

**Minutes of the South Wales Regional  
Aggregates Working Party  
Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2004**

<b><u>Present: -</u></b>	<b><u>Action: -</u></b>
<p>Martin Hooker (Chairman) – Bridgend County Borough Council Steve Bool (Secretary) – Bridgend County Borough Council Mark Frampton (QPA) Neville Morgan (Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council) Hugh Towns (Carmarthenshire County Council) Martin Lucas (Vale of Glamorgan Council) Ruth Amundson (Caerphilly County Borough Council) James Hooker (Newport City Council) Basil Hollington (Assembly Government Agriculture) Chris Morgan (Welsh Assembly Government) Ruth Brown (Brecon Beacons NPA) Ruth Henderson (City and County of Swansea) George Reay (National Ash) Keith Warren (RCT) Stuart Williams (Cardiff CC) Malcolm Lawer (QPA) Dennis Canney (Blaenau Gwent CBC)</p> <p><b>1. <u>Apologies</u></b></p> <p>Duncan Pollock (QPA) Sue Martin (Welsh Assembly Government) Carol. A. Williams (Pembs CC/CNP) Andy Bull (Powys County Council) Graham Dorrington (Ceredigion County Council) David Highley (BGS) Kevin Seaman (QPA) Karen Maddock–Jones (CCW)</p> <p><b>2. <u>Minutes of the last meeting</u></b></p> <p>These were agreed as a correct record subject to the revisions on pages 3 (para 4) re. definition of waste, 4 (penultimate para) re. Caerphilly UDP, as set out in the revised minutes.</p> <p><b>3. <u>Matters arising</u></b></p> <p>None.</p> <p><b>4. <u>Chairman’s report</u></b></p> <p>No meetings of the NCG have taken place since the last SWRAWP</p>	



<p><b>Carms</b> - The inquiry finishes this month. Adoption anticipated in 2006.  <b>RCT</b> - UDP has been abandoned and LDP is being pursued.</p> <p><b>Cardiff</b> - Pre-inquiry changes will be considered Dec/Jan. A P.I. is anticipated at the end of the summer of 2005. The necessity for a SEA is being kept under review.</p> <p><b>Vale</b> - Further proposed modifications (including sand and gravel) will be considered in Oct/Nov. when the next consultation period commences.</p> <p><b>Blaenau Gwent</b> - Further changes are being made to the modifications and a P.I. is likely to be held in February 2005.</p> <p><b>Bridgend</b> - Adoption of the plan is anticipated early next year. At present, further changes are being made to the modifications including the inclusion of land based sand and gravel safeguarding areas. No inquiry is anticipated and a judicial review cannot be ruled out.</p> <p><b>Powys</b> - it is anticipated that the plan will go on deposit in October 2004.</p>	
<p><b>7. <u>Regional Technical Statement</u></b></p>	<p><b>EWS / BRITISH STEEL</b></p>
<p>(i) Membership of the SWRAWP - in view of the need to encourage active attendance and dialogue from all members it was agreed that all members who do not attend meetings on a regular basis would have their membership terminated.</p>	
<p>(ii) Sub-Group - the setting up of a SWRAWP sub group was discussed at length. It was agreed that all members e-mail the Secretary before the 25<sup>th</sup> October with any views. It was agreed that the sub-committee would need terms of reference. An invitation was extended for nominations to be forwarded for membership of the sub group. The composition of the sub-group was agreed as follows: -</p>	<p><b>ALL</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chairman of SWRAWP</b>  <b>Secretary of SWRAWP</b>  <b>QPA (2 reps)</b>  <b>BAA (1 rep)</b>  <b>WAG (1 rep)</b>  <b>CCW (1 rep)</b>  <b>EA (1 rep)</b>  <b>MPA's (4 reps)</b></p>	<p><b>SB</b></p>
<p>It was proposed that a sub group meeting take place prior to Xmas. It was proposed that an even geographical spread of MPA members would be desirable based loosely on the former County Council areas</p>	



situation.

Outer Bristol Channel application - message seems to be that the industry are actively exploring resources in deeper waters.

Five marine applications are being processed (including Helwick Bank) Significant pressure is being exerted on the marine dredging supply process. The issue of the new marine regulations continues to engage DEFRA/ODPM in protracted discussions which has led to considerable delays. In addition, Harbour Orders pose specific problems as they allow harbour authorities to dredge material for maintenance purposes. This material is then sold on the market. Such Orders are difficult to control.

Bedwin Sands. This area supplies Newport/Monmouthshire and is the only area which is subject to a planning permission. This needs to be reviewed by January 2005.

Overall, it is evident that the demand for fine aggregates is increasing which is probably the result in the upsurge in the construction industry in S. E. Wales.

#### **AOB(1)**

(1) Discussion took place regarding the request from the BBNP for the SWRAWP to oppose the safeguarding of any land based sand and gravel resources in the BBNP. The view was taken that this was a WAG policy matter and did not fall within the remit of the group.

(2) It was confirmed that the Environmental Statement for Cornelly Quarry had been submitted to the WAG this week. Similar statements for Grove and Gaens Quarries would follow shortly. All of these quarries are the subject ROMP applications which were called-in by the WAG in 1998.

#### **AOB(2)**

MPA officers only discussed the BBNP request re safeguarding areas for sand and gravel in greater depth. It was noted that individual MPA's are at liberty to support the BBNP in their campaign but the SWRAWP cannot intervene. It was noted that political pressure may be used to support their campaign.

#### **Date of next meeting**

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2005.