

Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum
Progress Report for the Management Group Meeting
Thursday 10th July 2003

1.0 Introduction

With the full Team now in place, the Forum has now progressed much of the work that was initially behind schedule. The main focus since the last Management Group meeting has been to begin the development of the Topic Papers via a series of Topic based meetings. In addition, much of the agreed marketing has now started and in particular the Forum Website and leaflet are well underway.

2.0 Project Finances

The figures for the first six months of 2003 are not yet to hand. As soon as they are they will be circulated with a commentary on the likely out turns for 2003 against the agreed budget.

3.0 Staff Training

- **Staff Inductions**
- **Welsh language** – beginner's Welsh class, continued (TF).
- **MHPA** – Communications Skills Training
- **PBI** – Introduction to Marketing (KL)

4.0 Events

- Pembrokeshire Fish Week - PCF ran a Coastal Surgery at Milford Docks during the launch of the event with approximately 40 individuals attending.
- Wales Marine Code – PCF were invited to the launch of the Welsh Marine Code launch at Neyland Marina. Having been involved with the all Wales Code PCF ensured that there was duplication and links were made between the Welsh and Pembrokeshire Marine Codes. (see tabled Wales Marine Code)

5.0 Publicity & Marketing

- Follow Jessa Fairbrother's appointment work is now well underway on the following:-
 - Leaflet – Aiming to have completed by the end of July (see tabled) at an approximate cost of £950 for 10,000
 - Newsletter – the third newsletter is to be produced by August in time for the County Show
 - Website – Commissioned a Pembrokeshire web design company called Evolvement to do the work. Selection criteria included PCF having complete control of the site, being given extensive training (40 hours) to ensure that all changes and updates can be done by Forum staff, a local

business with good quality outputs from previous work and reasonable costs. With the successful application for ELWA's Management Skills Grant 50% of the website set up and training costs have been obtained and therefore the total cost for the site is approximately £1040 (not including the purchasing of the software packages to enable full control). The site should be ready by early October. Jessa is now collecting a photograph and brief introduction on all members of the Steering Committee to go onto the site.

- Banners – On Order.
- Forum Fact Sheet – to be updated by end of year
- Press releases – regular articles have been placed in the local papers and on Pembrokeshire Radio (see tabled).
- Contacts Database – A newly designed database has now been produced for the Forum which should significantly improve communications with the creation of a link between Microsoft Outlook and Access.

6.0 Communication

General Public

Individuals are now beginning to contact the Forum with concerns which are then added to our Topic Papers to be passed on to all statutory bodies.

Organisations/partnerships/committees

Although in the past few months time has not allowed for much input into other organisations and partnerships the Forum are regularly kept up to date with work. We have recently joined Arfordir, a group of technical officers, drawn mainly from Local Authorities and coastal partnerships around Wales, who are actively involved in coastal management and coastal planning policy in Wales.

Consultations/projects

- Local
 - **Marine code Working Group** – A meeting was held to agree the final changes to the Marine Code site maps prior to meeting with the operators. It was decided at this stage to remove the Strumble maps due to lack of data and operators at present. This will be reviewed at a later stage. PCF expressed concern over the lack of operator representation on the Working Group. It was agreed to invite several members onto the group for the next meeting. It was also agreed that Pembrokeshire College and the National Trust should also be involved.
 - **Marine Code Operators Meeting** – A lively meeting with the boat operators was held to discuss the code in detail. It proved very successful with a full species and site specific code agreed for distribution to operators ASAP. Operators requested that the pilot for the code end in October 2003 to allow plenty of time for a full code launch and implementation for 2004. Three operators have been identified for the

Working Group and are to represent all of the operators for Pembrokeshire. Following this meeting a great deal of time was spent preparing the final pilot Code for distribution. All Management Group members have been sent the full pack for information.

