



Promoting and facilitating environmental sustainability in Swansea

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**Swansea Environment Forum Executive Committee Meeting
Thursday 21st January 2021 (online via MS Teams)**

PRESENT

Name	Role	Representing	Abbrev.
Deb Hill	Chair	Swansea Council (Nature Conservation)	DH
Hamish Osborn	Vice Chair	Natural Resources Wales	HO
Alyx Baharie	Treasurer	Swansea CVS	AB
Philip McDonnell	Secretary	SEF Coordinator	PM
Heidi Smith		Swansea University	HS
John Childs		Friends of the Earth	JC
Peter Anderson		VocalEyes	PA
Chris Lindley		Swansea Council (AONB)	CL
Steve Bolchover		The Environment Centre	SB
Ciaran O'Brien		Penllergare Trust	CO
Jill Goddard		Swansea Council (Housing)	JO
Fran Rolfe		NRW	FR
John Sayce		Wheelrights	JS
Rhian Corcoran		The Environment Centre	RC
Jules Wagstaff		Climate and Community	JW

APOLOGIES

Name	Role	Representing	Abbrev.
Helen Grey		NRW	HG
Mary Sherwood		Gower Power	AF
Howard Stevens		SBUHB	HS
Andrew Davies		individual	AD

Item No.		Action by
pre	Pre-meeting Presentations Martin Nicholls was to give an update on Swansea Council's climate strategy but had to send his apologies at short notice. It was agreed that this would be done at the next meeting instead.	PM to contact Martin about next meeting

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	<p>HS presented an overview of Swansea University's climate strategy. This was well received and Exec. members asked if the presentation could be circulated.</p> <p>PM reminded colleagues that the LCSB webinar on 24th February will focus on Swansea University's climate strategy and so provide opportunity for a more detailed presentation and time for more discussion.</p>	<p>HS to send presentation for PM to circulate.</p>
1.	<p>Intros, Apologies and Conflicts of Interest</p> <p>DH welcomed Jules from Climate and Community. Apologies were reported as listed above.</p> <p>No conflicts of interest were declared.</p>	
2.	<p>Minutes of last meeting held 19/11/20 and matters arising:</p> <p>The minutes were accepted as a true record and each of the listed actions were reported on or discussed, in turn, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PM confirmed he had circulated the feasibility report by Robert Hernando but apologised for not downloading the recording of Roberts presentation on CSAs in time. The group discussed promoting CSAs and also the need for a wider food strategy for Swansea. PM mentioned that plans for a CSA in Craig Cefn Parc are developing well and that Swansea Community Growing Network are planning to hold an open meeting in March to discuss proposals for a food strategy. JW posted in the chat that the Food Policy Alliance Cymru have written short manifesto which includes agroecology principles. - PM reported that two webinars had been organised with Hacer Developments on the Biophilic Living Swansea project and that registration were going well with around 70 already signed-up across the two. - PM confirmed he had circulated the details of the NRW/PSB grant funding. - PM hasn't yet worked on the financial procedures – these will be drafted for the March meeting. - A working group was formed to help organise a regional transport conference on 9th/10th February. PM reported that around 150 had already registered. JC highlighted the importance of getting Council members/officers and other decision-makers to the event. PM said that some council reps had already signed-up to come. There was discussion on who would have strategic responsibility for transport at a regional level. In the chat, JS reported that WG is setting up Corporate Joint Committees across Wales to make sure LAs work 	<p>PM to draft new financial procedures</p>

	<p>regionally so the south-west Wales CJC will be responsible for producing and implementing a regional transport plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PA presented on the CANdo project at the AGM. The CANdo project group hasn't met for a month or so and haven't yet fully discussed the integration of social solutions. A meeting is planned for next week (25th January). - DH and PM met with Martin Nicholls before Christmas for a catch-up and, in view of him having to cancel for this meeting, plan to meet with him again in February ahead of him presenting at the March Exec. meeting. - HS didn't send Swansea University climate action info but instead gave presentation at this meeting. 	<p>Project group to consider adding social solutions to resource</p> <p>PM/DH to set up a further meeting with Martin Nicolls</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p>SEF Governance and Finances</p> <p>a) Committee membership, co-optees and positions</p> <p>PM outlined the changes made at the AGM to elected committee members and explained that co-opted members of the committee only hold their positions until the AGM so at the next Exec. meeting elected members must decide whether to co-opt them again. PM listed those that were open to being co-opted again (DH, FR, JG, CL, HG and RC) and added that JW was also putting herself forward for co-option to represent Climate and Community. It was agreed by the committee to co-opt all these (SB proposed, JC seconded).</p> <p>PM also explained that the committee must agree the honorary positions. The Secretary role is covered by the SEF Coordinator and the group agreed that DH continue as Chairperson (SB proposed, AB seconded), HO remain as Vice-chair (DH proposed, SB seconded) and AB as Treasurer (JC proposed, DH seconded).</p> <p>b) Updated budget</p> <p>PM referred to the updated budget circulated ahead of the meeting and highlighted the main changes since the previous update – the additional NRW/PSB grant (£8,000) and anticipated ENRaW funding through Swansea Council (£3,000, still to be confirmed). These extra funds will enable additional outputs and may also enable less spend of unrestricted funds, leaving a larger closing balance of unrestricted funds at the end of the year.</p>	
<p>4.</p>	<p>Updates on SEF Projects and Partnerships</p> <p>PM referred to reports circulated with the agenda, including on Neil's work for Swansea Community Green Space project.</p>	



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<p>5.</p>	<p>Stories from Around the 'Virtual' Table</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CO raised concern about invasive species at Penllergare and the requirement to fell a large area of larch and remove rhododendron. He was seeking ideas for funding and resources to help with this. DH and HO offered support and PM suggested Heritage Lottery funding may be worth looking at. 	<p>DH to arrange meeting with CO and HO</p>
	<p>Next SEF Exec Committee Meeting: 18.03.2021</p>	