



Our Picturesque Landscape Project

Steering Group Meeting Minutes

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Tuesday 7th December 2021 2pm to 3pm

Members Present

Howard Sutcliffe (HS **Chair**), David Shiel (DS), Alun Price (AP), Allan Forrest (AF), Kate Thomson (KT), Ffion Roberts (FR), Huw Rees (HR), Hannah Marubbi (HM), Sallyanne Hall (SH), Lynne Jones (LJ), Sarah Jones (SJ), Steve Greuter (SG), Rhun Jones (RJ), John Roberts (JR).

Apologies

Samantha Williams (SW), Paul Evans (PE), Andrea Fox (AFX), Kerry Williams (KW), Fiona Gale (FG), Del Roberts Jones (DRJ), Fiona Grant (FGr), Nicola Lewis-Smith (NLS), Tom Johnstone (TJ), Ros Stockdale (RS).

<p>1. Welcome and Apologies</p>	<p>All welcomed by the Chair and thanked for attending a virtual meeting due to the current Covid 19 restrictions. Apologies noted above.</p>	<p>Actions</p>
<p>2. Minutes of last meeting update</p>	<p>DS gave the group a general update around Wenffrwd. There has been good feedback regarding Wenffrwd Nature Reserve and it has been well received. The Levelling Up Fund money has now been secured. The contractors have been on site, and are due to start work in January 2022. Meetings have been held with neighbouring landowners regarding access for a path along the old railway line, and a meeting with the Health Centre in Llangollen is due to take place next week regarding use of their car park, linking the proposed path to the nature reserve. RJ informed the group that drone photography has been taken of the Wenffrwd site which will help with future management plans.</p>	

	<p>HM updated the group that the artist in residence boards have now been removed from Wenffrwd, and will be relocated elsewhere in the spring 2022.</p> <p>OPL’s animated film link has been circulated to the group and will also be shown in the next WHS VM group meeting tomorrow.</p> <p>Linking on to Wenffrwd, SJ informed the group that Cadwyn Clwyd have been working with Cllr Rondo Roberts of WCBC to see how viable a path linking Trevor along the old railway line to Llangollen would be. A feasibility study has been arranged and a consultant has been appointed to look at different options and the possibility of taking this project forward with money from the Levelling Up Fund.</p>	
<p>3. OPL project Update on risk register</p>	<p>The Project Update and Risk Register was circulated to the group prior to the meeting. KT informed the group that most of the projects are in marked green on the register, however those marked amber are mainly to keep them raised on the project team’s radar. Community Engagement has been heavily impacted by Covid, however the project have worked with volunteer groups during the autumn. The Outreach project, targeting more vulnerable groups, worked with Dynamic during the summer. The new Covid variant could impact further going forward with these projects.</p> <p>There is an additional column added on this document as ongoing work to the piece is changing some of the outcomes of the projects which was discussed in item 4 on the agenda.</p> <p>The Levelling Up Fund will be used in some aspects of OPL’s projects. The funding is approved and will be used in Horseshoe Falls, Wenffrwd, Plas Newydd and Trevor Basin. There will be more work done on delivery profiles and how this will be scheduled in. WCBC and DCC both have delivery groups dealing with the Levelling up fund.</p> <p>HM announced to the group that she will be on maternity leave commencing end of March 2022 until December and a job advert for 9-month maternity cover for her post is currently being advertised.</p> <p>KT informed the group that NLHF have agreed to use the contingency fund for this temporary post.</p>	
<p>4. Revised Project Outcomes.</p>	<p>DS explained to the group that the NHLF have invited the project to have a mid-term review of outputs and outcomes originally devised for the project during the planning stage. The review will consider the original proposed outcomes of each project to determine if they are still relevant or achievable and whether there is a need to reset objective given the significant changes over the last 2 years during the Covid pandemic.</p>	

	<p>KT informed the group that this piece of work is going ahead at the moment. KT shared her screen to show the group the document that has been presented to the monitor, showing the project changes and revised output and outcomes.</p>	
<p>5. PowerPoint Presentation</p>	<p>HM and KT a shared a screen of photos with the group and took everyone through the Community Engagement projects and work that have been happening during the autumn months. In brief the projects covered were</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Horseshoe Falls, Brilliant Basics renovations. • The Clinker Path, Trevor volunteer day clearing • Plas Newydd Volunteer days • Pontcysyllte Woodland Management and Volunteer days • Cass on the Canal play to local schools • Arists in Residence workshops and events. <p>The project will be opening up the view in Crane Street car park in Cefn Mawr. WCBC has been involved in selecting trees to be felled to open up the view of the wider valley, as well as some rebuilding of a wall, and removal of vegetation from an overgrown flower bed in order to open up the line of sight form the car park. A new bench will be installed and some refurbishment work done to an existing bench at the site. HM will send out a link for the poetry circular tour devised by Artist in Residence, Hywel Griffiths to anyone that is interested.</p> <p>HM thanked JR for arranging for the Friends of the AONB who participated in the Ladies Walk around the valley in Llangollen during the autumn.</p>	<p>HM</p>
<p>6. Any Other Business</p>	<p>KT expressed her thanks to Allan Forrest, who retires this month, for all his invaluable support to her and the project and he will be greatly missed. AF thanked the team for the support the project has provided to WHS. The Chair also expressed thanks for all the project AF has contributed to over the years.</p> <p>SG informed the group that Cadw have approach WCBC to consider acquiring a portion of the Offa's Dyke Path to the North of the A5. SG is retiring in March next year and will try to progress this project before he leaves and keep the group updated.</p>	
<p>7. Date of Next Meeting</p>	<p>Next meeting will be on Tuesday 1st March 2022 2pm to 3pm. The meeting link and papers will be sent out ahead of this meeting TEAMS</p>	<p>FR</p>