

LLAIS Y GOEDWIG BOARD MEETING

Unit 6, Dyfi Eco Park, Machynlleth, Powys, 11.00am Tuesday 10th January 2012

Present: Roger Davies (RD) (Chair), Adam Thorogood (AT) Fay Sharpley (FS), Jenny Wong (JW), Jane Gronow (JG) (Minute Taker)

AGENDA ITEM	REPORT AND ACTION
1. Apologies	David Williams and Jo Cooper
2. Draft Minutes of November meeting	<p>Clarifications to the draft minutes were agreed as follows:</p> <p>4. Action Plan. Sustainable Funding Advisory Note Delete 'Fay to link in with Jo'. ACTION JC to amend minutes</p> <p>8a. Glastir stakeholder meeting update Insert 'LlyG members can log their wood on the Woodlands Trust Woods for People database by following the prompts on the database site. The benefit for members of doing so is eligibility for footpath funding under the Glastir scheme'. ACTION JC to amend minutes</p> <p>Insert 'There should be more coverage of work undertaken by LlyG on behalf of its members including work at the Glastir Stakeholder Group to secure funding for LlyG members'. ACTION JC to amend minutes</p> <p>8b. Report of Third Sector meeting with Minister Insert 'There was no opportunity for people to discuss the meeting afterwards (no washup afterwards)'. ACTION JC to amend minutes</p> <p>8c. Living Wales Green Paper & Single Environment Body This section will be re-drafted. ACTION JC to amend minutes and JW to re-draft</p>
3. Matters arising from November Minutes (not on agenda)	<p>8d. Rural Development Regulation 2014-20 Workshop with DEFRA JW has circulated the FCW paper on the Rural Development Regulation. JW attended the DEFRA workshop on 13th December and posted a report on the LlyG website</p> <p>9. Income Opportunities People and Places The proposal previously submitted to BIG Innovation will be re-drafted to submit to People and Places BIG Lottery Fund. ACTION JW/FS</p> <p>12. LlyG Directors JW has informed Companies House that Ruth Stafford has stepped down as a Director. JW has informed Companies House that our mailing address is the Forestry Hub, Machynlleth</p> <p>13. AOB/National Eisteddfod Planning Committee Meeting 2nd November JW attended and noted stands are £560 for voluntary organisation, the committee are keen on activities for young people, FCW expect us to attend a large event. FCW used to attend but cost now precludes it. JW contacted the Forest Education Initiative [FEI] to suggest they attend, they will discuss. RD noted people attend the Eisteddfod for cultural activities. It was agreed JW would attend the Eisteddfod and see what the future potential might be for LlyG.</p>

<p>4.FCW Funding and Reporting</p>	<p>The last tranche of funds received from the FCW in November was for £12,550 of which £3,127 has been spent. Major forthcoming expenditure will be Jo’s salary, meetings and the AGM and Conference. It was agreed that (a) JC will plot expenditure to date on the action plan (b) Board members will review the planned activities for their aim and report back to the Chair explaining what activities and expenditure they plan to actually carry out on the action plan by end March. ACTION all by 20th January</p>
<p>5.WEL Membership a. Sustainable Dev. working group b. Natural Environment Framework (NEF)- Single Environment Body (SEB)</p>	<p>RD explained that we have been invited onto both the sustainable development and NEF/SEB working groups – DW is representing LlyG on the sustainable development working group. NEF/SEB are combined –LlyG have a seat but we have not yet nominated a LlyG member – it is a very policy led group. FS suggested a member known to her, it was agreed FS could explore this further. ACTION FS</p> <p>It was also agreed that LlyG should request a copy of the business case for the SEB from the SEB Inquiry Body and register LlyGs future interest. ACTION JW</p>
<p>6.Policy Working Group – Manifesto for the Forests of Wales</p>	<p>RD has drafted a manifesto based on the policy working groups’ brainstorming sessions. The draft was circulated among Board members and discussed. It was agreed that the introduction needs to be carefully worded. RD explained that the aim of the manifesto is to excite and engage people in CWGs to think about woodlands in Wales and to empower them to engage with WAG – it should look at the big picture and explain the interests of communities in the forests of Wales. Board members liked the draft and agreed it should retain its key headings and bullet point structure – a sentence is needed to explain each heading.</p> <p>It was agreed the manifesto should include a ‘gap analysis’ explaining which of the needs have not yet been met. FS stressed it should use the language of the common man – eg ‘we want to be able to use woodlands to create jobs.’ It was agreed the Board would review another draft on 14th February, followed by a working group meeting at the end of February to prepare a draft for Conference. JW recommended everyone read the report of the Independent Inquiry into the future of forests in England which is a radical report. ACTION JW/RD</p>
<p>7.Firewood Market Survey</p>	<p>Proposal for a Study Assessing Demand for Domestic Firewood in Wales</p> <p>JW circulated a proposal to address gaps in knowledge on domestic demand for fuelwood. The work to be undertaken by a ‘Go Wales’ work placement for 10 weeks at the LlyG office to help CWGs assess demand in their locality – this will benefit members and help us gain a regional picture of demand. FCW have accepted the proposal and are preparing a contract for LlyG. JW will design the survey with help from Bangor Uni and Woodfuel Wales. Go Wales will advertise the post and find 5 candidates for LlyG to interview. The work to begin in April and end November & to be publicised at the AGM. It was agreed it was a good initiative. ACTION JW/JC</p> <p>RD noted that knowing the local woodfuel demand is one thing but to turn it into a business model is hard and requires a supply of high volumes of fuel. CWGs need simple and pragmatic spreadsheets that can help them determine if they can make a profitable woodfuel supply business in their locality. This would require a follow up project.</p>
<p>8.Reports of LlyG representation at external meetings a.Report CWA annual conference b.Rural Development</p>	<p>a. Community Woodland Association Annual Conference 12-13 November, Aviemore</p> <p>FS and JC attended, FS has prepared a report. FS noted that there were interesting discussions about the challenge of managing change in maturing CWGs – and how to sustain engagement. FS noted that the LlyG case studies were appreciated. JC will check the report and then post it on the LlyG website. ACTION JC</p>

