

**CYNGOR CEFN GWLAD CYMRU  
COUNTRYSIDE COUNCIL FOR WALES**

**Draft minutes of the Pen Llŷn a=r Sarnau cSAC Liaison Group meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2001 (starting 7pm) at Plas tan y Bwlch, Maentwrog**

Present:

Liz Allan	Ceredigion County Council
Alf Bowen	Chair, Aberdyfi Community Council
David Archer	Snowdonia National Park Authority
Michael Bowyer	
Adam Cole-King	Countryside Council for Wales
Huw Davies	Gwynedd Council
Cllr Owen Edwards	Snowdonia National Park Authority
Elinor Gwynn	Countryside Council for Wales
Lucy Kay	Countryside Council for Wales (notes)
Jill Jackson	Gwynedd Council
Peter Lloyd	Welsh Yachting Association/RYA
Bill Miller-Jones	Sub Aqua Association
Cllr Caerwyn Roberts	Snowdonia National Park Authority (chairman)
Owie Roberts	Llŷn Fishermen's Co. Ltd.
Rowland Sharp	WFSA
Mike Thrussell	
Jill Whipp	CPRW
Dylan Williams	Environment Agency
Tom Woodward	Dŵr Cymru

Apologies:

Jim Andrews	North Western & North Wales Sea Fisheries Committee
Bill Bracewell	Dovey Yacht Club/Aberdovey Partnership
Barry Davies	Gwynedd Council
Andy Hall	Arthog Outdoor Education Centre / Welsh Canoe Association
Iain Roberts	
Cllr Fred Williams	Ceredigion County Council

Caerwyn Roberts informed those present of Cllr Raw-Rees' sudden death before Christmas last year. Cllr Raw Rees had been Ceredigion County Council's main representative on the Liaison Group. He had made a great contribution to Wales in all aspects of his work and would be greatly missed. Caerwyn extended the sympathies of the Liaison Group to Cllr Raw-Rees' family.

**1. Minutes of the last meeting**

- 1.1 These were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting

**2. Matters arising**

- 2.1 Items under 3.7 and 4.3 completed.

**3. Action Plan**

**3.1 Update**

- 3.1.1 The Action Plan has been prepared. Copies of the English version had been sent out to all Liaison Group representatives in early May 2001.

- 3.1.2 Lucy made the group aware of some errors in the numbering of some actions:

- Actions 3.58 & 3.59 should refer in targets section to action 3.57 (not 3.58);
- Actions 3.61 – 3.65 & 3.71 should refer in targets section to action 3.60 (not 3.61 or 3.6)

- 3.1.3 The following sections that had been missing from the copies sent out were distributed at the meeting:

- Welsh version of the Action Plan
- Revised pages for part of section 1
- Maps (to go at end of section 1)
- Summary leaflet

Anyone wanting extra copies of the full plan or summary leaflet should contact Lucy Kay.

**ACTION: Lucy to send copies of above to Liaison Group reps not present at meeting.**

Noticed that Welsh version of contents page missing. **ACTION: Lucy to send copies to all**

- 3.1.4 Distribution: The Action Plan will be distributed together with the small blue Pen Llŷn a'r Sarnau leaflet. The summary leaflet will be sent out with a covering letter to all those who have acknowledged that they want to continue to receive information about the cSAC (by returning reply slips attached to letters sent out early in the year), and also all communities councils and councilors.

Copies will be also be sent to libraries in Gwynedd, Machynlleth and Aberswyth libraries and the library and Plas tan y Bwlch.

- 3.1.5 A press release will be sent out in July announcing the preparation of the plan.
- 3.1.6 Peter Lloyd congratulated the relevant authority officers involved in preparing the action plan.

### 3.2 Plan implementation

- 3.2.1 David Archer explained that the Action Plan contained a large variety of actions to be carried out by a range of competent and relevant authorities and other non-statutory groups and organizations (such as the Liaison Group). Section 8 of the plan lists the actions against specific groups, organizations and individuals. The success of the plan is dependent on everyone working on the agreed actions.
- 3.2.2 The actions need to be prioritized. David explained that the relevant authorities had agreed to identify by end July all the actions that they are going to implement over the next 6 months. It was agreed that the Liaison Group representatives would do the same, and let Lucy know by the end of July what actions they would be able to implement or help implement. Lucy will then compile a list of the prioritized actions.  
**ACTION: All Liaison Group representatives to identify actions that they will be implementing / will help to implement over the next 6 months and send this information to Lucy.**
- 3.2.3 Rowland Sharp commented that there is funding in the Objective 1 programme for supporting projects related to commercial and recreational fisheries and that it may be possible to deliver some of the fisheries-related actions through Objective 1. It was agreed it would be useful to find out more about the opportunities presented by Objective 1 and other funding projects for supporting implementation of actions in plan. Owie Roberts commented that about £9.8 million pounds was available to the fisheries sector but noted that projects would only be funded up to 50% with European money, and match funding had to be sought for the remainder and that this can sometimes be a problem.
- 3.2.4 Rowland informed the group that the Welsh Tourist Board had contracted somebody from Ireland to undertake a study looking at the opportunities to promote recreational fishing and angling around the coast of Wales.

