

**IW AONB PARTNERSHIP  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FUND WORK GROUP MEETING  
FRIDAY 16 JUNE 2006  
MINUTES**

**Present:**

Denis Russell (Chair) AONB Steering Committee - Vice Chairman, Community & Parish Portfolio  
Carol Flux Isle of Wight Economic Partnership  
Ashley Curzon Isle of Wight Council - Planning Policy Manager  
Fiona Hanna AONB Communications Officer  
Carrie McDowell AONB Assistant

**1) Apologies**

Tony Tutton AONB Steering Committee Chairman  
David Groves AONB Steering Committee - Rural Business Portfolio  
John Brownscombe AONB Lead Officer

**2) Minutes of last meeting and Matters Arising**

It was agreed the Minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record of the previous meeting.

**3) Report on 2005-2006 Sustainable Development Fund**

Copies of the report on the above were distributed to the meeting.

**4) Update on applications and Funding**

FH gave a brief overview of the progress of current projects, and all are progressing satisfactorily.

The current position regarding the additional £20K of funding from the Countryside Agency is that it is not certain we will actually receive these funds. All AONBs are in this situation, and it was suggested that we keep pressure on the Countryside Agency for more information. It was agreed the Work Group would review the applications received, and agree subject to receipt of the necessary funding.

**5) Consideration of applications**

**SDF-0607/24 Ecological Surveys of the IW Soft-cliffed coast 2006**  
**Amount applied for: £8,820**

The application was discussed with the following points of note:  
There was no previous contact or discussion on the application, it just arrived in the post.  
Concern was expressed about its relevance to the Island, and what value it would have to the Isle of Wight AONB. Additionally there has been no contact with local organisations, there is no mention of the BAP work undertaken last year, and the timescales are very short.  
The application was refused.

**SDF-0607/25            Chalk Grassland Management with goats (fencing)**  
**Amount applied for:            £4,222.80**

The application was discussed, with the following points of note:  
As part of SITA funding conditions, it is necessary for the National Trust to obtain 10% of matched funding from an outside source. This is a simple and effective project, linking with schools and the community. The application was approved in principle, depending on funds being available.

**SDF-0607/26            Production of bio-diesel from waste cooking oils**  
**Amount applied for:            £20,000**

The application was discussed with the following points of note:  
This project has previously received Leader Lite funding, and is up and running on a small scale. It has good links to sustainability and farming, and it is unlikely it would receive funding from other sources. A similar scheme was suggested on Pan under the Art at the Centre project, and it was suggested that the applicant make contact with John Norledge to see if there could be some links with the Pan scheme, especially if they are looking for someone to run the whole project. The application was approved in principle, but the meeting felt that a Business Plan should be provided and contact made with John Norledge.

**SDF-0607/27            The National Poet-Tree Park**  
**Amount applied for:            £25,000**

The application was discussed with the following points of note:  
There is no evidence of need, no research provided and the detail on the matched funding is dubious. Concern was expressed about support for the project, as it is outside the AONB, and was this a practical use for SDF monies. It was also felt the idea of linking trees to poetry could perhaps be done with less funding via the Isle of Wight Council, which could link with schools and make arts accessible to a wider audience. The application was refused.

**SDF-0607/28            The IW Geocaching Project**  
**Amount applied for:            £6,900**

The application was discussed with the following points of note.  
AC and CF declared an interest in this application. A similar idea has been used in the Shropshire Hills AONB as a tourist product, which is also hired out. It was felt this was a good way of getting people walking around their environment, had lots of potential, was fun and educational at the same time. In addition the project would be in both Leader+ and AONB areas, and if funding was not available this year perhaps next year, with a majority contribution from Leader+. The application was approved in principle, depending on funds being available.

**SDF-0607/29            West Wight Landscape Partnership**  
**Amount applied for:            £6,000**

The application was discussed with the following points of note.  
AC declared an interest in this application. This is a project to cover part of a development phase, in order to obtain £2m funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund. It was suggested it might possible to use work done on the Discovery Project on the educational part. It was felt that as the West Wight was a priority in the Aim High document, there should be more support from the Isle of Wight Council, in order to release the larger amount of funding. The application was agreed in principle, with the proviso that the applicant reviews the Discovery project. It was also felt if additional funding was received we should support the project, rather than risk losing the £2m.

**6) Any Other Business**

The National Trust project on the rubber crumb surface is currently awaiting planning permission.

AC offered to make contact with Natural England regarding the additional funding, if this was felt to be necessary. It was agreed FH would contact AW to say that we have projects awaiting funding, to see if we could obtain any further information.

*Action: FH to contact AW*

The Small Project Fund still requires the production of the application pack. The suggestion was made that perhaps a brief overview of the fund could be sent to Parish Councils rather than a full pack, which could then be provided if we receive any applications.

**7) Date of next meeting**

The date of the next meeting would be advised at a later date.

The meeting closed at 3.26 p.m.