**Warwickshire, Coventry and Solihull Local Nature Partnership**

**Minutes of** **5th Board meeting**

held on 14th July 2014, 2 - 3.40 p.m.

**at Pleasance Farm, Chase Lane, Kenilworth CV8 1PR**

**1.** **Present:** Henry Lucas (**Chair**), Glenys Tucker, Nicola Wright, Paul Cobbing (Advisor), Ed Green (Warwickshire Wildlife Trust), Mike Eastwood (SMBC), Gina Rowe (Secretariat)

 **Apologies:** Bill Hunt, Rosemary Collier, Mark Ryder, Frank Grimshaw, Maurice Barlow (SMBC), David Lowe, James Bennett (Coventry University)

 Henry Lucas welcomed Ed Green as the environmental sector member, and Mike Eastwood representing Solihull MBC, substituting for Maurice Barlow.

**2.** **Declarations of interest:** None were declared.

**3.** **Actions from 4th Board meeting:**

**Re ESIF funding:** There is a requirement for 5% funding towards Environmental protection from ESF. Coventry and Warwickshire LEP have stated this will be achieved through cross cutting funding from the other themes.

With the change in chair at CW LEP it was agreed to re-contacting them regarding the situation. **HL**

**Re pursuing links with LEP**: The LEED Toolkit process is still available. Contact Tom Butterworth or Paul Silcox at NE re taking this forward, even with small numbers.

Check re whether Clive Winters (Coventry University) is still involved in the work with LEP process; check with Matthew Epps re process. **GR**

**Greater Birmingham and Solihull LEP**: the UK Central initiative has a Garden City approach. LNP could use river Blythe and business link to develop links with this.

Re Defra ESFRD funding – check with Maurice Barlow for information regarding this **GR**

**Feedback re LNP and LBAP joint conference:** There was a greater mix of sectors and wider range of people attending than previous LBAP conferences, including health. The feedback was very positive, especially re the range of topics covered including the economic elements. 63 people attended the day.

Mike Morris, speaker from Natural England, stated that an update on some of his information that will be available shortly. Follow up regarding receiving this. **GR/GT**

**Resources:**

Clarify with Frank Grimshaw and WCC the exact basis of potential resource offer. **GR**

**NIA:**

Identification of Nature Improvement Areas to be progressed by the Implementation group and reported back to the Board. **GR/DL**

**All other actions had been completed.**

**4. For decision:**

**Board membership:**

* **Response to recruitment of Community representative**:

There have been no applications for this position since re-advertising it from November 2013. It had been circulated via various networks and has been on the LNP page on Warwickshire Wildlife Trust website.

The role of Paul Cobbing was discussed and it was proposed that he would be appointed to the Board as the Community representative. His work as National Flood Forum Chief Executive, and leading on the Defra Pathfinder initiative for nine counties liaising with many communities, combined with the support he has given in advising on establishing the LNP was noted as a key strength for the LNP.

Proposed by: Ed Green

Seconded by: Glenys Tucker

**Approved unanimously**.

**Chair for the Board.**

For this topic, the meeting was chaired by the secretariat, Gina Rowe.

The Board needs to elect a chair for the following 12 months. Henry Lucas has indicated that he is willing to continue in the role of chair for a second year. It is proposed that Henry Lucas is the chair of the Board.

Proposed by: Paul Cobbing

Seconded by: Nicola Wright

**Approved unanimously.**

**5. Recommended Priority projects from LNP Implementation Group**

The paper 5.3 was circulated prior to the meeting and discussed.

**The paper was approved**, with the noted projects endorsed by LNP.

It was agreed that the next LNP Implementation Group meeting in October will focus on developing the Health projects in more detail. The planned grassland meeting (as in paper) will be re-scheduled. **GR**

**6. Date of next meeting:**  Agreed as **Tuesday 18th November 2014**

**Venue:** Warwickshire County Council, room TBC **MR/GR**

Henry Lucas was thanked for use of the room at Pleasance Farm.

**7. AOB For information:**

**National LNP links:** GR noted that there are several emails received from national Defra contacts re LNPs. **It was agreed that** information will be forwarded when received. **GR**