

Llais y Goedwig Working Group Meeting

12th May 2009

Present: Roger Davies (RD - chair), Zena Wilmot (ZW - minutes), Katy Harris (KH), Fay Sharpley (FS), Jenny Wong (JW), Philip Swain (PS), Steve Wigfall (SW), Dave Petty (DP)

Apologies: Roger Bray (RB), Rodney Waterfield (RW), Bob Shaw (BS), Barbara Anglezark (BA)

1. Minutes of last meeting were approved. Matters arising:	Action
<p><i>Publicity and membership:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gwlad (WAG magazine) do not publish advert but KH has contacted them and they may be interested in publishing a relevant article. An angle related to farm woodland and added income could be relevant to the readership. - 'Living Woods' published an article about the launch of Llais y Goedwig and an ongoing membership advert should now be placed in this magazine. - DP has sent an article which was published by the Permaculture Association. Permaculture magazine might be another option for press releases and membership adverts. 	<p>ZW/KH</p> <p>ZW/KH</p> <p>DP</p>
<p><i>WCVA membership</i> – RD to be the named person and membership fee to come out of Coed Lleol budget.</p>	<p>KH</p>
<p><i>Bank account</i> – details of all the board members need to be compiled and sent to the Co-op before the account can be set up.</p>	<p>DP</p>
<p><i>Environment Wales registration</i> – The funding available from Environment Wales may be reduced after June. JW would therefore like to put in an application for a start up grant as soon as possible once the Bank account is set up. DP to send JW bank details.</p>	<p>DP/JW</p>
<p><i>St Asaphs Woodfest</i> – ZW has contacted the organisers and sent a box of Llais y Goedwig postcards to be distributed at the event. In addition RD and either KH/ZW hope to attend for one of the days.</p>	<p>RD/KH/ ZW</p>
<p><i>Community Woodlands baseline report for Forest Research</i> – The report has been finished pending feedback from FCW on the pathfinder projects and from Coed Marros on their case study. The report will be published on the Forest Research and Coed Lleol websites. FCW will hold a meeting to discuss the findings. Forest Research will then be organising a seminar. The board of Llais y Goedwig would like to be kept informed about the seminar and any progress thereafter.</p>	<p>ZW/KH</p>
<p><i>Research proposal on Tenure</i> – JW circulated her proposal to the board and received useful and encouraging feedback. JW has been in discussions with Bianca Ambrose-Oji, estimating the research costs to be around £22,000. Funding options were discussed. Beacon for Wales fund of up to £20,000 to link Universities with communities, deadline is the 1st June. JW to contact WCVA Senior Research Officer Bryan Collis for ideas of how to take the project forward.</p>	<p>JW</p>
2. Reports on recent events attended	Action
<p><i>Woodlands for Wales Strategy Launch (JW/FS/RD/KH)</i> – The strategy was launched without much explanation on the information contained or the changes made. Llais y Goedwig did, however, get mentioned in one of the presentations.</p>	
<p><i>Level two strategy consultation (KH)</i> – There was good feedback from the board of Llais y Goedwig. Barbara Anglezark (FCW) thanked KH and the board of Llais y Goedwig for their input. The draft is available on the Coed Lleol website, the draft version needs replacing with the final version on the website. The board of Llais y Goedwig would like to be kept informed of the follow on steps.</p>	<p>KH</p>
<p><i>WSAP meeting</i> – The next meeting will be on the 16-17th June. JW will be attending this meeting. There appears to be a discrepancy between the levels of policy documents referred to by WSAP and the FCW policy team. Clarification is needed.</p>	<p>JW</p>
<p><i>DTA Viability not Liability seminar (ZW)</i> – The seminar discussed the progress of the Asset</p>	

