

WELSH COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Minutes of WCEC meeting held on Saturday 27th September 2014
At Wales Office

No.		Actions
135/14	<p style="text-align: center;">Present</p> <p>Members – Gwyn Lewis (Chair), John Cook (Hon Treasurer), Diane Davies (Hon Secretary), Max Grant, Alan Norton, Ron Williams, Maria Golightly.</p> <p>Staff – Angela Charlton (Director Wales).</p> <p>Guests – Richard Trueman (BoT), Christine O’Byrne (BoT), Benedict Southworth (Chief Executive), Jonathan Kipling (Chair, Ramblers GB), Alan Austin (Chair, Powys Area).</p>	
136/14	GL welcomed CO’B to the meeting.	
137/14	Apologies: Dennis McAteer, Alex Marshall, Chris Hodgson, Tony Thomas, Asta Smith, Vernon Davies.	
138/14	Declaration of Interest: CO’B declared her work for Chwarae Teg re: 50/50 by 2020 Campaign.	
139/14	Announcements: GL reported the death of Terry Squires, former Chair of Welsh Council and Vice-chair of BoT and of Brychan Lewis, Vice-chair of Merthyr Group.	
140/14	The minutes of 5 th July meeting were approved and are to go on the website.	DD
141/14	Action Sheet (117/14 & 13/14); DD reported she had received just one response to the request for problems. In view of ongoing review by London and Wales Offices it was agreed that there should be no further action.	
142/14	Action Sheet (117/14): Missing minutes and 2014 constitution are on website; DD to confirm.	DD
143/14	Action Sheet (119/14, 88/14 & 31/14: President’s challenge) DM’s Group not interested in pursuing this. Agreed no further action.	
144/14	Action Sheet (123/14 & 95/14: Delegate selection consultation) DD gave an up-date highlighting the small response received so far and it was agreed to extend the deadline. DD to issue an e-mail to groups and areas which have not responded informing them of this.	DD
145/14	Action Sheet (122/14 & 94/14: Eisteddfod) JC and AC gave feedback on Llanelli 2014 which highlighted issues for consideration but both felt it was valuable to attend. Agreed there was a need for a review by AC. DD to contact Alan Austin in regard to Meifod 2015 to ask that it be raised at the next Powys Council meeting and to emphasis that training was available for volunteers and that the event would be managed by Wales Office (<i>done in break during meeting</i>).	AC
150/14	Action Sheet (125/14 & 104/14: Cambrian Way): MG reported that a plan had been drafted and a further meeting would be held with the aim of putting the plan to the November WCEC meeting for discussion.	MG
151/14	Action Sheet (127/14: Video-conferencing) It was agreed that AC should show GL how to use the facility in preparation for a test run for WCEC members.	AC & GL
152/14	Other matters arising: on 133/14 MG reported that Conclusive Open Access Maps are now on the NRW website and he is chasing NRW for the statistics on changes.	MG

153/14	Director's Report: A C highlighted main points from her written report. The Business Plan and Budgets had been approved by BoT. Extra money had been granted so that Ellie Popp could continue for a further year as Delivery Officer. AC agreed to circulate Victoria Matthew's report on RC work and, similarly, Cristian Harris's report on Wales Coastal Path once that had been submitted to NRW. RT praised the Wales Office for the amount of work done over the 10 week reporting period.	AC
154/14	Ramblers GB Governance review; DD submitted a report for information.	
155/14	Financial reports: those for WCEC and Cardiff Office were approved.	
156/14	Budget request for WC/WCEC: a request for £9300 had been submitted.	
157/14	Budget requests from Areas and Groups were considered. If budget forecasts were correct there was a potential overspend of around £700. It was agreed that no meaningful decision could be made in the absence of the overall figure set by London which may or may not accommodate this overspend. It was agreed that JC would liaise with GL if budget cuts had to be made.	JC & GL
158/14	AC outlined the main points of the Cardiff Office Budget. AC also reminded WCEC of its promise to aid Welsh language training in the light of the budget allocation of just £180 per person.	JC
159/14	Business Plan (BP) was discussed. It was agreed that there was a need for the two-year plan to be broken down so that it was clear when milestones were to be achieved and how the achievement of a specific action was to be measured. There was also a need for the BP to be communicated to Areas and Groups and what responsibilities they had in regard to achieving the goals of the BP emphasised,	AC
160/14	WC 2015: GL outlined a revised format due to the potential cost of the existing format in the light of the hotel charges set out in his circulated paper. This new format envisaged a Saturday night dinner with business and other activities on the Sunday. This was approved and it was agreed that further decisions should be made by GL, DD and JC in the light of hotel's costing for the revised structure.	JC, DD & GL
161/14	50/50 by 2020 Campaign: CO'B presented a paper and reminded the meeting that Ramblers GB had sign-up to achieving this. It was agreed that RC should sign-up to the pledge that states it will take measures to achieve this.	AC
162/14	A discussion on RC's vision took place after a presentation by BS on progress towards agreeing Ramblers GB Vision. Members of WCEC were asked to consider what differences might be needed in the wording of a RC Vision; one possible one arose from the greater emphasis on the countryside over the urban environment in Wales. The target would be to have the Vision ready for approval at WC2015.	ALL
163/14	Next meeting: 22 nd November 2014 in Shrewsbury at Prince Rupert Hotel (<i>venue confirmed post-meeting</i>). A reminder was given that early apologies would be helpful in terms of giving numbers to the hotel in order to minimise catering costs.	ALL
	Signed.....Gwyn Lewis.....(Chairman)....22 nd November 2014.....(date)	