

CITY AND COUNTY OF SWANSEA

NOTICE OF MEETING

You are invited to attend a Meeting of the

GOWER AONB PARTNERSHIP STEERING GROUP

At: Barham Centre, Mount Pisgah Chapel, Parkmill, Swansea

On: Monday, 27 March 2017

Time: 7.00 pm

Chair: Councillor Paul Lloyd

Membership:

Councillors: M C Child, J P Curtice, J E C Harris, P R Hood-Williams, L James and K E Marsh

R Button, R Cooper, J Davies, S Heard, S Hill, P R Hood-Williams, G Howe, H Morgan, Osborn, D Vine, A Woodman and R Wright

AGENDA

	Page No.
1 Apologies for Absence.	
2 Welcome and Introductions.	
3 Disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial Interests. www.swansea.gov.uk/disclosuresofinterests	
4 Minutes. To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the previous meeting(s).	1 - 6
5 Matters Arising from the Minutes.	
6 Public Questions. <i>Questions must relate to matters on the Agenda and will be dealt within a 10 minute period.</i>	
7 AONB Management Plan - Council Approval and Action Plan Progress Report.	7 - 10
8 Sustainable Development Fund Update.	11 - 12
9 Gower Landscape Partnership Progress Report.	13 - 25
10 Light Pollution.	26 - 27

11 Gower AONB Partnership - Annual Forum and Steering Group Elections. 28

12 Future Landscapes Wales. (Verbal)

Next Meeting: Monday, 26 June 2017 at Reynoldston Village Hall



Huw Evans
Head of Democratic Services
21 March 2017

Contact: Democratic Services: - 636923

CITY AND COUNTY OF SWANSEA

MINUTES OF THE GOWER AONB PARTNERSHIP STEERING GROUP

HELD AT PENCLAWDD COMMUNITY CENTRE, PENCLAWDD ON
MONDAY, 19 DECEMBER 2016 AT 7.00 PM

PRESENT: Councillor P Lloyd (Chair) Presided

Councillor(s)

M C Child
K E Marsh

Councillor(s)

J E C Harris

Councillor(s)

L James

Representing Organisations:

R Button	Tourism Swansea Bay
S Heard	Gower Riding Club/Port Eynon Community Council
S Hill	GGAT
Councillor P R Hood-Williams	Upper Killay Community Council
R Cooper	Llanrhidian Higher Community Council
G Howe	Gower Society
J Davies	Bay Trans
H Osborn	Natural Resources Wales
A Woodman	Resident

Officer(s)

Paul Meller	Strategic Planning & Natural Environment Manager
Chris Lindley	Gower AONB Team Leader
Jeremy Parkhouse	Democratic Services Officer

ALSO PRESENT:

B Parry	Walking Forum
Stephen Crocker	Tourism Swansea Bay
Cathy Lewis	Tourism Swansea Bay

Apologies for Absence

Councillor(s): J P Curtice
Independent Member(s): D Vine and R Wright

22 **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS.**

The Chair welcomed all present to Penclawdd Community Centre and commenced proceedings.

23 **DISCLOSURES OF PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS.**

In accordance with the Code of Conduct adopted by the City and County of Swansea, no interests were declared.

24 **MINUTES.**

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Gower AONB Partnership Annual Meeting held on 19 September 2016 be accepted as a correct record.

25 **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.**

Toilet Provision and Cleanliness on Gower

Rod Cooper queried progress in respect of the issues raised at the previous meeting, particularly at Rhossili and whether the issue had been highlighted to the relevant Cabinet Member(s).

Councillor M C Child, Cabinet Member for Wellbeing and Healthy City stated that the future ownership and management of the toilets at Rhossili were being discussed with the National Trust.

The Group raised issues in relation to general toilet provision on Gower, particularly the lack of staff resources to effectively manage Council run toilets, the impact poor cleanliness and provision of toilets had upon tourism and the need to improve cleanliness in order for the public to respect the service provided.

RESOLVED that Cabinet Member for Wellbeing and Healthy City provide an update to members on this issue.

Ash Die-Back

Chris Lindley, Gower AONB Team Leader informed the meeting that an information note regarding the disease in Swansea was available on the Council website and details would be circulated to Community Town Councils.

Broadband / Mobile Phone Reception on Gower

The Gower AONB Team Leader updated the meeting regarding the proposed mobile mast at Horton that was being progressed by the UK Governments agents Arqiva under the Mobile Infrastructure Project (MIP). This project finished in March 2016, so development work on the mast had not been completed. He stated that the UK Government had accepted that the MIP had not succeeded in the manner it had hoped. However, he highlighted the enhanced obligations on mobile companies to provide greater coverage over land mass that are being introduced in the Digital Economy Bill which should improve reception in rural areas.

26 **APPROVAL OF AONB MANAGEMENT PLAN.**

The Gower AONB Team Leader presented a report which sought approval of the Gower AONB Management Plan.

It was outlined that the Gower AONB Management Plan (2016) had been produced by the AONB Team on behalf of the Gower AONB Partnership. Once adopted by the Council under the Local Development Plan (LDP), it would form Supplementary

Planning Guidance (SPG) and would be a material consideration in the determination of planning applications within and affecting the AONB. A copy of the Management Plan was provided in the Appendix to the report.

It was added that the first statutory Gower AONB Management Plan was adopted by the Council and published in 2006. The plan was the result of wide-ranging consultation, with involvement from stakeholders over more than two years in meetings, focus groups, site visits, presentations and consultations.

The first review of the Management Plan was initiated in 2010, but had been protracted for a number of reasons. Production of the final Gower AONB Management Plan (2016) had been preceded by review activities and the final Management Plan retained much of the structure and format of the 2006 Plan. The Group was also provided with details of consultation undertaken on the draft Management Plan, legal and resources implications.

The Group discussed the following: -

- *5.33 - Objective 16: To improve the current standard and level of maintenance of public rights of way so that 95% are open, usable and clearly signposted -* specifically concerns regarding future access and provision of public rights of way;
- *The two main activities with a potential impact on Gower are marine dredging for sand and offshore wind turbine developments –* concerns were also expressed regarding barrage schemes and large schemes that could potentially affect the AONB and other areas, e.g. Atlantic Array;
- Use by the Authority of previously published policies, especially those relating to static caravans and chalets and how these areas would be included in the Action Plan;
- *Theme 14: Awareness Raising and Understanding – Vision – A landscape which is fully recognised for its special qualities and is appreciated and understood by residents and visitors –* it was proposed that this theme should be the first theme as it is the most important;
- The need for the Management Plan to be adopted and used effectively;
- *3.71 - Permission may be granted for the specific purpose of providing affordable housing to meet an existing deficiency for people who need to live locally where this cannot be met through the general housing market –* It was highlighted that local Planners needed to adopt the spirit of this objective;
- The need to have a realistic Plan with recordable outcomes, to annually review the Management Plan and to measure against its objectives;
- The formal process of approval through the Authority;
- How bodies other than the Council are affected by the Management Plan;
- *Objective 28: Maintain good practice highway improvements across the AONB -* The requirement to include lowering traffic speed on Gower within the Plan and to consult with residents regarding any new proposals;
- The success of the 2006 Plan particularly an assessment of the objectives and actions from the 2006 Management Plan which shows where objectives and actions had been achieved / completed, not progressed, superseded or required carrying forward into the current plan period;

- The need to have a shortened version of the Plan with clear KPI's;
- Delivering the Plan would involve partner organisations.

