

## Minutes of meeting – Wye Catchment Partnership (WCP)

**Date:** 24.1.24

**Time:** 9.30-2.30pm

**Meeting:** The Swan, Hay on Wye, HR3 5DQ

**Apologies:** Gill Perry (NRW), Caroline Hanks (Herefordshire Meadows), Catherine Hughes (Freshwater Habitats Trust), Christopher Morley (WUF Trustee), Havard Prosser (Cardiff University), Sarah Jones (DCWW), Beth Lewis (Herefordshire Council), Kate Stinchcombe Monmouthshire County Council), Daniel Humphreys (CDWW), Iwan Parry (Tilhill), Tony Norman (The Leen), Jamie Audsley (Herefordshire Wildlife Trust)

\*Task & Finish Group – T & F group

Item	Actions/Update	Lead	Due
1.	<b>Welcome &amp; introductions David Revill (Interim Chair)</b>		
2.	<p><b>Update from last meeting (4.10.23) [Chair]</b></p> <p>1. Clarify &amp; outline process for recruitment of an independent Chair for WCP – Task &amp; Finish Group working on documentation for professional recruitment process and will report back to next Steering Group meeting. Andrew McRobb (CPRE) volunteered (&amp; invited 26.1.24) to join T&amp;F group which includes, Andrew Blake, Gill Perry, Nerys Hammond, Kath Pyke.</p> <p><b>Action: Task &amp; Finish Group will report back to Steering Group 20.2.24</b></p> <p><b>2. Update from T &amp; F group (Pat Stirling, Rhiannon Pearce, Kath Pyke) ‘Map of Project Delivery &amp; Funding in the Wye Catchment’ – see item 6 – Presentation.</b></p> <p><b>3. Systems Mapping Approach – Mott MacDonald - Funding received for Phase 1 and report back – see Item 5 - Presentation</b></p>	Task & Finish Group	<b>20.2.24</b>
3.	<p><b>Governance –</b></p> <p>- <b>Wye Catchment Partnership Revised Terms of Reference</b> were formally adopted at the WCP meeting on 24.1.24 .</p> <p><b>Action: Admin (KP) to load the final document <i>Wye Catchment Partnership is Terms of Reference Annex 2 24.1.24</i> to the new WCP website under Governance section. This will include list of draft and consultation steps with Partnership.</b></p>	Admin	<b>20.2.24</b>

<p>4.</p>	<p><b>Funding, plans and website 2024/25</b> [Simon Evans -WUF]</p> <p><b>(Wye and Usk Foundation (WUF) – joint host organisation with NRW for Partnership -</b>  <b>Budget for 2024/25</b> – A reduced budget has been set at £25,257 WUF are currently looking to secure funding from organisations including the Environment Agency, NRW, The Wye and Usk Foundation and potential other partners. Additional funds are being sought for Task and Finish work groups.</p> <p><b>Website:</b> The new Wye Catchment Partnership website is now <a href="#">live</a> This includes the new T &amp; F piece of work Map of Projects and Funding – see <b>Presentation Agenda item 5</b></p> <p><b>Action:</b> Please send any comments on how this website can work better for the Partnership and Partners          To Kath Pyke <a href="mailto:admin@wyecatchmentpartnership.info">admin@wyecatchmentpartnership.info</a> or use the <a href="#">Contact us</a>: button on the website</p>	<p><b>Admin apply for 2024/25 funding</b></p> <p><b>Any comments from partners to Admin</b></p>	<p><b>31.3.24</b></p> <p><b>Ongoing</b></p>
<p>5.</p>	<p><b>Presentation - Wye Systems Approach Understanding the River Wye - Systems mapping</b></p> <p>Dr Brendan Bromwich, Senior Associate – Systems Thinking, Mott Macdonald and colleague Kaye Pollard provided an update on work carried out in Phase 1 (October 23-January 24) after this work stream was agreed at the last Partnership meeting on 4.10.23.</p> <p><b>In summary</b> - Focus Group work has provided interventions which has led to production of output &amp; benefit maps  <b>Summary slides and work sheets</b> are provided with these minutes</p> <p><b>Phase 2</b> - Funding has been secured from the Environment Agency until 31.3.24. This will provide modelling on interventions and different scenarios in the Catchment. Information from the Systems Approach will help inform the revised Catchment Management Plan (CMP)</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Mott MacDonald will work closely with CMP T&amp;F group through next stages of revision process</p>	<p><b>Mott MacDonald &amp; T &amp; F Group</b></p>	<p><b>31.3.24</b></p>
<p>6.</p>	<p><b>6.1. Presentation – Map of Projects and Funding in the Wye Catchment</b> - Task &amp; Finish Group (Pat Stirling, Rhiannon Pearce, Kath Pyke)          - Pat Stirling updated on the work completed by the T &amp; F group. The map is now <a href="#">live</a> on the Wye Catchment Partnership website          It has been developed collaboratively to provide an overview of ongoing nature recovery, pollution reduction, flood mitigation and climate resilience</p>		

