

NOTES FROM FOREST EDUCATION AND TRAINING WORKSHOP

STRENGTHS

Diverse woodland
Near to community
Very committed group
Lots of experience in the group
Countryside team
Scouts visit
BTCV have worked, skills gained
Including community e.g. old age pensioners

WEAKNESSES

Access
Communication
Education providers – no Forest School
providers interested
Transport

OPPORTUNITIES

Link with FSW – advertise on website
Communities First area
Offer local schools opportunities
Community bus service
“Fireside cafe” – Forest School set up
Provide programmes for understanding about fire, safety etc.
Look into those in the community with interest & experience in woodland related activities
Work with BTCV, LANTRA, Sector skills, Cancel

THREATS

Apathy
Economic – bus journeys for schools
Health & safety legislation
Vandalism

<p>STRENGTHS</p> <p>Ability to organise and run courses</p> <p>Self sustaining financially</p> <p>Apprenticeships leading to self employment</p> <p>Bring communities together</p> <p>Self sustaining for food, fuel & building materials</p>	<p>(Group: Forest School; Other outdoor education; Community access)</p> <p>WEAKNESSES</p> <p>Communication – others not hearing us, us not explaining</p> <p>Community and apprentices expectations of work after training</p> <p>Access to funding – need viable income to keep things going</p> <p>Lack of community interest or involvement</p>
<p>OPPORTUNITIES</p> <p>Good publicity through training</p> <p>To add value to timber production for putting back into the community</p> <p>To be self governing and cooperative</p> <p>To barter and coexist</p>	<p>THREATS</p> <p>Bad publicity – legal action</p> <p>Possible lack of work through multinational crews</p> <p>Take over bids</p>

<p>STRENGTHS</p> <p>Bank of skilled trainers who are also skilled craftspeople</p> <p>Beautiful environment</p> <p>Highly motivated and committed people involved</p> <p>Therapeutic environment (health and welfare benefits)</p> <p>Unusual and diverse</p>	<p>(Group: Apprenticeships; Added value timber products; community access)</p> <p>WEAKNESSES</p> <p>Costly – cost per unit</p> <p>Lack of info – knowing what’s there</p> <p>Complex to organise</p> <p>Monitoring is difficult (recording soft outcomes?)</p> <p>Difficult to get balance between highly skilled practitioner and trainer</p> <p>Logistics-transport etc.</p>
<p>OPPORTUNITIES</p> <p>Partnerships</p> <p>Individuals’ experience (wealth of knowledge)</p> <p>Innovative proposals</p> <p>Can roll out good practice to other areas</p>	<p>THREATS</p> <p>Finance</p> <p>Prejudice</p> <p>Health & safety</p> <p>CRBs etc</p>

<p>STRENGTHS</p> <p>Community Skills – ability to provide training Vision People Woodland</p>	<p>(Group: “Other” - personal development; “soft” outcomes.)</p> <p>WEAKNESSES</p> <p>Access Finding providers Unit cost Communication – Building trust; networking Transport</p>
<p>OPPORTUNITIES</p> <p>Imaginative solutions Partnerships Communication Networking Community transport Experience of individuals</p>	<p>THREATS</p> <p>Finance Finding your way through Health & Safety legislation No support</p>

(COMMONALITIES)

PAPER AEROPLANES (Individual responses)

Issue: Having enough money and advice to help with communication in communities.

They must: Have facilitators and advisors to help with mediation and p.r.

I will: Keep having meetings and work with people who will draw in others.

Issue: Funding

They must: Realise the potential & necessity of building skills and support

I will: Keep trying! Believe in what we are doing & try to spread the word.

Issue: Difficulty in obtaining funding/financial support/payment.

They must: provide coordinated lobbying/advocacy of government agencies

I will: Support organisations in developing better proposals.

Issue: Financial sustainability

They must: provide straightforward funding opportunities

I will: Be more business minded.

Issue: Organisation

They must: Communicate

I will: Take part

Issue: Funding for apprenticeships on a long term basis, and the understanding for the need for apprenticeships.

They must: Blank assembly chequebook

I will: Keep pursuing funding bodies

Issue: Networking

They must: Organise events like this with more opportunities to share, brainstorm and communicate

I will: Support Llais y Goedwig, Coed lleol, establish contacts with people here, take leaflets.

Issue: Coordination/resourcing of a coherent learning & skills programme, so that people can enter into whatever landbased skills programme at the stage appropriate to them

They must: Communication and partnerships – providers talking to each other

I will: Develop a FCW Education, learning and skills programme which reflects this.

Issue: Links between woodland owners and education providers
e.g. Forest School Leaders

They must: Advertise/make public where woodlands are available
for educational use and where educational providers are based.

I will: research how many woodland owners in my area are willing
to host educational providers.

Issue: Justification for what I am doing

They must: Better education

I will: Be thicker skinned

Issue: Funding

They must: Offer funding to existing organisations/projects with
less admin!!

I will: Keep applying and changing name and objectives of project