Paul Meller, Strategic Planning and Natural Environment Manager informed the Group that Planning Services had changed the method it monitored policies and strategies and those not working would be addressed at an early stage. He added that the Plan would be reported to Planning Committee and subject to approval, would form Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) and would be a material consideration in the determination of planning applications within and affecting the AONB. He further stated that the Plan was not simply a planning based document and involved other service areas such as highways, parking and tourism.

It was proposed that the following amendments be made: -

- The two main activities with a potential impact on Gower are marine dredging for sand and offshore wind turbine developments be amended to include sea barrages;
- The Management Plan be regularly monitored and reviewed annually;
- Theme 14: Awareness Raising and Understanding – Vision – A landscape which is fully recognised for its special qualities and is appreciated and understood by residents and visitors be moved to Theme 1 of the Plan.

Given that the Management Plan was more than a planning-based document, the Group felt that a wider approval than that provided by the Planning Committee would be more appropriate.

RESOLVED that:-

- 1) The Gower AONB Management Plan be approved subject to the above amendments being made and that officers then progress Council approval in the manner most appropriate to the Council Constitution;
- 2) The Gower AONB Team Leader report on progress against the Action Plan targets for the next meeting.

27 **PLANNING RELATED MATTERS ON GOWER. (VERBAL)**

Gordon Howe, Gower Society raised issues in relation to planning matters on Gower. He highlighted the following: -

- Colours of static caravans – The colours should be improved on static caravans, particularly as caravans must be renewed after 10 years on site. Some caravan roofs had changed colour but the sides also needed changing. He added that it was a matter of trying to get people to appreciate the difference; Sheds within the AONB being given conditions to make them less conspicuous in the landscape – A number of sheds had been erected on Gower with / without consent that were contrary to planning conditions. He added that the modern materials used on white shed roofs did not fade, unlike older sheds. He had highlighted these cases to Planning Services to enforce.

RESOLVED that the contents of the report be noted.

28 **GOWER LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP UPDATE. (VERBAL)**

The Gower AONB Team Leader provided a verbal update regarding the Gower Landscape Partnership.

He outlined that the Partnership had moved to a different model of delivery, which was more of a commissioning role. He provided examples of the work undertaken by the Partnership and updated the Group on membership changes.

RESOLVED that the contents of the report be noted.

29 **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FUND UPDATE.**

The Gower AONB Team Leader provided an update report on the Sustainable Development Fund Panel.

It was outlined that this year, the budget for the fund was £55,000. There were currently 17 projects being funded, with a further 4 applications under assessment. Currently £7,626.52 was uncommitted for 2016/17, but this would be fully committed by the end of January.

The Committed Funds figure included a CCS Management Fee of £5,500 (10%).

Total Funds available	£ 55,000.00
Committed Funds	£ 47,373.48
Under Commitment	£ 7,626.52
Pending Applications	£ 7,625.00

The budget for 2017/18 would not be confirmed until March / April 2017, however, the Welsh Assembly Government had indicated that funding for 2017/18 would remain the same as 2016/17. There were 6 projects currently being funded for 2017/18, with 2 applications under assessment and 3 more anticipated within the next 2 months.

A budget of £48,600 was anticipated, with £25,670 currently committed, and applications valued at £20,600 anticipated. It was likely that the fund would be fully committed ahead of 2017/18.

RESOLVED that the contents of the report be noted.

30 **AFFORDABLE HOUSING SUB-COMMITTEE.**

Dates were requested in respect of Affordable Housing Sub-Committee meetings.

RESOLVED that the Gower AONB Team Leader circulates dates to the Sub-Committee.

The meeting ended at 8.35 pm

CHAIR

Report of the Cabinet Member for Enterprise, Development and Regeneration

Council – 23 March 2017

APPROVAL OF THE GOWER AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY (AONB) MANAGEMENT PLAN

Purpose:	To approve and adopt the Gower AONB Management Plan as Council policy and as Supplementary Planning Guidance.
Policy Framework:	Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 Council Constitution – Gower AONB Partnership Unitary Development Plan Local Development Plan
Consultation:	Access to Services, Finance, Legal
Recommendation(s):	It is recommended that: 1) The Gower AONB Management Plan is approved and adopted as Council policy and as Supplementary Planning Guidance to the Unitary Development Plan (UDP) and emerging Local Development Plan (LDP).
Report Author:	Chris Lindley
Finance Officer:	Paul Roach
Legal Officer:	Jonathan Wills
Access to Services Officer:	Ann Williams

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Gower AONB Management Plan (2016) has been produced by the Council's AONB Team on behalf of the Gower AONB Partnership, who approved the Plan (subject to completed amendments) at their meeting on 19 December 2016. Once adopted by the Council as policy, it will also be adopted as Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) under the current Unitary Development Plan (UDP) and the emerging Local Development Plan (LDP). As SPG, the Management Plan will be a material consideration in the determination of planning applications within and affecting the AONB. A copy of the Management Plan (2016) is available following this hyperlink:

<http://www.swansea.gov.uk/gowermanagement>

- 1.2 The Gower AONB Partnership ('the Partnership') is the advisory body to the Council, convened by them, to facilitate the management of the Gower AONB. The Partnership works to support the activity of everyone – local landowners, farmer, businesses, visitors, community groups and individuals - in their conservation and enhancement of natural beauty. The Partnership includes the key stakeholders in the AONB representing a wide range of interests. Terms of Reference are incorporated into the Council's Constitution, and the Partnership includes CCS Councillors, Natural Resources Wales (NRW) representatives plus 10 others elected at the Annual Forum.
- 1.3 The Steering Group of the Partnership is responsible for overseeing the management of the AONB, and is responsible for the development of policy and strategy for the AONB area, particularly through the AONB Management Plan. Specific responsibilities of the Steering Group include the preparation of the AONB Management Plan on behalf of the City and County of Swansea, as well as the coordination of its implementation.
- 1.4 The current adopted Management Plan was first published in 2006 and is overdue for its statutory review. This report summarises the Management Plan review and consultation process. Formal approval of this finalised version of the Management Plan is now required from the Council to approve its adoption as policy and for adoption as SPG.
- 1.5 The Management Plan provides policy and guidance that is broader than SPG to the UDP/LDP and the Constitution therefore provides for it to be adopted by Council.