	<p>efforts in the catchment. The map collates projects that aim to improve the designated features in the Wye Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and the Lugg SSSI to achieve a favourable conservation status. The Catchment map will also show sites identified by the Herefordshire Local Nature Partnership <a href="#">For more information – see the website summary HERE</a>. This includes how to directly add your own project or update it using the website button ‘Click here to contribute...’ Submitted projects will go through a light vetting process before inclusion on the map.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Call to partners to add or update projects on the site- Go to the website or click <a href="#">here</a></p> <p><b>6.2 High level updates – Plans and funded projects relevant to Catchment Management Plan 30 mins (3-5mins per update)</b></p> <p><b>Jim Roberts - Avara Foods</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diverting poultry litter from farms</li> <li>• New standards for application of farm-produced litter or digestate</li> <li>• Insurance standards on farm</li> <li>• Comprehensive data report due out Feb 24</li> </ul> <p><b>Simon Evans – Wye &amp; Usk Foundation – general catchment updates</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ELMS – Environmental Land Management updates</li> <li>• Hinckley Point C consultation - negative impact on shad on Wye &amp; Usk</li> <li>• SFS consultation in Wales – ongoing</li> <li>• Collapse of trout recruitment in the Monnow – unknown why &amp; will be investigating</li> </ul> <p><b>Dan Ward – North Star Transition</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction to work of <a href="#">– North Star Transition</a> Regenerative solutions for large scale transformation</li> </ul> <p><b>Andrew Blake - Wye Valley National landscape</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wye Valley AONB rebranding name change to Wye Valley National Landscape</li> <li>• <a href="#">Wye Adapt to Climate Change Partnership Project – update</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">WyeScapes</a> - The WyeScapes project has been successful at the initial application stage to access a two-year development phase for DEFRA’s Landscape Recovery scheme.</li> </ul> <p><b>Sarah James – Farm Cymru</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update on new organisation Farm Cymru which will operate in similar role to Farm Herefordshire</li> </ul>	<p><b>Call out to partners to update/ add projects to the Catchment map</b></p>	<p><b>Ongoing</b></p>
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7.	<p><b>Catchment Management Plan - Revision of 2019 plan</b> Facilitated session with break out groups – session led by Pat Stirling – Citizen Science &amp; Chair – David Revill</p> <p>Table groups produced a priority list of <b>Objectives and Metrics</b> to achieve restoration of the Catchment to Special Area of Conservation (SAC) favourable status. Outputs were captured – <b>see pdf sent out with minutes of meeting</b> A Task and Finish Group will be set up to coordinate the revision. 20 volunteers signed up to support this process. The T &amp; F group will report to the Steering Group and provide a progress update at the next Partnership meeting April 17th.</p>	<p><b>Admin - Information to be sent to T &amp; F group on next steps</b></p>	20.2.24
8.	<p><b>Date/location of next Meetings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Steering Group Meetings:</b> 20.2.24,7.5.24 (all via Teams)</li> <li>- <b>Partnership meetings - 17<sup>th</sup> April</b> – time &amp; venue tbc in person</li> </ul>		