

WELSH COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Minutes of WCEC meeting held on Friday 5th February 2016 at Penglais Campus,
University of Aberystwyth

| No. | | Actions |
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| 1/16 | <p style="text-align: center;">Present</p> <p>Members – Alan Norton (Chair), Gwyn Lewis (Vice-Chair), Diane Davies (Secretary), Max Grant, George Allingham, Chris Hodgson (Vice-Chair), Maggie Thomas, Denis McAteer (President)</p> <p>Staff – Angela Charlton, Rebecca Brough</p> <p>Guests: Benedict Southworth (CEO Ramblers GB), Alan Austin (Chair Powys Area), Simon Longman (member), Geoff Williams (Chair Carmarthenshire Area)</p> | |
| 2/16 | Apologies: , John Cook, Ron Williams, Vernon Davies | |
| 3/16 | Declaration of Interest: none | |
| 4/16 | Minutes of meeting 21 st November 2015 were approved and are to go on website. | DD |
| 5/16 | Minutes of video conference 3 rd December 2015 were approved and are to go on website | DD |
| 6/16 | Action Sheet (166/15): Motion on Officer for northern half of Wales passed at WC2015: AC gave details of new part-time post that will focus on supporting Areas and will be based in the northern half of Wales. | |
| 7/16 | Action sheet (172/15): Communications and Publicity: BS spoke about ongoing research into types of support being provided to areas and groups and how it is being used. AA raised the question of the clarity surrounding distribution lists that mean that sometimes it is difficult to know who else has received a communication. | |
| 8/16 | Action Sheet (184/15): JC asked to raise two questions with Christine Grant: ongoing in view of absence of JC | JC |
| 9/16 | Business Plan: A general discussion of various points arising from the business plan took place. | |
| 10/16 | Updates on Budgets: BS reported that the Annual Audit was ready to be signed off and that no issues had been raised in regard to Areas and Groups in Wales. The quarterly financial report for the 1 st quarter 2016 for Cardiff Office had been circulated and was accepted. There was no report on WC & WCEC budget due to absence of JC. | |
| 11/16 | WC2016: GL reported that, with Hannah leaving the Wales Office, he and DD had agreed to oversee the planning of WC2016. He then gave a report on progress with bookings and nominations and indicated that no motions had been received so far. DD outlined the programme which would start with registration and dinner on Saturday and business on Sunday. A request for ideas for workshops was made and ideas from a general discussion on this topic were noted. Draft WC2015 minutes had been circulated for comments and errors and omissions were noted for redrafting the minutes. AN asked that, in future, draft WC minutes be ready for circulation no later than two weeks after the event. | GL & DD AC |
| 12/16 | Constitutional amendment on Area delegate selection: in view of the decision by WCEC at the last meeting (170/15), DD introduced a paper with a proposed amendment to Article 3.4.2. The proposed constitutional amendment was agreed by WCEC (with one abstention). | DD |

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| 13/16 | Review of Area and Group Structures: AN gave a report on the most recent sub-committee meeting. He stated that it was agreed that no recommendations for structural change would be made. The meeting had viewed favourably the idea of adopting paragraph 2 from the paper "The Role of Areas – ECEC Proposal" as an definition of an Area's role. It was proposed that this should be put forward as a motion at WC2016 but this was thought unnecessary and the proposal was defeated (2 in favour, 4 against.). Instead it was proposed that WCEC itself approve the Area Role description and this was agreed (nem con). It was agreed that a report on progress so far and next steps was needed for WC2016. | AN |
| 14/16 | A Vision for Wales: (i) The latest draft (version 5) of the Vision and Mission statements from this document were discussed and unanimously approved. BS subsequently suggested that a more complete statement for 7 & 8 would be "supporters, members, volunteers, staff and partners" and this was accepted. The document will need to be updated. (ii) Following on from this, version 6 of the complete document was discussed and there was general agreement. Notes were taken on minor points and the document will be updated and circulated by mid March prior to presentation at the WC Annual Meeting. | AN AC |
| 15/16 | Role and responsibilities of WC, WCEC and its members: in view of the fact that the papers circulated with the agenda were not the latest drafts and so did not include comments received, DD stated she would re-circulate them and allow two weeks for further comments to be made. It was agreed that a final version should be part of WCEC induction papers and go on website in the "About Us" section". | DD & AN |
| 16/16 | No one expressed interest in being WCEC representative at GC2016. | |
| 17/16 | Cambrian Way Working Group: MG spoke in respect to two papers he had circulated. He raised the question of employing a paid officer to oversee work being done in relation to the Cambrian Way. There was general agreement that this should be looked into and that it was important that whoever did the work should be part of RC staff. Thanks were expressed to MG for the work he and the Working Group had done so far. MG was reminded of the need for a report for WC2016. | MG |
| 18/16 | Pen Portraits: it was agreed that they should go on the WIKKI site and that an edited version should go on the website. DD to consult with AN after awaiting further responses. | DD & AN |
| 19/16 | AOB (i): BS gave a overview of what Ramblers were thinking in relation to the use of information now available as a result of The Big Pathwatch surveys. | |
| 20/16 | AOB (ii) GA reported that there had been a successful prosecution of the owner of Cardigan Island for blocking the public footpath. | |
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| | Signed....Alan Norton.....(Chairman).....7 th May 2016.....(date) | |