2. Management Plan – Overview and Review Process

- 2.1 The first statutory Gower AONB Management Plan was adopted by the Council and published in 2006. The plan was the result of wide-ranging consultation, with involvement from stakeholders over more than two years in meetings, focus groups, site visits, presentations and consultations.
- 2.3 This first review of the Management Plan was initiated in 2010, but has been protracted for a number of reasons. Production of the Gower AONB Management Plan (2016) has been preceded by a number of preparation stages, including:
 - Statutory notifications letters (to Countryside Council for Wales (CCW) and Welsh Government) of an intention to review the management plan
 - Stakeholder Workshops (in May 2010) to identify key issues for the Management Plan review
 - SEA scoping report and consultation (in autumn 2010) with Cadw, CCW and the Environment Agency (the latter two now combined in NRW); and more recently

- Consultation with the AONB Partnership Steering Group and NRW (in summer 2013) on a draft State of the AONB report
- Public consultation on the draft Management Plan and supporting documentation in 2014/15.

2.4 The latest version of the Management Plan retains much of the structure and format of the 2006 Plan and comprises the following chapters

Chapter	Purpose
1: Introduction	An overview of: the Gower AONB; AONB management and management planning; links with other plans and strategies
2: Resources	Updates the characteristic of the special qualities of the Gower AONB - including their extent and condition - under four themes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural • Cultural • Environmental • Recreation
3: Activities and Pressures	An assessment of the activities and pressures acting on the special qualities of the AONB and how they may change in the future.
4: The Vision	The overall 20-year vision for the AONB, expressing the desirable condition, with specific vision statements for 14 key themes.
5: The Strategy	5-year objectives and policies for each of the 14 key themes
6: Action Plan	A 5-year action plan (2014-18) to achieve the objectives and implement policy.
7: Implementation Monitoring and Review	Monitoring and review requirements for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the implementation of the Management Plan • reporting on the condition of the AONB special qualities

3.0 Consultation on Draft Management Plan

3.1 Formal consultation responses on the draft Management Plan were received from the following organisations:

- Natural Resources Wales
- The National Trust
- The Gower Society
- The Countryside Management System Consortium
- Swansea Bay Sustainable Travel and Transport Partnership (Baytrans)
- Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust (GGAT)
- Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales
- South Wales Police
- Friends of Swansea Horses

Responses were also received from ten private individuals/businesses.

3.2 The attached Consultation Report details the responses received and the consequent amendments have been incorporated into the final version of the Management Plan.

3.3 The Gower AONB Partnership gave their approval to the Management Plan at their meeting 19 December 2016. Approval was subject to a small number of minor amendments that have been incorporated into the attached version.

4. Equality and Engagement Implications

4.1 An Equality Impact Assessment Screening was carried out which indicated that, at this level, a full EIA was not required. Any actions undertaken in delivery of the Gower AONB Management Plan will be subject to the standard EIA process.

5. Financial Implications

5.1 Whilst there are no immediate financial implications arising from this report, acceptance of this policy could result in additional expenditure at a future time. Acceptance of the policy does not mean that additional resources will be made available and it should be assumed that future spending needs will be contained within existing budget provision and have full and due regard to the budget principles set out in 'Sustainable Swansea – Fit for the Future'. Delivery of the Action Plan in Chapter 6 is dependent on the AONB Partnership organisations (not just the Council) working together to secure resources and deliver projects.

6. Legal Implications

6.1 The Council have a legal duty under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 to publish and review the Management Plan for the Gower AONB. The Management Plan is expected to '...formulate their policy for the management of the area of outstanding natural beauty and for the carrying out of their functions in relation to it'.

Background Papers: None

Appendices:

Appendix A: Gower AONB Management Plan – hyperlink

<https://democracy.swansea.gov.uk/documents/s33919/Gower%20AONB%20Management%20Plan%20Final.pdf?LLL=-1>

Appendix B Consultation Responses

Report of the Gower AONB Officer

Gower AONB Partnership Steering Group – 27 March 2017

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FUND

The aim of the fund is to support innovative, sustainable, environmental projects, which involve local communities in Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs).

The SDF aims, through partnership, to develop and test ways of achieving a more sustainable way of living in countryside of great natural beauty and diversity. The scheme seeks to conserve and enhance the local characteristics of culture, wildlife, landscape, land use and community. Sustaining the social well-being and economic viability of communities were also important aims of this scheme.

Applications are for small grants of less than £3,000 or larger grants of up to £25,000. Applications over £3,000 are assessed by the SDF Grants Panel, which is a subgroup of the AONB Partnership Steering Group.

Funding for 2016/17

Welsh Government had provided £55,000 for 2016/17, with an additional £15,000 confirmed in March 2017. These funds have now been spent, and the funding re-claimed from Welsh Government.

A total of 20 projects were funded by the SDF scheme during 2016/17, with a CCS Management Fee of £5,500.

Total Funds available	£ 70,000.00
Committed Funds	£ 70,003.98
Uncommitted Funds	- £ 3.98
Applications in progress	£ 0.00

Funding for 2017/18

Welsh Government have not yet confirmed the SDF budget for 2017/18, but have verbally indicated that it will be £55,000.

There are currently 8 projects with SDF funding for 2017/18, with a further 3 applications in progress.

The Committed Funds figure includes the CCS Management Fee of £5,500 (10%).

Total Funds available	£ 55,000.00
Committed Funds	£ 31,410.00
Uncommitted Funds	£ 23,590.00
Applications in progress	£ 4,800.00

SDF Grants Panel

The grants panel meets quarterly to consider applications. The proposed dates for 2017/18 are:

- 12th June 2017
- 11th September 2017 (training session)
- 11th December 2017
- 12th March 2018

**Mike Scott,
15 March 2017**

Explainer of what each tab contains.

These quarterly reports are laid out per HLF programme, one per tab.

Programme A = Green 'GNH & GBH' tab

Programme B = Blue 'CP' tab

Programme C = Purple 'AL' tab

Programme D = Red 'HT' tab

In each spreadsheet there are hidden columns for reports from previous quarters; if you w

Greyed out rows indicate that a project has been delivered and is closed.

The lighter grey column is next quarter's report underway, but not complete.

to view these, highlight columns A and F together, right click, and select 'Unhide'.

The final orange tab entitled 'HLF Outputs' contains tables summarising progress against HLF outputs and targets.

A RAG (red, amber, green) coding system has been applied, where:

Red = underachieving, less than 50% of target

Amber = more than 50% of target achieved

Green = target achieved or exceeded

Any queries or suggested amendments / improvements - please contact Helen Grey.

