

**IW AONB PARTNERSHIP
MINUTES OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FUND WORK GROUP MEETING
THURSDAY 26 NOVEMBER 2009**

Present:

Denis Russell (Chair)	AONB Steering Committee - Chairman
Peter Fellows	West Wight Landscape Partnership
Phillippa Daley	Rural Community Council
Joel Bateman	AONB Communication and Projects Officer
Fiona Hanna	AONB Communications Officer
Carrie McDowell	AONB Assistant

1) Apologies

Carol Flux	Isle of Wight Economic Partnership
Tony Tutton	AONB Steering Committee Chairman
Ashley Curzon	IW Council - Acting Head of Regeneration
Wendy Perera	IW Council - Acting Planning Policy Manager

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) Updates

A table of current projects was circulated to the meeting, and JB provided updates on the projects. The Bembridge Shoreline and Brading Big Dig projects have been successfully completed, and acceptance of funding has been received from the National Trust and Brading Town Council.

4) Review of applications

SDF0910-62	Wight Nature Fund - Purchase of 2 wheel tractor
<i>Amount applied for:</i>	£3,388.91

The application was discussed, with the following points of note:
Their current tractor is ten years old, and breaks down in a regular basis. The purchase of an improved two-wheel tractor will, in conjunction with cattle grazing, enhance the character and wetland flora and fauna of Alverstone Mead. Wight Nature Fund are also contributing their own funds to the purchase.

It was felt this was an ideal project for SDF and fulfilled the criteria. ***The application was approved***

SDF0910-63	Isle of Wight Economic Partnership - Woodland Scheme
<i>Amount applied for:</i>	£7,650

The application was discussed, with the following points of note:
Woodland on the Island is owned by the Forestry Commission and several other smaller

owners. Much of the woodland has been under-managed for some time, as markets on the Island are very limited. It is hoped this project will increase the economic and environmental value of the Island's woodland in a co-ordinated manner, by addressing both the supply and demand for woodland products. This is also a key element in the AONB Management Plan, and provides an excellent opportunity to apply a strategic approach. It will cover a period of 15 months, with further funding required next year. It was felt there was a need to ensure synergy with the Forestry Commission, who are supportive of the project, and have been involved in the development of the application.

The panel agreed to provide in principle support, providing the following information was provided prior to commencement of the project:-

- Job description for the Project Officer
- Budget for whole project
- Work plan for the Project Officer

We will also look at the project again next year, in light of the above information. ***The application was agreed in principle subject to conditions.***

SDF0910-64 West Wight Sports Centre - Sustainable Energy Project
Amount applied for: £9,206

The application was discussed with the following points of note:

This project has funding from Leader and the IW Carbon Building Fund. There is, however, a shortfall on funding, which is why they are applying for the remainder from SDF. Although there is little direct impact on the landscape of the AONB, there is potential for interpretation space to highlight the work of the Partnership.

Concern was expressed that the total project costs were £90K, with projected savings of £70K, which does not reconcile from a financial standpoint, although it was pointed out the £70K savings do not take account of inflation. The Panel felt that the funding should be conditional on receiving information regarding the actual cost saving the project will generate, and also what environmental benefits will accrue. ***The application was agreed in principle, subject to agreeing to a display board for use by the AONB Partnership within the Sports Centre.***

SDF0910-65 Brighstone Social Club - Improvement to Petanque
Terrain and lighting
Amount applied for: 1,207.50

The application was discussed with the following points of note:

The Social Club wish to extend their petanque terrain, and replace their existing floodlights with low energy units to minimise light pollution, particularly in an area of dark skies, which is one of the targets of the AONB Management Plan.

It was felt this was a good opportunity to promote dark skies, especially in Brighstone which currently has a lot of lighting. There is also a possibility that other clubs may follow suit. ***The application was agreed in principle, subject to the provision at the club of information literature about dark skies.***