<p>Regulation c.WCVA Conference & AGM</p>	<p>b. Rural Development Regulation 2014-2020 Workshop, Birmingham 13th December JW attended, a short report has been posted on the website. JW reported that the new regulation looks very good and the challenge is to ensure the Wales RDP capitalises on it. Key points – for the first time it allows the RDP to fund (a) groups who are not landowners to carry out land management activities (b) groups to do work on state land eg groups with management agreements with the FCW will be able to access Glastir funds for operations. It is critical that LlyG attends future meetings to develop the next RDP in Wales – these will be led by WEFO – Wales European Funding Office. ACTION JW – to ensure LlyG is invited through the Glastir Stakeholder Group to which we are a member</p> <p>c. WCVA Conference and AGM – 24th November, Llandudno RD attended. The keynote speeches were on results based accounting. RD stated at the conference that it would not be possible for small CWGs to do this.</p>
<p>9.Future External Events a.Natural Connections b.WCVA regional events</p>	<p>a.Natural Connections Conference. 2nd February 2012, London This group came out of a DEFRA think tank for English policy development. RD will attend and report back. ACTION RD</p> <p>b.WCVA – Sustainable Development Bill and National Environment Framework Both FS and RD are planning to attend regional policy events in their areas and will represent LlyG. They are taking place in January and offer the 3rd sector a chance to get involved in long term thinking about sustainable development in Wales</p>
<p>10.Forward Planning for LlyG Conference and AGM 11-12 March 2012, CAT, Machynlleth</p>	<p>On 9th December, JG, FS and JC met and drafted a provisional programme for the LlyG conference and AGM 2012, this draft was circulated and discussed. The provisional programme was broadly accepted by the Board. Additional points noted were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FCW may want to publicise their new Woodlands for You framework for FC engagement. Suggest a workshop in place of ‘Responsibilities Towards Volunteers.’ (Friday 2.00pm) • Robin could be invited to talk about Laggan in Scotland (as at the Aviemore meeting) • Saturday morning – present and receive feedback on the manifesto (9.40am) • Field visits – reduce to 3 (Coed Gwern, Esgair Timber and Ty Gwyn) • Will CAT allow us to create an Ideas Wall and to post graphs of CWG engagement over time • Need for JC and AT to prepare a list of tasks to do and to request help from other Board members. AT to be engaged to provide conference preparation support services if needed. JC and AT to meet on 17th January. ACTION JC, AT and all
<p>11.AOB</p>	<p>a. Wales Cooperative Conference on Community Enterprises in Wales RD attended for his CWG – reported that it was useful. Conference reiterated that when an organisation is developing an enterprise it will reach the stage where commercial factors become paramount and this changes the nature of the organisation. RD will post the conference report on the LlyG website when it is ready. ACTION RD</p> <p>b. Permission for fires on FCW land RD reported that FCW has recently stated that fires can be allowed on their land in accordance with an agreed risk assessment. RD is trying to obtain the rules from his local office. ACTION RD</p> <p>c. Wales Rural Network Community Renewable Thematic Event, Talybont, Nov 8th 2011 FS attended this event for LlyG. Green Valleys also attended. FS reported that there were interesting discussions about hydro projects. FS has prepared a brief report for the website. ACTION FS</p>

	<p>d. Ecosystem Knowledge Network JW noted that this is a new UK wide network hosted by DEFRA. JW will sign LlyG up to it. ACTION JW</p> <p>e. Woodland Trust survey of community woodland groups in England RD noted that the Woodland Trust is building up a database of CWGs in England in order to help with a community woodland project. JW will ask the WT PR officer for Wales whether this is likely to be extended to Wales. ACTION JW</p> <p>f. Request for guidance from private woodland owner JW reported that LlyG has been contacted by a private woodland owner near Cardiff who would like to gift his woodland to a local community and £5,000 to help establish the group. JW has responded positively. It was agreed that it would be worth spending time on this initiative. JW will contact the owner and report back on the 14th Feb. RD is available to visit the site in the next 2 months. ACTION JW, RD</p>
Date of Next Meeting	Tuesday 14th February 2012, 11am, Unit 6, Dyfi Eco Park, Machynlleth, Powys

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