Programme A - Conserving or Restoring	Progress from 1st Oct to 31st Dec 2016	Progress from 1st Jan to 31st Mar 2017	Completion Date	Summary of changes to projects <i>(report any changes and/or risks to the projects agreed goals or state if no significant changes to report)</i>	Budget Implications
GNH2 – Dune Protection Lead: National Trust	COMPLETED	COMPLETED		Change to location of dunes.	-
GNH3 – Bracken clearance of promontory forts Lead: National Trust	<p>Progress: Update needed from National Trust.</p> <p>Future delivery: TBC by National Trust</p>	<p>Progress: Various volunteer days were delivered over the summer months.</p> <p>Future delivery: Will continue with clearance / scrub control as part of work programme.</p>	Mar-18	Please see Change Request 4.	<p>Current approved budget: £0</p> <p>New approved budget: £1500</p>
GNH4 – Redley Cliff Lead: Wildlife Trust	<p>Progress: Three volunteer work parties (Tues 1-11-16, Thurs 10-11-16, Tues 17-01-17)</p> <p>Future delivery: Expected to be completed in January.</p>	<p>Progress: Project contract completed. Work will continue outside of the contracted elements and vol time recorded.</p> <p>Future delivery: Cotoneaster will be treated early summer and more clearance in winter 17/18.</p>	Mar-17	No changes	-
GNH6 – SINC (incorporating GNH1) Lead: Nature Conservation Team	<p>Progress: Contract offered through Sell2Wales. 3 bids received. Contract awarded to Nature Conservation Team. Kick-off meeting held and first site visit carried out with potential applicant.</p> <p>Future delivery: Implementation of Advisory contract, processing of applications to grant scheme, continued works on CCS-owned sites.</p>	<p>Progress: No completed applications received to date. 6 Projects in pipeline: 1. Penmaen Grazing - National Trust 2. St. Madoc's Centre – pond creation and other works 3 & 4 - Lower Burry Pill SINC – 2 projects with separate owners 5. Llangennith SINC – Sea Buckthorn control 6. Ilston Cwm – knotweed control</p> <p>Number of landowners engaged: 6</p> <p>Future delivery: Implementation of Advisory contract, processing of applications to grant scheme, continued works on CCS-owned sites.</p>	Mar-18	No changes	-
GNH7 and GNH8 – Geological Heritage Lead: Gower AONB Team	<p>Progress: No delivery activity in the reporting period.</p> <p>Future delivery: Mike Scott of AONB Team is leading in this and has arranged a meeting in February. HG has asked for a project delivery plan (via Chris Lindley).</p>	<p>Progress: Meetings held with NRW & SEW RIGS Group, discussing a work programme to survey 17 Potential RIGS sites in Swansea (Priority Sites). An initial survey on West Cross Pericline has been undertaken – report being drafted.</p> <p>Future delivery: The RIGS Group will organise and carry out surveys on the remaining 16 sites. The site reports will highlight any necessary clearance work, and any interpretation proposed.</p>	Mar-18	No changes	-

GNH9 - Haymeadows Lead: National Trust	Progress: Rattle seed has been spread on 5 fields this winter (hectare TBC) ready to be included in management activities for	Progress: New sites have been identified for inclusion in the project and will be sown late summer 2017.	Mar-18	Please see Change Request 4.	Current approved budget: £28,100.
	Future delivery: All being well we can start to prepare the ground on many additional ha's in 2017 when the NT plans for Gower have been approved.	Future delivery: Sites already sown will be mown in summer. New sites will be sown later in the year.			
GNH10 – Gower Grazing Hub Lead: Gower Commons Association	Progress: Discussion with Gower Commons Association have led to proposal to install required cattle grid, gate, fencing on The Wern to allow grazing at that, and other, sites. Application made to SDF to secure additional match funding.	Progress: Issues and concerns have been raised by residents of The Wern Common Residents group. SDF application and approval to start the project have been put on hold giving Gower Commons Association time to consult with residents. It was agreed at Board that the above proposal be taken out of consideration due to timescales involved. NT put forward that the scope of project be changed to 'removing barriers to garzing' as due to time remaining and the lack of partnership support it is	Mar-18	No changes	
	Future delivery: Await confirmation of funding from SDF.	Future delivery: Working group to identify project / activities to deliver outputs / outcomes using remaining budget.			
GNH11 – Community clean-up Lead: CCS	Progress: No further progress in the reporting period.	Progress: No further progress in the reporting period.	Mar-18	No changes	
	Future delivery: Will depend on recruitment of GLP Support Officer.	Future delivery: Will depend on recruitment of GLP Support Officer.			
GNH12 - Hedgelaying Lead: CCS	Progress: No further progress in the reporting period.	Progress: Programme of 20 days' hedgelaying has been arranged. Includes contractor only days as well as sessions for volunteers. On National Trust and privately owned sites. New tools and safety equipment purchased. additional ~ 250m of hedge has been laid	Mar-18	No changes	
	Future delivery: Need to identify sites. Discuss with GLP partners.	Future delivery: Landowners, farmers being contacted to confirm sites for next hedgelaying season. Need to plan ahead and promote more widely and with advance notice to maximise opportunities for			
GBH 1, 2, 4 – Built heritage repairs Lead: Gower AONB Team	Progress: Condition survey was carried out on Pill House Pig Sty and report received.	Progress: None in reporting period	Mar-18	No changes	
	Future delivery: TBC by Gower AONB Team	Future delivery: Review meeting with Steve Smith w/c 13/3/17. CL and MS compiling list of proposed sites for working group to assess.			
GBH3 – Erosion repairs at promontory forts (included in GNH3)	NO LONGER PART OF PROGRAMME	NO LONGER PART OF PROGRAMME	N/A	Please see Change Request 1	The original budget of £4,000 has been directed to GNH9, Haymeadows
	NO LONGER PART OF PROGRAMME	NO LONGER PART OF PROGRAMME			
GBH5 – Geophysical survey of Knave and Paviland	COMPLETED	COMPLETED	Dec-14	No changes	
	COMPLETED	COMPLETED			
GBH6 – Restoration of Mewslade coastal wall Lead: National Trust Contractor: Andy Roberts	Progress: Contract offered through Sell2Wales. Two contractors expressed interest and attended site visits. Only one bid received. Awarded to Andy Roberts (who did the work on The Vile last year). Andy started work on site 1st December.	Progress: 25 m of wall has now been rebuilt. A group from HLF Wales office visited the wall.	Mar-18	No changes	£13k cash match from Gower Society confirmed.
	Future delivery: Continue with rebuilding and planning for taster sessions with groups / volunteers.	Future delivery: Dates for taster sessions: will take place in May, June, July. PJ to confirm exact dates with Andy Roberts.			