- **Dale Coastal Surgery** – A Surgery was held in Dale on 29th May and proved very successful with 79 individuals attending throughout the day. All issues identified have been fed into the Topic Papers.
- **St Justinian's** – PCF are still actively involved in this project and will be attending the next meeting.
- **Darwin Centre Workshop** – PCF attended one of the series of three workshops held by the contactors for Darwin. Some concern was expressed over the lack of focus of the project and the need for greater clarity of the vision for Darwin. The consultants have agreed to meet with PCF to discuss the feasibility study in greater depth.
- **Marine Aggregate Dredging** – PCF, PCC and PCNPA attended a meeting with ERM, the consultants for Llanelli Sand Dredging Company. The consultants gave a presentation of the proposed works at both Nobel and Helwick Banks and then responded to specific concerns. PCF asked ERM if they would be willing to give the same presentation to the Forum in Autumn of this year. They expressed concerns in conducting a public meeting, however may agree to an invite only meeting and will be in touch to discuss this later in the year.
- **Pre-Season Briefing Meeting** – A meeting was held of a sub group of the Pembrokeshire Beaches Group to discuss the forthcoming Pre-Season Briefing. After some consideration it was decided to cancel the event for this season due to the problem of differing start dates for field staff. It was instead agreed that individual organisations would attend the inductions for beach lifeguards and beach cleaners. During this meeting some concern was expressed over the conflicting activities at Dale. It was agreed that PCF would call a meeting of the key organisations involved in its management during autumn to identify mechanisms for improving integration of activities for the future.
- **Green Seas Objective 1 Beaches Meeting** – PCF attended a meeting of the Pembrokeshire Beaches Sub Group to discuss the allocation of funds from the successful Objective One Bid for infrastructure improvements at award beaches. Copies of the projects are available from the Forum on request.
- **Biological Records Centre** – PCF attended a meeting to discuss the establishment of a biological records centre for Pembrokeshire. The group agreed to progress its development with the SWWWT taking the lead. It was noted however that this would not meet the needs of the Forum in terms of their own data and that there was still a need for a coastal management database and library for Pembrokeshire.

- National

- **WTB Watersports Strategy** – Following our meeting with the consultants the draft strategy is now out for consultation. PCF were very disappointed to see that contrary to discussions with both the WTB and consultants, wildlife boat trips have not been included. A subsequent meeting with the WTB (see marine code) has enabled the Forum to highlight its concerns which are being considered. Copies are available on request.
- **WCMP** – The fifth meeting of the WCMP was held on 27th June in Aberystwyth. Minutes to follow shortly.
- **ICZM Welsh Stocktake Panel meeting** – The first meeting was held on 14th May in Cardiff to discuss the project and in particular the role of the Panel and the identification of case studies for the stocktake. Outputs of this work to date include the questionnaire and newsletter, a Communication Plan, Final Scoping Report and Agreement on Case Studies report which have all been sent to the Forum Management Group electronically. The response to date from Wales on the questionnaire has been very poor so if you have already not done so, please complete and return to Atkins. A date has been set for the National Workshop as the 4th September with a venue yet to be agreed. The case study areas have been selected as follows:-
 - Milford Haven & Pembrokeshire Islands
 - A comparison between the Dee and Severn Estuary
 - Menai Straits & Ynys Mon
 - Swansea & Carmarthen Bays

Detail on selection criteria are included in ‘Agreement on Case Studies’ document.

- **Coastnet Partnership Workshop** – Following the recent Coastnet Workshop, a report has now been produced and sent electronically to all Management Group members. The Conclusions and Recommendations identified by Coastnet at this event were as follows:-
 1. There is a considerable body of evidence within Coastal Partnerships which demonstrates their ability to deliver sustainable development on the coast through ICZM and ‘value-added’ activity. Further work is planned to bring this information together in a comprehensive form.
 2. The lack of a national framework for ICZM hampers the efforts of Coastal Partnerships to deliver, and during the workshop many potential actions were identified for Government in order to fill this vacuum. The National Stocktaking presently underway as part of the EU ICZM Recommendation and preparation of a national coastal strategy should consider this issue in detail.
 3. Coastal Partnerships recognise the need for a clearly defined role and

purpose, and practical performance indicators. The development of such is an urgent priority.

4. Coastal Partnerships could improve their performance further by improved exchange of information between such groups. As a first step a Standing Conference for Coastal Partnerships will be organised and a Good Practice Directory will be published.

5. CoastNET has been identified as the organisation best placed to take a lead on behalf of Coastal Partnerships in certain key areas. CoastNET will respond to the Action Plan with a statement of what and how it can deliver.

7.0 Future Events

- **Communities & Education Topic Group Meeting** – Following the 10 Topic Group meetings recently held some concern was expressed by individuals that this Topic Group would not be having a separate meeting. As the Forum were planning on running a workshop with the Coastcare members it was decided to expand it to include PALCC (Pembrokeshire Association of Local Community Councils), Coastcare members and the Communities and Education Topic Group. The event is to be held at the Picton Centre in Haverfordwest from 6.30pm to 9.30pm on 22nd July and Sue Mackie from Planed has offered to Chair the meeting.
- **County Show** – PCF are to join with Pembrokeshire Marine SAC and Pembrokeshire Biodiversity Partnership in the Countryside Section under the heading ‘partnerships’.