



Minutes of the meeting of IUCN NCUK ExCo70

Held on Tuesday 7th August 2012 at the Holiday Inn Cambridge, Lakeview, Bridge Road, Cambridge CB24 9PH between 10:00 and 13:00.

Those present: Stuart Brooks (SB)(Chair), Susan Davies (SD), Tim Stowe (TS), Mike Pienkowski (MP), Chris Mahon (CM), Jonathan Hughes (JH), Richard Jenkins (RJ)

1. Chairs Welcome

SB welcomed ExCo Members to the meeting

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Trevor Salmon, Mark Baxter, Glyn Davies, Sue Stolton, Nigel Dudley, Ed Edwards, Bryan Carroll, Clifton Bain, Ed Edwards. It was noted that Trevor Salmon's role with IUCN NCUK ExCo is changing and Dominic Whitmee (DW) is likely to be replacing him. It would be useful to have a face to face meeting with DW in the near future.

Action CM

3. Approval of minutes of ExCo 69 and update on actions

The Minutes of ExCo 69 were agreed as a correct record

Two outstanding actions were noted. SD 69.5.5 and CM 69.7.1 (see actions below)

4. Items for decision

4.1 Financial administration - CM reported that the Cooperative Bank had not yet responded to his letter requesting advice on setting up an alternative bank account. However, the existing situation with current signatories is working adequately for the moment – although the changes need to happen before Susan Davies can take over the treasurer role as agreed.

5. Items for discussion

5.1 Co-opted reps reports

MP circulated the latest newsletter of the UKOTCF and highlighted from his paper 70.5.1 several particular issues.

Environment charters are not being implemented in some OTs and these are useful tools to lever conservation action. The Bermuda Ombudsman has recently determined that an environmental charter is a legally binding document which seems to have caught UK Government unawares. The recent White Paper on OTs does not mention the charters. In MP's view, the White Paper on OTs could be significantly strengthened..

TS stated there is detail missing from the White Paper. The Government is known to be supportive of UKOTs but they have produced a woolly document and there may be something we should be doing to help in this? Should we be approaching the All Party Parliamentary Committee on Overseas Territories?

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SD suggested that JNCC's evidence base could inform a review of the White Paper now that they are less involved in policy work. Also that the Triennial Review of JNCC is an opportunity for NCUK input.

MP informed ExCo that UKOTCF intend a technical report and are working with some politicians on this issue and expect to provide a robust response. Biodiversity and Ecosystems Services in the Territories (BEST) and Life funding are also being worked on by both RSPB and UKOTCF. The UK seems to not fare well in these discussions in the European Union because UK Government is not engaged adequately in them.

To take this issue forward a discussion was had around hosting a Parliamentary reception in Nov/Dec to raise profile of this matter amongst politicians. The event could perhaps form part of a day's activity with a conference.

RJ suggested that there should be a link made with the IUCN European Programme which would highlight how much better other countries are doing in this field.

SB asked MP to produce a position statement with TS input for ExCo to react to. The conflict of interest clause can be used to accommodate those who cannot commit. **Action MP**

Other issues noted:

- Isle of Man is now subject to CBD
- A UKOTCF Council Member is now Minister of Environment in Gibraltar. Gibraltar Government have asked UKOTCF to Chair a meeting on Spanish fishing interests around Gibraltar.

5.2 IUCN UK Peatland Project update

JH presented paper 70.5.2 on the latest outcomes of the programme and ExCo noted the success of the Bangor conference. In particular, SD noted the international reach at the Bangor conference. UK is a hub of peatland expertise now with a greater international reach including the Jeju meeting.

5.3 Putting Nature on the Map (PNOTM) update

CM presented paper 70.5.3 and ExCo noted the potential for continued profile-raising of the National Committee at the WCC Conservation Campus on Protected Areas in Jeju.

5.4 Members Meeting, Cambridge and Progress with WCC Jeju activity

Two motions had been highlighted for discussion at the Members meeting: one from Plantlife International and one noted by TS on the change of IUCN statute for membership. TS questioned the rationale behind the latter.

The matter of a vote by the National Committee for either or both candidates for IUCN Regional Councillor (West Europe) was discussed and RJ and JH stepped out of the room while the committee determined their position. It was agreed that both candidates had support from differing parts of the membership and it would be inappropriate for ExCo to support a single candidate.

There was still some ambiguity around the voting position of national committees and clarification is to be sought. **Action CM/RJ**

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It was agreed that CM could be accredited as Head of Delegation for the National Committee for the United Kingdom and assume speaking rights and that he would produce a spreadsheet of UK Members attending the Congress and circulate it to those attending to assist in communication and for people to have contacts for proxy voting **Action CM**

5.5 IUCN NCUK Work Programme 2012-16

The projects matrix stimulated a discussion resulting in agreement that the eventual work programme should be integrated around the next Global and European Programmes and SD said it should be across policy areas in an integrated fashion. JH proposed that the Management of Natural Capital could be a niche as NEA focuses on 'the end of pipe'. SD maintained that the Peatland Programme has provided leadership and so we should find a similar pattern maybe coordinating a set of different players.

It was agreed for each to go away and explore potential key partners

CM to follow up on Green Infrastructure. JH reported on an Ecological Urbanism conference projected for 2014 in Glasgow. Architects and urban designers are a key target group for us. CM to report back on key players and opportunities with input from others. **Action CM**

SB to follow up migratory and freshwater fish theme including contact with the Species Survival Commission Freshwater Fish Specialist Group **Action SB**

SD to follow up on Pollinators (noting neo nicotinoids) and River Restoration **Action SD**

The non-native invasive species theme has leadership already in place so it will be deleted from the matrix.

Major UK habitat/species focused project could potentially be Peatland Programme phase 2 although Exco members should stay alert to opportunities

Action SB/JH/CB

CM to review the current plan in a new format to separate Actions and Targets with an additional column and short summary for next meeting. **Action CM**

6. Items for information

6.1 Chief Executive's report

CM spoke to his paper and the progress was noted by ExCo.

6.2 Financial report

SB reported on the financial position and noted that the invoices sent out to Members in June were being responded to by Members. There were no significant issues to report.

7. Any Other Business

There were no items tabled

8. Date of next meeting (ExCo71)

14.12.12 Oxford

Action CM**Actions arising from the meeting**

Reference	Action	People involved	Intended date
69.5.5	Share UK Approach document	SD	ASAP
69.7.1	Process for response to external requests and press releases	CM	December 2012
70.2	Set up meeting with Dominic Whitmee	CM/SB/DM	ASAP
70.5.1	Produce a position statement with TS input	MP	October 2012
70.5.4	Seek clarification on NC voting at WCC	CM/RJ	Beginning September
70.5.4	Produce spreadsheet of UK participants	CM	Beginning September
70.5.5	Work programme – green infrastructure	CM/JH	December 2012
70.5.5	Work programme – migratory & freshwater fish	SB	December 2012
70.5.5	Work programme – pollinators and river restoration	SD	December 2012
70.5.5	Work programme – peatland programme 2	JH/SB/CB	December 2012
70.5.5	Work programme in new format	CM	December 2012
70.8	Organise ExCo71 in Oxford in December	CM	October 2012