Gower Landscape Partnership - Quarterly Reports

Programme B - Community Participation

Report prepared by Helen Grey, European and External Funding Team

Programme B - Increasing Community Participation	Progress from 1st Oct to 31st Dec 2016	Progress from 1st Jan to 31st Mar 2107	Completion Date	Summary of changes to projects <i>(report any changes and/or risks to the projects agreed goals or state if no significant changes to report)</i>	Budget Implications
CP1 and CP2 – Mari Lwyd and Wassailing Lead: CCS Contractor: David Pitt	Progress: Mari Lwyd led the 3rd annual Pennard Lantern Parade. Future Delivery: TBC	Progress: No delivery activity in the reporting period. Future Delivery: Remaining budget could be used to support Gower Heritage Centre event and continue with Gower	Jan-18	No changes	-
CP3 – Gower Dictionary Lead: TBC (CCS procurement) Contractor: Rob Penhallurick	Progress: Discussions have been ongoing with Rob Penhallurick regarding the drawing up of a contract for Future Delivery: Rob has had other priorities thus far, but has confirmed he will work on a draft sample of the dictionary early in 2017. It is anticipated that	Progress: Project start delayed as no progress pending RPs feedback on draft publishing agreement. CL to Future Delivery: TBC	Mar-18	Please see Change Request 4	Current approved budget: £7000 New approved budget: £10,800
CP4 – Gower Gleanings	NO LONGER PART OF PROGRAMME	NO LONGER PART OF PROGRAMME	N/A	Please see Change Request 4	-
CP5 – Finding Our History	Progress: The Gower Archaeology event was hugely successful and sold out, and there is talk of arranging another one in 2018. £2k cash match was secured from Gower Society. Future Delivery: No future delivery planned as project budget has now been fully	PROJECT COMPLETED. Future Delivery: There are plans to run a biannual conference on the back of the	Nov-16	Please see Change Request 4	Current approved budget: £6,099 New approved budget: £10,099
CP6 and 7 – Art in the Landscape Lead: TBC (CCS procurement)	Progress: No delivery activity during the reporting period. Future Delivery: Develop ideas with Gower artists	Progress: HG met with Gower Group studios. Also contacted oether Gower artists for input. Contacted Glynn Vivian but no response. Draft spec has been written and is due to be published 15th March. Future Delivery: Award contract/s	Mar-18	Renamed: Art in the Landscape	-

CP8 – Ancient Ways and Greenways Lead: GGAT	Progress: TBC by GGAT (has been requested)	Progress: TBC by GGAT	Mar-17	No changes	-
	Future Delivery: TBC by GGAT	Future Delivery: TBC by GGAT			
CP9 – Community Enablers Lead: CCS	Progress: <u>Community Kites Project</u> As part of the community kites project, CARP (the facilitators) produced a reflective report on the successes, lessons learned, and recommendations for future community-led engagement.	Progress: <u>Rhossili Medieval Village</u> Early discussions have included the need to engage target groups in activities. <u>Bringing Gower Home</u> Final sessions being delivered.	Mar-18	Please see Change Request 4	Current approved budget: £88,000 New approved budget: £91,800
	Future Delivery: Delivery of final BGH sessions will take place in Jan / Feb 2017. Development of final activities / project is now needed.	Future Delivery: Support from staff is needed to facilitate and ensure GLP target and include under-represented groups. This is to be done			
CP10 – Ancient Hedge Banks Lead: CCS Contractor: Exegesis and Coeden Fach	Progress: Contract started to digitise map of Gower hedgerows for use in surveys and future projects. This will be overlaid by other data such as archaeological significance, ecological connectivity, to identify areas of priority for fieldwork.	Progress: GIS Digitisation of Gower hedgerows has been completed. Coed Cymru have assisted with further prioritisation for fieldwork that will both groundtruth the GIS classifications and collect further data regarding site specific features and management.	Mar-18	No changes	-
	Future Delivery: Community engagement	Future Delivery: Dates for hedgerow survey are: 3, 10, 22, 25 April and 4, 11 May.			
CP11 Seashore Safaris Lead: CCS	Progress: No activity during the reporting period.	Progress: No activity during the reporting period.	Mar-18	Please see Change Request 4	Current approved budget: £6,000
	Future Delivery: TBC	Future Delivery: To be discussed by working group.			
CP12 – Artist- led events	PROJECT COMPLETED	PROJECT COMPLETED	N/A	Please see Change Request 4	Current approved budget: £6,000 New
	PROJECT COMPLETED	PROJECT COMPLETED			

CP13 – Cockles and mussels	Progress: Procurement of consultant is	Progress: No activity during the reporting	Mar-18	No changes	-
	Future Delivery: Heritage interpretation plan to be completed by end March.	Future Delivery: Heritage interpretation plan to be completed by end March and detail how spending to be			
CP14 – Quantifying Climate Change	Progress: No further progress to be reported in this period	Progress: No further progress to be reported in this period	Mar-18	No changes	-
	Future Delivery: See CP13	Future Delivery: See CP13			
CP15 and 16 – Taste of Gower Lead: CCS	Progress: Two walks were delivered: Nov - Three Cliffs ?	Progress: CCS Sports Development Team will continue to organise and deliver ToG walks in-kind until April. Thereafter they will cease to deliver this activity on behalf of GLP. Impacts cash match funding by ~£1k loss.	Mar-18	Please see Change Request 4	Current approved: £9,600 New approved budget:
	Future Delivery: At this stage it is uncertain	Future Delivery: TBC			
CP17 – Heritage Hit Squad Lead: GGAT	Progress: No delivery activity in the reporting period. Remaining delivery is planned for later in 2017	Progress: No delivery activity in the reporting period. Remaining delivery is planned for later in 2017	Sep-17	No changes	-
	Future Delivery: Three events to be delivered in 2017.	Future Delivery: Dates TBC by GGAT			
CP18 – Evaluation and Monitoring Focus Groups Lead: Wavehill	Progress: Fieldwork was completed during the reporting period and a draft report submitted in December and Mair met with Helen and Chris to review and discuss draft Interim report.	Progress: Wavehill presented their report to the Partnership on 26th January. Recommendations were discussed at February Board meeting and will be discussed further on March 16th.	Mar-18	Please see Change Request 4	Remaining budget: £0
	Future Delivery: Presentation of findings and recommendations for discussion with GLP Partnership planned for 26th January.	Future Delivery: Final evaluation work and report will be completed March 2018. Or, shortly thereafter.			
CP19 – Gower from the Sea Lead: CCS	Progress: No delivery activity in the reporting period.	Progress: No delivery activity in the reporting period.	Mar-18	Please see Change Request 4	Budget reduced by £11,000
	Future Delivery: Liaise with Oakley Intertidal re: delivery plans. Project also	Future Delivery: Suggest revert to original project scope, detail to be agreed by			
CP20 – Evaluation and Monitoring visitors	Progress: Fieldwork and interviews	Progress: See CP18	Mar-18	No changes	-
	Future Delivery: Presentation of Interim report expected on 26th January 2017.	Future Delivery: See CP18			
CP21 – Brass Band.	COMPLETED	COMPLETED	Sep-16	Please see Change Request 4	Remaining budget reduced to £0
	COMPLETED	COMPLETED			

