



Earth Science Education Forum (England and Wales) **Minutes of the 66th meeting**

Held in the Arthur Holmes Room, Geological Society, London. 1.00 pm, 17 April 2018.

Present

Annette Shelford (NHM Learning Team/Real World Science)
Chris King (Earth Science Education Unit)
John Stevenson (BGS)
Matthew Parkes (GCG)
Nikki Edwards (ESTA)
Susan Brown (Rockwatch)
Tom Hose (GeoConservationUK)

Apologies for absence:

Alan Holiday
Amy Ball (GSL)
Cally Oldershaw
David Brook (London Geodiversity Partnership)
Diana Clements (Geologists' Association)
Duncan Hawley (Geographical Association)
Isabel Markham (U3A)
Ian and Roz Mercer (U3A)
John Ayres (U3A and Jurassic Coast)
Judi Lakin (GSL)
Maggie Williams (Liverpool Uni.)
Nic Bilham (GSL)
Pete Loader (Geological Society)

1. Talk /discussion

Matthew Parkes GCG; 'Geological education in museums'

After the presentation the group discussed how the GCG could get more involved with ESTA and potentially become members. The options of joint meetings between ESTA and GCG were discussed and developing CPD opportunities for museum staff.

Action CK and MP to draft a memorandum of understanding between GCG and ESTA.

2 Minutes of the 65th meeting, 12 December 2017

The minutes of the 65th meeting were accepted as a true record. A copy has been placed on the ESEF website. **Action: JS**

3 Matters arising

3.1 *National Curriculum (KS3 & 4 and A level)*

GSCE- and A-level geology

CK reported that Progress 8 was discussed at a recent ESTA 'secondary day' meeting. At that meeting, it was agreed that ESTA should 'do more'. The ESTA action is on Annette Thomas to draft a letter, to be signed by senior oil executives, to ask 'why geology is regarded as a science at A Level, but it is not regarded as a science at GCSE level?' This letter will be sent to Damian Hinds, Secretary of State for Education.

3.2 *Training for secondary geology teachers:*

The Keele Summer School will run again in 2019; just seven bursaries will be offered to teachers. This is a reduction of three from previous years; this is the only course training geology teachers in the UK.

3.3 *Geology for Non-Geologists training 'Geolab':*

The next Geolab event is planned for Martley, Worcestershire in April 2018.

3.4 *National Geology Database (BGS GeoUK and Ireland Map)*

JS reported that he had sent reminders about GeoUK and Ireland articles submissions to the magazine editors of the Geologists' Association, GCUK, Teaching Earth Sciences and Down to Earth magazines; publishing of articles should now happen in spring-summer 2018.

Action JS to send updated GeoUK and Ireland articles to Matthew Parkes for the NATSCA and GCG blogs.

3.5 *Geological poster map of UK and Ireland*

CK reported that it should be possible to email out directly to ESTA conference delegates to gain feedback about the production of additional downloadable resources.

Action JS to collaborate with David Bailey, ESTA Secretary, re. emailing ESTA members.

3.6 *GeoWeek - Mobilising the geoscience community' project.*

Approx 30 events are planned nationally according to the GeoWeek events map <http://www.bgs.ac.uk/geoweek/participate.html#map>. There is a good spread of events across England and southern Scotland; no events are planned for Wales, Northern Ireland or Ireland. The group thought this was a good number of events for the pilot year and was a good platform to build from for next year.

Publicity: no funding was available for publicity. Publicity would have to be channeled through geological group websites, social media and local press.

Dates for 2019 were discussed, although no clear consensus was reached; i.e. there was no date that would suit all of the various groups that could potentially be involved. However, it was agreed that the date for 2019 would be evaluated via an online questionnaire to participant groups and potential participant groups.

Action JS to produce an online questionnaire and circulate to participant groups in mid-May 2018.

Earthcaching was not discussed.

3.7 *BESER 'Subject leadership development programme'*

Nothing to report.

4 Finance report

Nothing to report.

5 ESEF website (www.esef.org.uk)

JS reported that the website is up to date.

6 Potential collaborative projects

Nothing to report.

7 ESEF Achievements

Nothing to report.

8 AOB

Geology walking guides/maps

Action JS to make further enquiries to ESRI regarding ARCGIS online licenses for charitable organisations such as the GA.

TH is writing two CPD courses on 'plain English' geoeducation have been approved by the GCUK committee; 1) *Introduction to the UK's Geodiversity for non-specialists*, 2) *Geoarchaeology*. These courses are likely to be published in 2019.

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) was briefly discussed.

Action: JS to check ESEF membership information compliance with GDPR guidance.

9 Dates of future meetings

5 June 2018	Cancelled	
23 October 2018	Provisional date	Speaker Tom Hose 'Geodiversity' TBC
4 December 2018	Provisional date	