### 3.3 **Ongoing comments and review**

- 3.3.1 Lucy asked everyone to let her know if they notice any errors in the plan. Also, if people have any comments or suggestions about the plan to send these in to Lucy for future reference when the plan is revised.  
**ACTION: All to send comments on the plan or information about errors in the plan to Lucy**

- 3.3.2 The consultation on the addition of new features and boundary changes to Pen Llŷn a'r Sarnau cSAC as part of the revisions to the UK SAC series reported at the last meeting had now been completed and the changes to the site had been submitted to Brussels. This meant that a further six maritime habitats and three marine/maritime species were recognized as features of the Pen Llŷn a'r Sarnau cSAC.
- 3.3.3 CCW will be revising its Regulation 33 information about the conservation objectives for the cSAC and activities that may affect the features so as to include the new site features. It was anticipated that this would be complete by end 2001 and so would enable any gaps in the Action Plan arising from the revised Regulation 33 information to be identified in early 2002. This will then act as a trigger for revision of the management plan and action plan if required. Until then, the focus of the action plan is on actions identified for the reef and estuary features.
- 3.3.4 It is proposed that progress with implementation of the action plan is reviewed early in 2002, and a more thorough review to incorporate any additional actions for the new features is undertaken at the end of 2002.
- 3.3.5 Lucy distributed copies of the revised description of marine interest for the Pen Llŷn a'r Sarnau cSAC and an A3 map of possible and candidate SACs in Wales.  
**ACTION: Lucy to send copies of description of marine interest and map of p/cSACs in Wales to those not present at the meeting.**

#### **4. Terms of Reference**

- 4.1 The suggested changes to the Terms of Reference (ToR) for the Liaison Group had been circulated prior to the meeting.
- 4.2 Peter Lloyd voiced concern over the process of co-opting members to the group and suggested that in the future consideration should be given to offering major interest groups representation by right on such groups.
- 4.3 The suggested text in the background paragraph was shortened to '....to implement and periodically review the management scheme....'.
- 4.4 There was concern that fixing the total number of representatives for the group would mean that it would not be possible to co-opt any additional members once this limit had been reached. It was agreed to reword paragraph 2 to read: 'The Liaison Group will be composed of no more than 24 representatives at a time (excluding any Deputies and co-opted members) of the varied interests.....'.
- 4.5 The changes to the ToR were proposed by Jill Whipp and seconded by Cllr Owain Edwards.

**ACTION: Lucy to circulate copies of the revised ToR to all Liaison Group members and relevant authorities.**

#### **5. Public event**

- 5.1 Adam Cole-King explained that the idea behind having some sort of public event is to keep the process of managing the cSAC as open as possible. There was concern that a lot of effort could be put in to organizing such an event for it to end up being very poorly attended. It was thought it would be most useful to be considering public involvement in the medium to long term as part of the overall process of implementing action 6.2 of the plan (raise awareness and understanding about the cSAC and its wildlife). The relevant authorities were keen to have input from the Liaison Group representatives as to how this may best be approached. It may be that such a public event would be more attractive to a wider audience if it was tied in with other events/ initiatives so that it was of wider interest and not just about the cSAC.
- 5.2 A number of ideas were proposed as to how to get information out to people and opportunities for a joint event of some sort:

- Links to the Blue Flag awards event (talks / displays)
- Beach cleaning events
- Direct contact with community and town councils.
- Good quality articles into newspapers and magazines
- Information / displays at existing centers
- Use of a mobile display / roadshow
- Influencing education / information into local schools
- A video about the cSAC

5.3 David Archer informed the group that in order to start work on action 6.2 the relevant authorities were intending to organize a meeting with the education and interpretation offices from the authorities to look at the whole question of raising awareness in more detail. It was clear that schools were a key focus point for getting information out to younger people.

5.4 The Liaison Group representatives were asked to let Lucy know of any ideas they had for newspaper / magazine articles, opportunities to display information about the cSAC, groups interested in having a talk about the cSAC.

**ACTION: Liaison Group representatives to let Lucy know of any ideas for raising awareness about the cSAC.**

5.5 Rowland Sharp informed the group about the work of the Shark Trust and the slide pack that had been produced about skates and rays in Wales.

## **6. Public participation – telephone survey**

6.1 The results of the survey were still being analysed. The initial findings were that that majority of those interviewed considered that the public meetings and process of consultation about the management plan for the cSAC and been positive. A report about the results of the survey was being produced and would be circulated to Liaison Group members once completed.

**ACTION: Lucy to send copies of the report to Liaison Group members**

## **7. AOB**

7.1 Cllr Owain Edwards asked about the wording of action 3.50 about powered craft and whether this meant there was no impact from these craft on the cSAC. It was agreed that the likely impact of powered craft on the reef and estuary features was minimal, but that it would be useful to keep a watching brief on the level of use in the estuaries. It was recognized that powered craft were more likely to affect the new species features of the site, in particular bottlenose dolphin and that this would need to be addressed in the revised Regulation 33 information and revisions to the management plan and action plan. It was recognized that the management of power craft including jet skis was the responsibility of Gwynedd Council and Ceredigion County Council.

7.2 Rowland informed the group that because of the closure of some inland angling sites in England, the Wales Tourist Board appear to be trying to encourage more anglers to north west Wales. It was agreed that it would be useful for the relevant authorities to find out more about this.

## **8. Date of the next meeting**

The next meeting of the Liaison Group will be on Monday 18th March 2002 at Plas tan y Bwlch, Maentwrog (tbc), starting at 7pm.

Caerwyn Roberts thanked everyone for their contributions and closed the meeting.