

CITY AND COUNTY OF SWANSEA

MINUTES OF THE GOWER AONB PARTNERSHIP STEERING GROUP

HELD AT REYNOLDSTON VILLAGE HALL, REYNOLDSTON, GOWER,
SWANSEA ON MONDAY, 26 JUNE 2017 AT 7.00 PM

PRESENT: Councillor P Lloyd (Chair) Presided

Councillor(s)

M C Child
A H Stevens

Councillor(s)

J P Curtice

Councillor(s)

L James

Representing Organisations:

H Osborne - Natural Resources Wales

Officer(s)

Chris Lindley - Gower AONB Team Leader

Paul Meller - Strategic Planning & Natural Environment Manager

Jeremy Parkhouse - Democratic Services Officer

Mike Scott - Gower AONB Officer

R Button	F McEwen	W Harris
S Heard	M Phillips	C Williams
G Howe	I Scott	D Thomas
S Hill	C Johnson	E Button
R Cooper	E Fussell	M Lewis
J Davies	M Piercay	P Thornton
C Hill	J Piercay	B Parry
P Tucker	E Harris	H Jones
R Harris	J Probert	P Bowen- Simpkins
I Button	A Frank	R Vine
S Crocker	D Jeffrey	D Vine
M Mead	L Evans	J Mead
S Mead		

Apologies for Absence

Councillor(s): P R Hood-Williams

Independent Member(s): R Wright

1 **MINUTE SILENCE - JOHN BARROW.**

The Chair referred to the recent sad death of John Barrow, a former member of the Gower Countryside Forum. Roger Button also paid a tribute on behalf of the Partnership Group. All present stood as a mark of respect.

2 **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS.**

The Chair welcomed all present to Reynoldston Village Hall and commenced proceedings.

3 **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.

4 **MINUTES.**

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Gower AONB Steering Group Meeting Held on 27 March 2017 be accepted as a correct record.

5 **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.**

Mobile Phone and Broadband Reception on Gower

Roger Button commented that there was still very poor mobile phone coverage on Gower, which was having an adverse effect upon the walking and Gower Landscape project apps for mobile phones.

Light Pollution

Chris Lindley, Gower AONB Team Leader reported that discussions were progressing with other AONB's and NRW regarding tranquillity and dark skies Wales 2018/19 which has been included in the NRW forward work programme.

6 **PRESENTATION - THE WORK AND ROLES OF THE GOWER AONB PARTNERSHIP & GOWER AONB TEAM.**

Mike Scott, Gower AONB Officer provided a presentation on the work of the Gower AONB Partnership. He outlined the Gower AONB designation, the role of the Gower AONB Partnership and the work of the AONB Team within the City and County of Swansea.

7 **PRESENTATION - PARTNER BODIES.**

Gower Society

Gordon Howe, Gower Society provided a presentation on the work of the Society, particularly during the last year. He made reference to the grants and financial support the Society had awarded during the previous year and highlighted the significant role the Society had on Gower.

Natural Resources Wales

Hamish Osborne, Swansea Team Leader, Natural Resources Wales (NRW) provided an update presentation regarding the work of NRW on Gower. He

provided details regarding the management of NRW in Swansea and the Swansea Valley; the purpose of the organisation; the woodland estates, nature reserves and conservation of protected sites it manages on Gower.

8 **PRESENTATION - FUTURE LANDSCAPES: DELIVERING FOR WALES.**

Chris Lindley, Gower AONB Team Leader provided a presentation regarding the Welsh Designated Landscapes Review. He referred to the contents of the Future Landscapes: Delivering for Wales report, which was the Review of Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and National Parks in Wales. He also highlighted the implications for Gower AONB.

9 **REVIEW OF AONB ACTION PLAN 2015-2018.**

Mike Scott, Gower AONB Officer, provided a Review of the AONB Action Plan 2015-2018. He detailed the work of the previous 2 years and the planned work until 2018. He made reference to the projects that had been supported and had received financial assistance.

10 **TO ELECT TEN STEERING GROUP MEMBERS FROM NOMINATIONS RECEIVED.**

The Chair explained that 13 nominations had been received for 10 membership vacancies on the Partnership Steering Group. Therefore, an election was required.

Voting papers were circulated to all present.

RESOLVED that the following be elected to the Gower AONB Partnership Steering Group for a period of two years, in accordance with the Terms of Reference:

Name	Representing
Roger Button	Individual
Rod Cooper	Individual
Stephen Crocker	Tourism Swansea Bay
Stephen Heard	Gower Riding Club / Port Eynon Community Council
Sue Hill	Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust
Gordon Howe	Gower Society
Michael Lewis	Individual
Barbara Parry	Individual
Paul Tucker	Llanrhidian Higher Community Council
Deborah Vine	Individual

11 **TO ELECT THE VICE CHAIR OF THE STEERING GROUP FOR THE 2017/2018 MUNICIPAL YEAR.**

RESOLVED that Stephen Heard be elected as Vice-Chair of the Steering Group for the 2017/18 Municipal year.

12 **TO ELECT THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FUND (SDF) GRANTS PANEL (CONSISTS OF CHAIR OF STEERING GROUP, 3 COUNCILLORS AND 4 OTHER MEMBERS).**

The item was deferred to the next Steering Group meeting on 25 September 2017.

13 **TO ELECT THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FUND (SDF) GRANTS APPEALS PANEL (CONSISTS OF VICE CHAIR OF STEERING GROUP, 1 COUNCILLOR AND 6 OTHER MEMBERS WHO DO NOT ALREADY SIT ON SDF GRANTS PANEL).**

The item was deferred to the next Steering Group meeting on 25 September 2017.

14 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME. (10 MINUTES)**

Parking – Cefn Bryn

Ian Button asked a question regarding parking near King Arthur's Stone at Cefn Bryn. The meeting discussed the topic of parking on Cefn Bryn, the effect of parking upon the village of Reynoldston and possible options available. It was commented that the area was under the control of Llanrhidian Lower Community Council.

Chris Lindley, Gower AONB Team Leader stated that the Rural Development Partnership had been asked to examine the issue in detail and that it required a partnership approach.

RESOLVED that an update report be provided to the next scheduled meeting.

Cefn Bryn – Water on Road

Paul Tucker queried water on the road at Cefn Bryn and commented that it would be hazardous in Winter. He added that the drains required regular cleaning. Roger Button added that the water had previously caused the road to collapse.

Historical Buildings / Monuments

Mike Lewis asked questions relating to the ownership of Whitford Lighthouse and its condition, historical buildings on Burry Holmes and the condition of Pennard Castle. It was explained that Carmarthenshire County Council owned Whitford Lighthouse and it was recognised that funding was required to undertake work to the structure. In addition, it was stated that CADW were fully aware of the structural problems at Pennard Castle and had undertaken a site inspection.

15 **DATES OF MEETINGS FOR 2017/2018 TO BE HELD AT 7 P.M. AS FOLLOWS:**

NOTED the dates of meetings for 2017/2018 to be held at 7.00 p.m. as follows:

- 25 September 2017;
- 11 December 2018;
- 26 March 2018.

Minutes of the Gower AONB Partnership Steering Group (26.06.2017)
Cont'd

The meeting ended at 8.56 pm

CHAIR