<p>transfer agenda in England and Wales. An 'Asset Transfer Unit' has been established to support community projects aspiring to acquire an asset. In Wales, WAG and the Lottery are establishing an 'Asset Transfer Fund' to cover revenue and capitol costs, it is hoped that this will be in place in Autumn 2009. Peter Williams of the Development Trust Association (DTA) Wales is looking for case studies for the consultation with the Lottery – ZW to send the Community Woodland baseline report, and any individual groups can contact him directly. Hugh Rolo of the Asset Transfer Unit will be making short films of community projects through the process of acquiring an asset. If any projects are interested contact him directly h.rolo@dta.org.uk.</p>	<p>ZW ALL</p>
<p>3. Coed Lleol update</p> <p><i>Staffing</i> – CLL has been contracted to undertake a scoping study of 'Forestry Apprenticeships and Training in Wales' for FCW. ZW will be taking a lead on this and, in order to cover her time, CLL are in the process of recruiting an extra part-time member of staff for a temporary 3 month contract. RD was invited to be on the interview panel.</p> <p>KH announced that she will be taking maternity leave from mid September 2009.</p> <p>The CLL staff capacity as secretariat for Llais y Goedwig will not be reduced. The board of Llais y Goedwig would like to have a clear outline of the responsibilities of each CLL member of staff in order to know who to contact.</p> <p>KH will be investigating funding opportunities on behalf of Llais y Goedwig and FCW. At present KH has been unable to contact Richard Davies (FCW), although the project has been approved, the contract still needs to be written up. JW will be working on the Llais y Goedwig Business Plan over the summer and it would be useful to have this information. KH and JW to work together.</p> <p>Scoping study of 'Forestry Apprenticeships and Training in Wales' for FCW. ZW will be taking a lead on this study. RD would like to be involved as he has an ongoing interest in apprenticeships. Llais y Goedwig would like to be kept informed and updated on the progress of this study.</p>	<p>Action</p> <p> KH KH KH/JW ZW</p>
<p>4. Forward planning for 2009 - events</p> <p><i>Insurance seminar in east Wales</i> – KH and ZW met with Phil Tidy (SWA) and Cath McNulty to discuss the seminar. The event to be a collaboration between Smallwoods, Coed Lleol, Llais y Goedwig and Confor. Seminar to be relevant to woodland owners and community groups. Possible dates: July 4th or early September. KH to contact Phil Tidey and Cath Mc Nulty to reassess dates.</p> <p><i>AGM and conference plans for the autumn</i> – Two-day event, with the AGM on the second day. to be held on a Friday and Saturday. Long Wood would be interested in supporting the event with a visit to the woodland. CLI and Long Wood to discuss roles, responsibilities and next steps. CLI to assess what can be covered with a budget of £4000. Possible venues: marquee, Victoria Hall (Lampeter Transition Town) or Lampeter University. Possible dates: Half term week, end October. PS to contact KH with suitable dates for a planning meeting. Proposal to be brought to next meeting.</p>	<p>Action</p> <p> KH PS/KH</p>
<p>5. Forward planning for 2009</p> <p><i>Membership</i> – New focus on promoting membership with the aim of increase membership to a minimum of fifty. Everyone responsible for recruiting new members. Any newsworthy events to be publicised through the radio as the radio overage of the launch event was effective for the launch event in Feb 09.</p> <p>ZW to send current Llais y Goedwig membership list to the board. ZW to send a summary of this meeting to current members.</p> <p><i>Advertising for membership at events</i> – Llais y Goedwig will not have a stand at the Royal Welsh, Powis Wood Fair, or St Asaphs. KH/ZW to contact Woodland Trust and FCW in order to provide leaflets for their stands. Individuals to attend events if they can, CLL can cover expenses. Representatives to attend the community woodland awards at the Royal Welsh.</p>	<p>Action</p> <p> ALL ZW KH/ZW</p>
<p>6. Forward planning for 2009-2010 and onwards</p> <p><i>Business plan</i> – The draft document needs to be filled out and then compiled. The content of the</p>	<p>Action</p>

<p>plan was reviewed. ZW/KH to create a matrix with each of the amended points that will be sent out to the board members.</p> <p>The board is to insert their initial ideas and put initials next to sections they are willing to take forward. This will be brought to the next meeting.</p> <p>JW will then work on pulling together a coherent document.</p>	<p>KH/ZW</p> <p>Board</p> <p>JW</p>
<p>7. Website</p> <p>Llais y Goedwig to have a separate website. Members of the board will have access to the website for adding information with one person responsible for maintenance of the site. JW and CLL to get quotes for setting up the website.</p>	<p>Action</p> <p>KH/ZW/ JW</p>
<p>8. Update on Pathfinder Projects (PS/RD/JW)</p> <p>JW, RD and PS are involved in ongoing discussions with FCW regarding their group becoming a pathfinder project (discussing greater community involvement in FC woodlands and tenure issues).</p> <p>Richard Davies was unable to attend the meeting to give an update. Hopefully both Richard Davies and Barbara Anglezark will come to the next meeting. Dates of meeting to be confirmed with them.</p>	<p>Action</p> <p>KH</p>
<p>9. AOB</p> <p><i>Size of Wales project</i> – JW has met with Ru Hartwell to discuss the project and introduce him to students at Bangor University. Opportunity for community to community links with Africa with community level fundraising. JW and KH will keep Llais y Goedwig board informed.</p> <p><i>Community Woodland conflict management</i> – FCW has approached Coed Lleol / Llais y Goedwig asking for assistance mediating for a community woodland in conflict with local neighbours. JW recommended several experts who might be better placed to take on this project. The board agreed that this was the best option and offered personal support to the group if needed. JW to send contacts to KH.</p> <p><i>New FC policy on woodfuel</i> – RD alerted the board that tendering opportunities may be announced in the near future that might be appropriate for community woodland groups.</p>	<p>Action</p> <p>JW / KH</p> <p>JW / KH</p>
<p>10. Date of Next meeting – Tuesday 2nd July @ Owain Glyndŵr in Machynlleth</p>	