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Programme C - Access and Learning

Report prepared by Helen Grey, European and External Funding Team

Programme C - Access and Learning	Progress from 1st Oct to 31st Dec 2016	Progress from 1st Jan to Mar 2017 <i>(report in progress in readiness for next claim)</i>	Completion Date <i>completion date</i>	Summary of changes to projects <i>(report any changes and/or risks to the projects agreed goals or state if no significant changes to report)</i>	Budget Implications
AL 1 and AL4 – Gower App Trails	PROJECT COMPLETED	PROJECT COMPLETED	Mar 2015		
	PROJECT COMPLETED	PROJECT COMPLETED			
AL2 – Green Guide to Gower Lead: SEF	Progress: No delivery activity during the reporting period.	Progress: No delivery activity during the reporting period. No delivery plans in place.	Mar 2018?		
	Future Delivery: TBC	Future Delivery: To be reviewed by working group			
AL3 – Multi-user access improvements Lead: Gower AONB Team	Progress: Successfully secured funding from WG and NRW. Capital works making good progress.	Progress: Capital works and bridge installation in Parkmill now complete. Awaiting delivery of Port Eynon materials.	Mar-17	Please see Change Request	Decrease of
	Future Delivery: Procure materials and services to implement groundworks at Port Eynon.	Future Delivery: Contractor installation of Port Eynon board walk scheduled for April.			
AL 6 – Virtual Visitor Centre Lead: Gower AONB Team	Progress: Ongoing and unresolved issues with Rippleffect and parts of the website not working properly. There has been discussion about involving CCS Leagal team to progress this matter.	Progress: Issues with consultant (Rippleffect) still unresolved. CL has escalated.	Contract completed – Dec 2015. Activity - ongoing		
	Future Delivery: Requires internal CCS additional staff resource.	Future Delivery: TBC. To be picked up by working group.			
AL7 and 10 – Mobile display Lead: Gower	Progress: No further delivery activity during the reporting period.	Progress: No further delivery activity during the reporting period.	Mar-18		
	Future Delivery: Requires additional staff resource.	Future Delivery: Requires additional staff resource.			
AL8 – Industrial on site heritage Penclawdd Lead: Gower AONB Team Contractor:	Progress: See CP13	Progress: Workshops held with local community. Draft report from consultant received.	Mar-18		
	Future Delivery: Community engagement / consultation.	Future Delivery: GLP working group and Penclawdd local group to collaborate in delivery of recommended projects. Likely to include a festival and possible repair and interpretation work on the railway platform.			

AL9 – Geocaching and Wild Days Out Lead: CCS	Progress: No delivery activity in the reporting period.	Progress: No delivery activity in the reporting period. But made link with Cynydd programme and ringfenced funding for schools to access funding for these groups.	Mar-18		
	Future Delivery: Community engagement activities such as these were being planned by the GLP Coordinator, as this post has not been replaced since January we are now waiting for the new GLP Project Support Officer to start who will work with community groups.	Future Delivery:			
AL11 – Schools and Education Centres Lead: CCS	Progress:	Progress: Christchurch Primary trip to Rhossili as part of the development of a school / family activity pack about shipwrecks and smugglers. Specification for tender is being drafted.	Mar 2018		
	Future Delivery: Develop and procure final year of schools' activities.	Future Delivery: Award contract.			
AL12 – Gower Heritage Materials Lead: CCS	Progress: No delivery activity in the reporting period.	Progress: No delivery activity in the reporting period. Discussed with Heritage Centre development of multi-lingual app for visitors to use on self-guided visits.	Mar 2018		
	Future Delivery: TBC	Future Delivery: As well as above. Suggest working group decide how to use remaining funding.			
AL13 – Collections of stories re: shipwrecks Lead: Viv Harries	Progress: Draft publication has been shared with GLP Team and will be trialled with a city centre school before being finalised.	Progress: Education / activity pack has been completed. Awaiting translation	Mar 2017	Please see Change Request	Increase of £882 to budget
	Future Delivery: Site visit and feedback from Christchurch Primary school.	Future Delivery: Production of packs and promotion / roll-out to schools. Who will do promo?			
AL14 – Gower Gold, Silver, etc	Progress: See CP13	Progress: See CP13	Mar 2018		
	Future Delivery: See CP13	Future Delivery: See CP13			
AL15 – Community Geophysical Survey Lead: TBC (CCS procurement)	Progress: Propose to work collaboratively with GGAT, NT and Cadw on a dig at the deserted Rhossili medieval village.	Progress: Initial meeting to discuss possible collaborations took place on 26th January 2017.	Mar 2015		
	Future Delivery: Initial meeting to discuss the above has been arranged for 26th January 2017.	Future Delivery: Secure / confirm funding Procure services to coordinate and run the project Confirm project plan and partner input Deliver project			

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Programme D - Heritage Training

Report prepared by Helen Grey, European and External Funding Team

Programme D - Training and skills	Progress from 1st Oct to 31st Dec 2016	Progress from 1st Jan to Mar 2017	Completion Date	Summary of changes to projects	Budget Implications
HT1 – Community Supported Agriculture Lead: Cae Tan	Progress: The Cae Tan film has been completed and looks great. Many photos of the past months' activities are on their Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/Cae-T%C3%A2n-CSA-1466314323699258/?fref=ts The film can be viewed here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=szd-AcS7VFE	PROJECT COMPLETED	Mar 2017		
	Future Delivery: Project completed.	PROJECT COMPLETED			
HT3 – Training in Heritage Skills and Crafts. Lead: TBC (CCS procurement)	Progress: No activity in this reporting period.	Progress: No delivery activity in this reporting period.	Mar 2018		
	Future Delivery: Develop specification for procurement by end Feb 2017.	Future Delivery: Spec being developed. To be taken forward by working group.			
HT4 – Ecotourism and Ambassador Training Lead: TBC (CCS procurement)	Progress: RDP LAG supported proposal so now need to develop specification for procurement of the project and feasibility study.	Progress: LAG approved support for the project. Tender advertised and 4 bids received, awaiting assessment scores and award of contract.	Mar-18		
	Future Delivery: Await approval from RDP LAG for match funding then publish tender on S2W.	Future Delivery: Procurement and award contract.			
HT5 – Community walk leaders	Progress: PROJECT COMPLETED	Progress: PROJECT COMPLETED	Contract completed – Dec 2015. Activity - ongoing		
	Future Delivery: See CP15&17	Future Delivery: See CP15&18			
HT6 - Get Into Heritage Lead: TBC (CCS procurement)	Progress: No delivery during the reporting period.	Progress: No delivery during the reporting period.	Mar-18	Please see Change Request 4 and 8	
	Future Delivery: If commons results-based project proposal approved, develop specification and put out to tender.	Future Delivery: Decision needs to be made regarding commons results-based proposal. Or to put tender out for delivery of original specification to work with disadvantaged groups on heritage projects. Down to Earth have expressed interest in this.			

