

ESEF Cymru

“Floating Classroom”

Presentations by

Dr Chris Wooldridge (Degree Scheme Coordinator, Marine Geography, Cardiff University)

Dr Nicola Rimington (Estuarine & Coastal Scientist, Countryside Council for Wales)

Dr Andrew Mackie (Marine Biodiversity Section Head, Department of Biodiversity & Systematic Biology, National Museum Wales)

Ceri James (Marine, Coastal and Hydrocarbons, British Geological Survey)

Lara Murphy (Marine Biodiversity, National Museum of Wales)

Ian Selby (British Marine Aggregate Producers Association)

4.30 pm – 7.00 pm, 7 November 2006
National Museum of Wales

Minutes of the fourth meeting

1. Apologies for absence:

Apologies were received from a number of individuals, organisations and members of the Welsh Assembly, including Rt Hon Rhodri Morgan AM.

2. Chairman’s introduction:

Chairman welcomed the attendees, gave a summary of the ESEF Cymru and outlined the background to the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Earth Sciences (Earth Sciences Group), which is administered by ESEF. The All-Party Parliamentary Group for Earth Sciences meets each month in Westminster when the House is sitting and covers a wide range of Earth Science topics. A list of all meetings held can be seen on the www.esef.org.uk website.

The Chairman noted that the Transco meeting had not been able to go ahead at this time and thanked the speakers for agreeing to give presentations at relatively short notice.

3. Minutes of the third ESEF Cymru meeting, 11 July 2006 were confirmed as a true record.

4. Matters arising:

[Numbers in square brackets are paragraph numbers from the minutes of the previous meeting]

[4] Welsh Language

- Dr John Davies, Countryside Council for Wales (CCW) and the Welsh Building Stones Forum – tabled a paper outlining the situation in Wales and how the Forum

might encourage Welsh speaking students to be interested in Earth science. John will continue to work on the paper as per previous minutes. The paper will be circulated via email to all ESEF Cymru invitees with a request for responses, which will be collated by Cally Oldershaw.

Action: Dr John Davies and Cally Oldershaw

[4] Primary teachers' Earth science workshop

- Carole Gledhill (Careers Wales) and Cally Oldershaw developed an all-day Earth science event on 30 October for primary teachers in the Powys area, which included a visit to Hanson's Builth Wells Quarry, arranged by David Harding. The event was a success and is offered to all regions in Wales.

5. Stakeholders' discussion:

Collaborative projects and feedback from ESEF Cymru stakeholders, including key issues and concerns.

- **5.1 Outdoor Learning questionnaire.** Following the presentation on 'Outdoor Learning' at the last meeting, it had been agreed that Cally Oldershaw and Kim Polistina would prepare a questionnaire to be available for attendees at this meeting. Questionnaires were completed by attendees and returned to Cally for collation. Kim will trial the questionnaire with her students. Cally and Kim will liaise regarding evaluation and further development of the questionnaire. The paper will be circulated via email to all ESEF Cymru invitees with a request for responses, which will be collated by Cally Oldershaw.

Action: Cally Oldershaw and Kim Polistina

6. Future programme:

Tuesday 12th December. National Museum of Wales, Cardiff – 'The geology of wine'.

- Professor John Cope had accepted an invitation by Professor Mike Bassett to give a presentation on "The Geology of Wine". Wine will be provided for a tasting.
- Programme for the next meeting:

4.30 pm – informal networking (tea/coffee)

5.00 pm – business meeting

5.30 pm – presentation and free wine tasting

6.50 pm – end

Tuesday 13th March 2007. Yale College, Wrexham – 'Geoconservation and Geodiversity in Wales'.

The Chair invited attendees to suggest possible speakers and topics for future meetings. Suggestions should be sent via email to Cally Oldershaw

Action: All

7. Resources

The Chairman thanked those who had given support to ESEF Cymru and invited attendees to suggest ideas as to how they might be able to contribute.

8. AOB

None

9. Date of next meeting – Tuesday 12th December, National Museum of Wales.
Please note that the front door of the Museum is closed at 5.00pm. After 5.00pm access to the Icons Suite meeting room is via the Security Office off the lower car park, which is reached by walking down the ramp at the back of the Museum.

Cally Oldershaw
8 November 2006