

PEMBROKESHIRE COASTAL FORUM MANAGEMENT GROUP

1.30pm 28th May 2004 at Pembrokeshire College G1.2

NOTES OF MEETING

1. The following were present

Edward Holdaway (EH)	Chair
Nic Wheeler (NW)	Pembrokeshire Coast National Park
Stephen Hurr (SH)	Pembrokeshire County Council
Paul Varallo (PV)	Environment Agency Wales
Nic Ainger (NA)	MP - Chair, Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum
Jo Dilly (JD)	Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum
Steve Morris (SM)	Pembrokeshire College
Ted Sangster (TS)	Milford Haven Port Authority
Andrea McConnell (AM)	Countryside Council for Wales
Carolyn Heeps (CH)	Crown Estates
Christine Gwyther (CG)	AM Welsh Assembly Government

Apologies were received from Alison Smith

2. Minutes of the Meeting 16th October 2003

The minutes of the meeting of 16th October were distributed and were accepted as a true record.

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising that were not already on the agenda.

4. Chairman's Report

EH introduced Jo Dilly and Claire Hardick to the members of the Group and also talked about the Marine Code and Outdoor Charter

5. Officer's Report

The Management Group had previously received, via e mail, a copy of Officers' Reports. Further information provided included:

Marine Code - With regard to the Marine Code, John Warnerford had been recruited as Activities Liaison Officer. The Code has a high profile in Pembrokeshire and has the support of all outdoor activity providers in the area. Its purpose is to promote sustainable use of the marine environment in terms of wildlife and habitats and there is a need for evaluation of the code. At present, it is voluntary and will be officially implemented next year. A training scheme incorporating WISE boat operator training (an accreditation scheme for operators in SW England) is offered to local operators. They subsequently receive accreditation upon completion. This, potentially, provides the opportunity for cross compliance. NW suggested that Marine Code membership and training scheme accreditation become one of the criteria for obtaining business grants for future activity providers.

Financially, JD explained that currently there is a shortfall of approximately £30,000 for the whole project. Negotiations for further funding are continuing and cuts could be made accordingly, e.g. Management Fee made by PCF could be foregone. JD is optimistic that the WTB will contribute. CH intimated that the Crown Estate may be in a position to provide further funds if necessary, should there be inadequate funds to provide the essentials, such as training and education. NW also indicated that the amount contributed by the PCNP could be revisited, if necessary.

Recreation Audit - A meeting was held on the 26th March which included representatives from organisations involved with promoting sustainable recreation in Pembrokeshire. It was identified that a recreation audit was required on which to base decision making. The audit would provide a basis for creating a Recreational Strategy with the potential for future phases of research which would feed into that strategy. A Recreational Steering Group is to be formed to oversee the initiative. In addition to members present at the meeting of the 26th, PCC and EAW also wish to become involved with the initiative. The PCF have funding for the project and additional funding will be obtainable from South West Wales Regional

Tourism Partnership. The project take the form of a regional audit (South Wales), focusing initially on Pembrokeshire, as a pilot area.

CG suggested Ceredigion CC may want to participate due to their alignment with the region. There would be no problem with this, only that they would have to seek funding for their area. ACTION: NW to give JD a name in Ceredigion to contact.

From the last Management Group Meeting Minutes, EH informed the meeting that Tonia Forsyth would be coming back to work some time in July. In terms of finances, WEFO have agreed the revised budget.

There being no other business to discuss, the meeting wound up at 2.30 p.m.