HT10 – Hedgerow Survey Lead: CCS	Progress: In collaboration with GGAT under project CP8 a winter hedgerow tree id training session was delivered.	Progress: Dates agreed with Coeden Fach for delivery of training sessions. Poster will be published shortly. A number of farmers / landowners have been recruited to take part in the survey.	Mar-18		
	Future Delivery: Further training sessions to be organised.	Future Delivery: Delivery of training sessions and ongoing support of volunteers.			
HT11 – Species Identification Lead: TBC (CCS procurement)	Progress: No delivery activity in the reporting period.	Progress: No delivery activity in the reporting period.	Mar-18		
	Future Delivery: TBC	Future Delivery: Could be included with Rural Skills and Crafts tender.			
HT12 - Apprenticeship Programme Lead: Commons Vision	Progress: Received clarification on the commons / grazing projects. Contract promoted through S2W. One submission received from and awarded to Commons Vision.	Progress: Awaiting update from PJ.	Mar-18		
	Future Delivery: Project kick-off and delivery.	Future Delivery: TBC by Commons Vision			
HT13 – Haymeadow Training Lead: National Trust	Progress: No further delivery in the reporting period.	Progress: Wildlife Trust and National Trust has proposed using the remaining budget to upskill staff and volunteers in scything training and to be able to train others.	Mar 2018		
	Future Delivery: TBC by National Trust	Future Delivery: To be taken forward by working group			
HT17 – Oral History Lead: TBC (CCS procurement)	Progress: No further delivery during the reporting period.	Progress: Tender is now advertised on Sell2Wales. Closing date: Monday 27th March	Mar 2018		
	Future Delivery: Develop specification for procurement and put out to tender by end Feb.	Future Delivery: Award contract			
HT18 – Gower Coastal Rangers Lead: National Trust	Progress: No delivery activity in the reporting period, but now in discussions with NT regarding their plans for a marine wildlife watch project - already 30 volunteers expressed an interest.	Progress: Project outline and outputs agreed with National Trust and delivery underway. Events held: TBC Volunteers engaged / trained: TBC	Mar 2018		
	Future Delivery: Develop project with NT.	Future Delivery: Continue with delivery plans, engage schools and community groups.			

Gower Landscape Partnership - HLF Outputs Summary

Report prepared by Helen Grey, European and External Funding Team

Output	Target	Progress to date	Remaining	Plan to achieve target or amend
LF: Landowners and farmers engaged	20	16	4	SINCs / Wildlife Sites project
LCG_ME: Lowland calcareous grassland_maintain extent	50	12	38	Discuss with AKE / Gower Commoners
LCG_AC: Lowland calcareous grassland_achieve condition	80	23.7	56.3	Discuss with AKE / Gower Commoners
LLM: Lowland meadow_restored	20	16.35	3.65	Discuss with AKE
CSD: Coastal sand dune_maintain extent	50	56	-6	
MCS: Maritime cliff and slope_restored	100	2.5	97.5	Discuss with AKE
HR: Hedgerows_maintain extent	2000	391	1609	Should be met with future work
DSW: Dry stone walls_restored / repaired	500	390	110	240m to be rebuilt at Mewslade so should exceed target

Output	Target	Progress to date	Remaining	Plan to achieve target or amend
PSWW - Primary schools worked with (number)	15	15	0	
PSWW - Primary schools worked with (beneficiaries)	600	921	-321	
SSWW - Secondary schools worked with (number)	5	0	5	
SSWW - Secondary schools worked with (beneficiaries)	250	157	93	Include this target in the schools and education centres contract. Or reduce and increase primary school figures.
SVTS - School visits to site (number)	25	27	-2	
SVTS - School visits to site (beneficiaries)	750	798	-48	Still some to add. Plus also include in schools and education centres contract.
OVTS -Outreach visits to schools (number)	6	25	-19	
OVTS -Outreach visits to schools (beneficiaries)	180	469	-289	

Output	Target	Progress to date	Remaining	Plan to achieve target or amend
YGWW - Youth groups worked with (number)	20	8	12	Ensure future engagement of youth groups in activities and through contracted work where possible.
YGWW - Youth groups worked with (beneficiaries)	3000	308	2692	Tend to work with smaller groups than the average target number (150 per group). Likely to need to revise.
CGWW - Community groups worked with (number)	20	34	-14	
CGWW - Community groups worked with (beneficiaries)	3000	1413	1587	Tend to work with smaller groups. Target average group size is 150 beneficiaries per group. Likely to be revised.

Output	Target	Progress to date	Remaining	Plan to achieve target or amend
Colleges / universities worked with (number)	3	3	0	
CUWW - Colleges / universities worked with (beneficiaries)	250	226	24	

LRP - Learning resources and packs (number)	3	4	-1	
FLA - Family learning activities (number)	15	44	-29	Data yet to be added.
FLA - Family learning activities (beneficiaries)	1000	1368	-368	Data yet to be added.
ALA - Adult learning activities (number)	50	23	27	
ALA - Adult learning activities (beneficiaries)	300	135	165	

Output	Target	Progress to date	Remaining	Plan to achieve target or amend
CTP - Cultural tradition projects (number)	10	21	-11	
CTP - Cultural tradition projects (beneficiaries)	300	100	200	Data missing - has been requested. Expected to meet this target.
OHP - Oral history projects (number)	1	0	1	Data missing - has been requested. Also, there will be a contract specifically to deliver an oral history project in 2017, so expected to meet / exceed this target.
OHP - Oral history projects (beneficiaries)	20	0	20	Data missing - has been requested. Also, there will be a contract specifically to deliver an oral history project in 2017, so expected to meet / exceed this target.

