

**Minutes of the South Wales Regional
Aggregates Working Party
17TH October 2007(draft)**

Present: -

M Hooker, (Chair) – Bridgend County Borough Council
S Bool, (Secretary) – Bridgend County Borough Council
I Thomas – National Stone Centre
S Martin – Welsh Assembly Government
C Warburton – Welsh Assembly Government
S Packer – Powys County Council
O Jones – Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council
C Morgan – Brecon Beacons NPA
G Dorrington – Ceredigion County Council
M Lucas – Vale of Glamorgan Council
M Wrigley – The Crown Estate
R Murray – Torfaen County Borough Council
L Christian – Newport County Council
M Davies - Monmouthshire County Council
B Swain – Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council
H Towns - Carmarthenshire County Council
R Amundson – Caerphilly County Borough Council
N R Morgan – Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council
C A Williams – Pembrokeshire County Council
K Hobden – QPA
M Russell – QPA – BMAPA
T Gilman – BAA
R Millard - QPA
K Maddock-Jones – CCW

1. Apologies

J Kirk – Pembrokeshire National Park Authority
P Bide - CDLG

2. Minutes of the last meeting – 16 May 2006

Agreed as a correct record.

3. Matters arising

(i) It was agreed, as per the RTS Sub Committee decision, that WAG would produce a position statement on marine dredging licences/reserves.

(ii) NWRAWP contract. SM confirmed the current NWRAWP contract

SM/CW

<p>would be carried out by IT until March, 2008.</p> <p>(iii) The Severn Estuary Working Group has commissioned a regional study. There will be a meeting with WAG & BMAPA in the near future and the Working Group will then convene another meeting.</p>	
<p>4. <u>AS2006</u></p> <p>SB gave the current position regarding the AS2006. He expressed concern about the delay in receiving responses from the operators. He thanked all those who had contributed to the report which should, subject to some amendments, be circulated next week. Any amendments should be forwarded to SB by the <u>23 October, 2007</u>.</p>	<p>SB</p>
<p>RM (QPA) advised the industry was experiencing major upheaval arising from mergers/takeovers etc. and this has had a knock-on effect on staff resources to deal with surveys. SB to maintain close contact with industry to reduce delays.</p>	<p>SB</p>
<p>5. <u>Draft RTS – Discussions/Representations Received to Date</u></p>	
<p>MH introduced this item and summarised the discussions held at the RTS Sub Committee meeting which was held immediately prior to the main SWRAWP meeting.</p>	
<p>ML referred to the text in the draft RTS relating to pulverised fuel ash (pfa). He questioned the resource figures in the draft RTS and felt the stockpiles had been underestimated. Reference was made to recent developments to treat ash as a cement substitute. TG thought this might reduce imports.</p>	<p>IT</p>
<p>MH referred to the document entitled ‘Turning the Tide’ produced by the Sustainable Design Commission on Investigating the Seven Barrage proposals, as this may be an opportunity for significant tonnages of bulk fill.</p>	
<p>CAW questioned how new info/data would be used to update the RTS. IT confirmed the RTS could only be drafted on the basis of data based on one point in time and any revision now could be very time consuming. It was acknowledged the EAW Survey could update the sec. aggs/ c & d waste data as this was less than robust. However, it would not be possible to re-calculate the current tonnages in the apportionment without generating a significant additional workload. All updated info/data would, however, be logged for review purposes.</p>	
<p>CM enquired as to WAG’s stance on safeguarding land based sand and gravel resources in the National park (BNNP) in the light of the draft RTS which shows different recommendations for Pembro / Brecon Beacons authorities. This showed inconsistency and needed to be revised. It was confirmed this had been discussed in the RTS Sub Committee and a revision was necessary.</p>	<p>IT</p>

<p>6. <u>Any Other Business</u></p> <p>(i) MH invited nominations for the positions of Chair / Vic-Chair of the forthcoming RTS Member Forum. So far, none had been forthcoming. In the light of a negative response, it was confirmed Bridgend County Borough Council would try to fill the position(s) as lead authority.</p> <p>(ii) MH confirmed he may have to relinquish the position of Chair / SWRAWP if his application for voluntary early redundancy was accepted in the near future. CM confirmed he may wish to stand for the position in the future. MH advised he would speak to chief planning officers at the next POSW meeting to be held in Gwbert, Cardigan, in November, about any interest.</p> <p>(iii) SM advised a contract to evaluate the work of the RAWPs in Wales was about to go out to tender. The work would run from December, 2007 – April, 2008. IT sought clarification of the work to be carried out particularly the question of the merits of convening sub-regional groups. It was already evident some collaborative mineral planning work was being undertaken. SM advised the survey / contract would embrace these issues.</p> <p>(iv) CAW questioned whether or not anybody was aware of an on-going research report on mineral working by authorities in N. Wales. Nobody could recall such a study. *Since confirmed the firm is Urban Vision working for POSW under the Making the Connections initiative to look at collaborative working in all fields of planning in N.Wales.</p> <p>(v) RM(QPA) thought it was essential the RTS was kept up-to-date and regular reviews were necessary to reflect changes in supply etc.</p> <p>7. <u>Date of Next Meeting</u></p> <p>Date to be confirmed.</p>	<p>MH</p>
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