 and matters arising:</p> <p>These were accepted as a true record and each of the listed actions were reported on, in turn, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A presentation to SEF Exec. members on the CANdo project took place on Mon 10th August. - It was agreed that the ongoing reference to feedback from the Bristol visit was no longer relevant. - PM reported that some research on alternative banks had been done by HS and AD (see more below). - PM circulated proposals for NRW Shared Outcome Funding. <p>JS also asked for an update on the transport event proposals. PM said this had been further delayed, partly due to it being included in a funding bid to NRW which we now don't expect to hear about until December. It was agreed that PM would go ahead and arrange a transport task group meeting, including JC and AD, in October with a view to holding an event in January. JS also referred to a transport themed online event, involving Lee Waters, on 12th November – he will send details. JC referred to a climate emergency report that Friends of the Earth had recently published with guidance for government bodies – he agreed to circulate.</p>	<p>PM to arrange transport task group</p> <p>JS to send event details</p> <p>JC to circulate report</p>

<p>3.</p>	<p>Updates on SEF Projects</p> <p>a) Climate & Nature Action Project PM reported that those that attended the project presentation in August seemed impressed with what had been achieved so far. PM also shared the proposal that the project budget be increased to £8,000 (see budget below).</p> <p>b) Community Green Spaces Project PM reported that Neil was very much in demand with an increase in enquiries and projects to support. The Working Group plan to meet again shortly and intend to extend Neil's position for another quarter.</p> <p>c) Low Carbon Swansea Bay PM highlighted the forthcoming seminars (listed on the meeting agenda and encouraged those present to attend.</p> <p>d) Working with Nature Task Group PM reported that the task group had recently met and that he had also attended a PSB meeting. He has been working with NRW colleagues to push for the PSB to prioritise the climate/nature emergency and a green recovery.</p>	
<p>4.</p>	<p>SEF Finance and Funding</p> <p>a) Budget update PM highlighted the main changes to the latest budget update: a reduction in income from no longer being a Renew Wales coordinator host and a proposed increase in expenditure on the CANdo project. The consequence of these changes would be a fall of approx. £3,000 in the closing balance at the end of March. It was agreed to accept the revised budget including the increase of funds for the CANdo project.</p> <p>b) NRW funding application PM explained that NRW was now looking to support the proposals SEF/EC submitted for a Shared Outcome grant through its PSB funding pot. It was now unlikely that this funding will be secured until December so the proposed activities (including WWN support, transport event and public webinars) would have to take place Jan-Mar 2021.</p> <p>c) Banking proposals HS and AD reported on work they had done to investigate alternative banking options. HS shared a table of options and explained some of the issues that need to be considered e.g. bank charges and local branches. It was agreed to circulate the table, with the addition of the existing arrangements with the Co-operative Bank. PM</p>	<p>PM to arrange group to look at</p>



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	agreed to organise a T&F group to discuss the options further and bring back a recommendation to the next meeting. AB, AD, HS and DH agreed to join the group.	banking options
5.	Stories from Around the 'Virtual' Table No other business was discussed.	
	Next SEF Exec Committee Meeting: 19.11.2020	