Output	Target	Progress to date	Remaining	Plan to achieve target or amend
Festivals, re-enactments ,events	30	13	17	Data to be added. Target should be met.
Festivals, re-enactments ,events	2000	4992.5	-2992.5	
E&D - Exhibitions and displays (number)	8	0	8	Awaiting figures and evidence from MS re: library displays. Target probably already met
E&D - Exhibitions and displays (beneficiaries)	400	0	400	Awaiting figures from MS re: library displays. Target probably already met

Output	Target	Progress to date	Remaining	Plan to achieve target or amend
GWT - Guided walks and tours (number)	50	25	25	not included Gower walking Festival (2014) and also more planned for 2017. Expect
GWT - Guided walks and tours (beneficiaries)	2000	2092	-92	
TWFD -Tours / walks for disabled people (number)	3	2	1	Further walk/s in 2017
walks for disabled people (beneficiaries)	30	45	-15	

Output	Target	Progress to date	Remaining	Plan to achieve target or amend
Heritage trails_impro	11	15	-4	
GLI: Green lanes improved	10	0	10	

Output	Target	Progress to date	Remaining	Plan to achieve target or amend
IB: Interpretation boards_new	8	8	0	
LN: Leaflets_new	20	37	-17	
DM: Other: digital media_new	5	7	-2	

	Target	Progress to date	Remaining	Plan to achieve target or amend
TBD: Tourism and business development training (courses)	3	2	1	Data yet to be added
TBD: Tourism and business development training (days)	3	4	-1	Data yet to be added
TBD: Tourism and business development training (beneficiaries)	20	23	-3	Data yet to be added

	Target	Progress to date	Remaining	Plan to achieve target or amend
PLT: Participation and Learning Training (courses)	12	3	9	
PLT: Participation and Learning Training (days)	12	14	-2	
PLT: Participation and Learning Training (beneficiaries)	250	20	230	

	Target	Progress to date	Remaining	Plan to achieve target or amend
LHT: Land and habitat management training (courses)	8	2	6	Still some to add, plus dry stone walling tasters and training. Also, contract to go out for delivery of rural skills and crafts training programme that will contribute. These targets need to be included in contracts.
LHT: Land and habitat management training (days)	8	2	6	ditto
LHT: Land and habitat management training (beneficiaries)	50	6	44	ditto
RSH: Rural skills and heritage training (courses)	38	19	19	Still some to add, plus dry stone walling tasters and training. Also, contract to go out for delivery of rural skills and crafts training programme that will contribute. These targets need to be included in contracts.
RSH: Rural skills and heritage training (days)	74	26	48	ditto
RSH: Rural skills and heritage training (beneficiaries)	350	120	230	ditto

	Target	Progress to date	Remaining	Plan to achieve target or amend
VOL: Volunteers involved	150	145	5	Data yet to be added. Target will be met
JOB: Internal jobs	3.5	0	3.5	

Agenda Item 10

Report of the Gower Society

Gower AONB Partnership Steering Group – 27 March 2017

LIGHT POLLUTION

For some considerable time the Society has been observing an increase in light pollution on the Gower AONB. This has been emphasised by the results of the excellent work that the City and County of Swansea have carried out on street light replacements over the last three years. These lights have, we understand, been specifically installed to prevent upward light pollution as well as saving running costs as they use less electricity.

The following examples of light pollution are quoted because they notably impinge upon the Dark Skies Zone (a National Designated Scheme) in the Gower AONB and do not appear to comply with the excellent CCS 'Lighting Guidance for Gower AONB' that came into force about 10 years ago. The examples are not conclusive and some are worse than others. They are examples, however, that appear to contradict the Dark Skies Designation and the Lighting Guide.

- 1) The new Swansea FC Training grounds at the University of Swansea Playing Fields at Fairwood. A great number of badly directed lights that are more intrusive than the adjacent Upland RC ground. On the Gower fringe.
- 2) The Kittle Egg Farm where external lighting is seen from many directions because it does not shine purely downwards and it is in an elevated position. Hardly necessary?
- 3) Contractors Yard at Pwll yr froga, Marsh Road at Crofty. A new 'barn' has extensive external lighting. Installed recently.
- 4) Opposite Crofty, the Golf Club Driving Range at Machynys, Llanelli. High intensity lighting pointing over to Gower across the estuary and shines directly over to the AONB. This is totally unacceptable and individuals who live opposite it complain about the lights shining into their homes. On most nights until about 10 pm.
- 5) Crickton Farm at Llanrhidian. External lighting polluting the skies and seen from Cefn Bryn and from the highway at Llanrhidian. The glow upwards has to be seen to appreciate the impact that this has!
- 6) Static Caravan Site at Greenways Oxwich. This is increased lighting 'by stealth' and whilst there are no individual lights of high strength the impact is due to sheer numbers and tree removal. Seen mainly from the A418 at Nicholston and Penmaen as well as Cefn Bryn.
- 7) Llanrhidian Park. A gradual increase of light pollution work at the club house (and Purple Badger enterprise) has increased outside lighting and removal of trees. Also increased lighting at the entrance.
- 8) The various other rugby grounds at Penclawdd, Scurlage, Upper Killay, Gowerton all add to the problem but have at present relatively limited use during the week. However the lights do direct out of the area and it may be possible to adjust downwards.

- 9) Garage signs at Knelston Filling Station. Contrary to Planning Appeal decision some 10 years ago. Reported as a formal complaint three months ago by the GS.
- 10) Scurlage Surgery and Pharmacy. Two large and high orange sodium lights that can be observed sideways on from every angle as well as perimeter lights around the structure. Needs attention for certain.

There is no question that there are many other examples within the AONB and it is generally caused by lack of appreciation of the impact and none compliance with the Lighting Guide. Pitton Cross Camp Site did an excellent corrective lighting scheme a couple of years ago and it made a significant beneficial impact on the night landscape and skies.

GRH 11/03/17

Agenda Item 11

Report of the Gower AONB Officer

Gower AONB Partnership Steering Group – 27 March 2017

AONB ANNUAL FORUM – ELECTION OF STEERING GROUP MEMBERS

The Gower AONB Partnership will hold its Annual Forum at Reynoldston Village Hall, on Monday, 26th June 2017, at 7pm.

The Partnership is a membership body, open to anyone with an interest in Gower. It is an advisory group to the Council, convened by them, to facilitate the management of the Gower AONB, in fulfilment of their legal responsibilities and duties with regard to the Gower AONB.

Each year the Gower AONB Partnership holds an Annual Forum, at which we talk about what has been achieved by the partners, and what we intend to do in the next year. Importantly, we also elect representatives to a Steering Group, which oversees the development and implementation of the Gower AONB Management Plan by the partners.

The Steering Group acts as the managing body of the AONB Partnership comprising up to 6 Councillors, 2 representatives from Natural Resources Wales and 10 other representatives.

In May, we will invite nominations for the election of these 10 other representatives, with information sent out to the members of the AONB Partnership, and promoted through local media. The appointments are for two years.

It is anticipated that these other representatives will come from the following groups:

- Community Councils
- Nature conservation
- History and archaeology
- Land owning/farming/forestry
- Commoners
- Rural business
- Tourism
- Recreation
- Local interest groups
- Residents of the Gower AONB

The role of the Steering Group is to oversee, guide and monitor the work of the Partnership, as they work to implement the Management Plan. They also help to manage the Sustainable Development Fund – a small grant scheme funded by Welsh Government, which supports a variety of projects within the AONB.

The Steering Group meets about 4 times a year, and its members are expected to promote and disseminate the work of the AONB Partnership within the groups and interests they represent, and to speak on behalf of those groups and interests.

Mike Scott, 15 March 2017