

**Devon LNP Board meeting
7th April 2014**

Minutes

Present: Sue Goodfellow (Chair), Nicola Bulbeck, Professor Martin Attrill, John Holmes, Corinna Woodall, Elaine Cook.

In attendance: Peter Chamberlain, Sarah Jennings

Apologies: Dr Virginia Pearson, Harry Barton, Robin Milton, David Weatherly

1. Welcome

- SG welcomed John Holmes who is NE's new Area Manager for Devon & Cornwall and has taken James Diamond's place on the Board (James now Area Manager for Somerset).

2. Actions from Dec meeting + updates

Green economy

- NE's workshop on the LEED (Local Environment and Economic Development) toolkit was organised by the LEP and held on 6 Feb. Discussion fed into development of the LEP's Strategic Economic Plan. Final report has been produced and will be circulated to Board members and placed on the LNP website.
- Devon, Somerset and Plymouth LNPs had a useful first meeting with Chris Garcia (CEO of the LEP) in March. Agreed that quarterly meetings would be held.
- The three LNPs have fed into the LEP's SEP which has now been finalised – work led by Plymouth LNP.
- The structure of the LEP is evolving. Agreed that the three LNPs would have a joint place on the LEP's Place Group (to be shared between LNPs – largely between Mark Robins, RSPB and Kat Deeney, Plymouth City / LNP). LEP is considering the need for a Rural Special Interest Group and has sent out a questionnaire. LNPs to agreed rep for the group. Noted that EC is on the Rural Growth Network which is likely to evolve into the new rural group.

Action: Sec to fill in LEP questionnaire and SG agree LNP rep for the group.

Naturally Healthy

- SG attended the March Devon Health and Wellbeing Board meeting and the Compact was signed. This has been placed on the Naturally Healthy webpage on LNP website.
- NH task and finish group has commissioned a behaviour change scoping review (being undertaken by DCC's public health team + Transform Research (Nigel Tremlett). Next meeting takes place on Wed 30th April at which the findings will be discussed.

Actions: SJ / SG to arrange for Compact with Torbay H&WBB to be signed.
SJ to send NB details of TDC officers involved / contacted re the research work.

Evidence base

- **State of Nature** launched at the March conference. Lots of publicity including ITV, Spotlight, Western Morning News and Radio Devon.
- **State of Environment** to be live on the website within the next month (final changes being discussed with DCC's Public Health team to ensure that it can feed into their Joint Strategic Needs Assessment).

- **Explore Devon** website being produced and hopefully finished to be launched at the Devon Show (links to Naturally Healthy work)

Comms

- Newsletter sent out in January (to advertise the conference and prospectus). Agreed that newsletters should go out quarterly and to consider timing in relation to LEP newsletter.
- Website has been updated to reflect the Prospectus – some pages still to go live and more work needed to improve it.
- Board members agreed that they are happy with the level / rate of information they receive.

Action: Sec to produce generic powerpt for the LNP – put on website and send to Board / Exec members so that they can help promote the LNP / get people involved.

Sec to produce quarterly newsletter - including a section on Chair's Diary.

3. Conference

SJ fed back on comments on the conference. Generally comments were very positive. Overall people wanted more time for networking / seminars and fewer presentations. Thoughts from Board included:

- Friday is a good day for a conference
- Gaps in invitees included MPs.
- Obvious that op for networking is needed
- Good links to the prospectus + mix and number of delegates – could have done with more challenge / grit + as focus was on launch of State of Nature it needed a greater focus on landscape / geology etc.
- Noted that DCC paid majority of costs and agreed that we may need to charge for future conferences. Agreed that as the conf booked up very quickly that we should consider a larger venue next time.

Action: Through delivery plan etc ensure that it is clear that the LNP is NOT just about wildlife but also landscapes, geology etc

4. Structure and operation of the LNP

PC gave an overview on strengths and weaknesses of work to date.

Strengths include:

- Capacity building carried out at an early stage, enthusiastic and involved Board, objectives clearly aligned with the NEWP, state of env will help to show the broad environmental agenda, dev good links with the LEP and health sector. SG added that orgs are coming to the LNP for support and recognition.

Weaknesses include:

- Not managed to build fully on capacity building work (esp reg ensuring that Forum members understand their role within the LNP), need to ensure that Torbay is fully involved and that we continue to work with Plymouth LNP, broader env check needed (given focus to date on State of Nature), Exec Group possibly not working as well as the Board – role needs re-assessing through development of the Delivery Plan, funding.....

Actions: Sec to follow up previous actions reg developing MoUs with key Devon partnerships. Ensure regular newsletter (see action above under Comms). Delivery Plan needs to include funding role for LNP (LNP needs to help pull in sig funding).

Agreed that we need to consider joint Board / Exec meetings – or for Exec to attend Board meetings as appropriate.

5. Delivery Plan / next steps.

SJ talked the Board through proposed next steps for producing the Delivery Plan. Recommendations agreed (see paper). Board members suggested a few people who could be asked to lead on developing priority themes. Agreed that new groups should not be set up unless really needed.

Action: CW to speak to FC reg Wood for Good

Delivery Plan to be discussed at Exec and Sec to take forward.

6. Sustainable seas

HB unable to attend the meeting to give the presentation on the proposed Marine Strategy. MA gave a brief overview, including clarifying that the Devon Maritime Forum will be involved in developing the Strategy, possibly in helping to organise focus groups using its membership.

Action: SJ to ask HB for a copy of the Strategy framework and circulate to the Board for their ok to proceed.

7. LNP Defra Ministerial event

Update from SG who helped to Chair the event. Lord de Mauley's three priorities for LNPs are: 2020 outcomes, innovative thinking and cross sector working. Defra's notes from the meeting are on the Natural Devon website. SG feeding through our paper on the value of nature to feed into a Defra / BIS meeting.

AOB.

Actions: Presentation on Devon Nature Map and State of Env at the next meeting.
Continue discussions with Defra re LNP role in NELMS targeting

**Next Board meeting – 2pm, Monday 30th June 2014 (3pm for main meeting)
at STOVER COUNTRY PARK.**