



APP Pollinators Taskforce – Bee Friendly / Caru Gwenyn

March 23 2018 Ladywell House, Newtown

Attendees:

Clare Dinham	-	Buglife Cymru
Andrew Lucas	-	NRW
Stephen Rose	-	BIBBA
Natasha de Vere	-	National Botanic Gardens Wales - Chair
Jan Miller	-	NWWT
Alison Heal	-	Ceredigion County Council
Francis Gellatly	-	APHA
Marc Carlton	-	WLGf
Jenny Shaw	-	Welsh Beekeepers Association
John Bowles	-	Welsh Beekeepers Association
Nigel Leaworthy	-	Monmouthshire County Council
David Edge	-	Calon Wen
Lynfa Edge	-	Menter a Busnes
Angus Garbutt	-	CEH
Shane Hughes	-	Long Forest Project
Maria Golightly	-	Grow Wild, Kew Gardens
Simon Bilsborough	-	WG
Sam Lloyd-Williams	-	WG
Paul McCullough	-	WG

1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies

Natasha de Vere opened the meeting by welcoming the members. Introductions were made and apologies were offered from those who were unable to attend on the day.

2. National Pollinator Monitoring Scheme

Angus Garbutt from the Centre for Ecology and Hydrology presented a paper on the UK Pollinator Monitoring Scheme (POMS) that CEH are delivering with Welsh Government co-funding.

A point was raised by Natasha to review the current POMS documents as some were English only. As POMS is a UK-wide project, with Welsh Government funding, it was agreed Welsh language documents should be offered so that the project is compliant with Welsh Language Standards.

Angus also asked the members to circulate to their respective organisations the opportunities provided by volunteer monitoring for POMS.

<https://www.ceh.ac.uk/our-science/projects/pollinator-monitoring>

3. Asian Hornet Outbreak 2017

Frank Gellatly gave an update on the 2017 Asian Hornet incursion in Devon, lessons learnt and the contingency measures in place to prevent any further potential outbreaks. Frank also presented the 2017 APHA Annual Report which outlined the work the APHA undertakes in Wales, including inspections for exotic diseases.

<http://www.nationalbeeunit.com/index.cfm?pageid=168>

4. Growing the Future Project and Plants for Pollinators Assurance Scheme

Natasha de Vere from the National Botanic Garden of Wales presented the Growing the Future (GTF) project, which aims to provide horticulture training and knowledge to individuals and groups throughout Wales. It is a five-year project funded through the Welsh Government Rural Communities-Rural Development Programme 2014-2020, which is funded by the Welsh Government and the European Union.

The 'Plants for Pollinators' assurance scheme is part of a PhD programme to create a scientifically verified list of the best plants for pollinators. This project will use scientific evidence to create this list and use it to develop pollinator friendly seed mixes for use in gardens across the UK.

<https://botanicgarden.wales/press/growing-future-national-botanic-garden-wales/>

<https://botanicgarden.wales/2018/02/plants-pollinators-creating-pollinator-friendly-seed-mixes-gardens-urban-green-spaces/>

5. Pasture for Pollinators

Lynfa Davies from Menter a Busnes and David Edge, from Calon Wen gave an overview of the Pastures for Pollinators RDP Project. David is part of the Calon Wen Milk Co-operative, a group of 18 organic family farms across Wales and he explained how forage resources on dairy farms can be managed to conserve and enhance populations of bumblebees and other pollinators. In addition to increasing the productivity and financial performance of the farms, the aim is to improve the number and diversity of food plants for pollinators.

<https://businesswales.gov.wales/farmingconnect/pasture-pollinators>

6. Long Forest Project

Shane Hughes from Keep Wales Tidy delivered a presentation on The Long Forest Project, which has been developed by Keep Wales Tidy in partnership with the Woodland Trust, with support from the Heritage Lottery Fund and the

Esmee Fairbairn Foundation. The aim of the project is in delivering practical action in targeted areas of Wales, planting some 100,000 trees and improving around 120,000m of hedgerow.

It also aims to raise awareness on the importance of hedgerows and their uses, highlight their historical value and survey their condition. The project is delivering practical action across Wales working with landowners and community groups to help manage, improve and extend hedgerows, through training and volunteering action. The project also plans to develop a hedgerow surveying app which will create records which will highlight the current state of the hedgerows across Wales.

<https://www.keepwalestidy.cymru/longforest>

7. Action Plan for Pollinators in Wales Stocktake

After lunch, Paul McCullough from Welsh Government gave the members an update on the ongoing stocktake of Action Plan for Pollinators in Wales. A Task and Finish group had been set up to work and the stocktake and Paul presented the draft stocktake document and took comments and discussion from the members.

These comments were accepted and will be added to the stocktake. A deadline date was set for the end of April for any final comments from the members (to be emailed to Welsh Government), especially for group members on their proposed actions for the period 2018 - 2020. A launch date of summer 2018 was discussed and agreed. A suitable event is to be agreed upon along with Ministerial presence (to be confirmed with Private Office).

8. End of Meeting

Natasha closed the meeting and thanked the members for attending and gave thanks to those who gave presentations to the group.

Actions

- Paul McCullough to circulate the morning presentations to the members.
- Paul McCullough and Angus Garbutt to review the current POMS documents regarding Welsh language versions.
- All members to consider the APP Stocktake and any final comments to be circulated to Welsh Government by the end of **April 2018**.
- Welsh Government policy officials on Land Management to attend next meeting.
- Welsh Government to check if the Glastir Monitoring and Evaluation Programme (GMEP) data records farm type as organic or non-organic.
- Welsh Government to follow up with CEH on possibility of further analysis of GMEP data re pollinators. <https://gmep.wales/>
- Welsh Government to acknowledge the production of the Bee Friendly plant list by Jan and Marc, in the APP Stocktake.
- Jan Miller to forward information on a case study in Conwy to be included within the APP Stocktake.

- Welsh Government to circulate previous APP Task Force views on how Glastir can support pollinators.
- Date of Next Meeting - **TBC**