

**Minutes of the inaugural Regional
Technical Statement (RTS) Member Forum -
Thursday 26th May 2005
Seabank Hotel, Porthcawl**

<p><u>Present:</u> -</p> <p>Members: -</p> <p>Cllr P A Hacking, Bridgend County Borough Council Cllr S Wakefield, Cardiff County Council Cllr A Robinson, City and County of Swansea Cllr B J Hall, Pembrokeshire County Council Cllr E K Griffiths, Caerphilly County Borough Council Cllr A J Williams, Vale of Glamorgan Council Cllr D D Games, Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council Cllr Hag Harris, Ceredigion County Borough Council Cllr A W Jones, Carmarthenshire County Council</p> <p>Officers: -</p> <p>M Hooker, Bridgend County Borough Council S Bool, Bridgend County Borough Council D Canney, Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council H Towns, Carmarthenshire County Borough Council C Morgan, Welsh Assembly Government A Wilkes, Environment Agency J Coppock, Monmouthshire County Borough Council A Bull, Powys County Council N Morgan, Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council S Williams, Cardiff County Council R Henderson, City and County of Swansea K Maddock-Jones, Countryside Council for Wales J Hooker, Newport City Council K Warren, Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council T Gilman, Quarry Products Association C A Williams, Pembrokeshire County Council W Towell, Quarry Products Association R Amundson, Caerphilly County Borough Council M Lucas, Vale of Glamorgan Council A N Davies, Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council</p> <p>1. <u>Apologies</u></p> <p>Members: -</p> <p>Cllr C Woodhouse, Monmouthshire County Borough Council Cllr K Critchley, Newport City Council</p>	<p>Action: -</p>
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<p>Cllr D J Owens, Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council Cllr D Lewis, Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council Cllr A Breeze, Brecon Beacons National Park Authority Cllr R Hayes, Pembrokeshire National Park Authority</p> <p>Officers: -</p> <p>B Hollington, Welsh Assembly Government G Dorrington, Ceredigion County Council D Pollock, Quarry Products Association K Seaman, Quarry Products Association M Lawer, Quarry Products Association M Frampton, Quarry Products Association G Reay, National Ash J Golder, Crown Estate S Martin, Welsh Assembly Government</p> <p>2. <u>Nominations for Chair and Vice Chair</u></p> <p>As there was only one nomination for Chair, Cllr P Hacking (Bridgend), she was duly appointed Chair.</p> <p>As there was only one nomination for Vice-Chair, Cllr Alan Breeze (BBNP), he was duly appointed as Vice-Chair.</p> <p>3. <u>Confirmation of memorandum of understanding</u></p> <p>The contents of the memorandum were approved subject to the name of Cardiff City Council being amended to Cardiff County Council.</p> <p>SB confirmed he would e-mail / post additional copies of the amended memorandum to members of the constituent authorities so that they may seek delegated powers (if necessary) to sign the memorandum on behalf of their authority. All signed memorandum should be forwarded by the <u>17th June 2005</u>.</p> <p>4. <u>Draft RTS programme</u></p> <p>Copies of the draft RTS programme had been circulated for consideration prior to the meeting. The Chair explained this programme set out the timetable for key stages of the process which may be subject to slippage as the process was new. The target is still, however, to finish the RTS by October 2006.</p> <p>There were no specific concerns / comments made about the programme although it was acknowledged that it would be beneficial to view the draft options before they were finalised. A reasonable period for the length of the public consultation period was considered to be 6 weeks.</p>	<p>SB</p> <p>All Members</p> <p>SB</p>
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5. AOB

There were no other matters raised.

6. Date of next meeting

In view of the need to consider the draft options prior to further development to the final options stage, it was agreed that SB would pursue a date in Mid September 2005. Date to be confirmed.

Any meeting is likely to be held in the Civic Offices, Bridgend.

7. Presentation by Enviros

Matt Faulkner / Paul Hatherley gave a presentation on the GIS environmental capacity tool which had been developed by them on behalf of the Welsh Assembly Government. It was emphasised that the system does not provide definitive answers it merely informs and improves the decision making process for forward sustainable mineral planning.

A number of questions were asked regarding the ability of the system to take into account dormant sites; the control over the setting of thresholds; the availability of the system to MPA's; the integrity / consistency of local landscape designations; and how the process was going to dovetail into the RTS process.

At the conclusion of the presentation, Enviros were thanked for their presentation.

SB