

SKOMER MARINE NATURE RESERVE
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF 12TH MEETING, WEDNESDAY 25 APRIL 2001
HELD AT PICTON CENTRE, HAVERFORDWEST

P R E S E N T

Mr J Archer Thomson	Dale Fort Field Centre
Ms S Bailey	World Wide Fund for Nature
Mr J Brown	Wildlife Trust - West Wales
Mr B Bullimore	Countryside Council for Wales - CHAIRMAN
Mr F Bunker	Marine Conservation Society
Mr D Chant	South Wales Sea Fisheries Committee
Mr A Corey	Milford Harbour Users Association
Dr R Crump	Orielton Field Centre
Mr P Crocombe	Welsh Association of Sub-Aqua Clubs
Mrs Y Evans	Marloes & St. Brides Community Council
Miss J Hodges	Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority
Mr R John	Welsh Yachting Association
Mr I Johnson	Old Mill Diving Services
Mr B Jones	British Sub-Aqua Club
Dr P Lloyd	Royal Yachting Association
Miss K Lock	Countryside Council for Wales (Secretariat)
Mrs A Love	West Wales Divers
Mr P Newman	Countryside Council for Wales
Dr D Parker	Countryside Council for Wales
Ms M Rees	Environment Agency
Mr P Smithies	Marloes & St. Brides Community Council
Dr D Worrall	Countryside Council for Wales

Apologies were received from Mr P Coates (South Wales Sea Fisheries Committee), Mr Jack Donovan (Wildlife Trust - West Wales), Mr R Ellis (National Trust), Mr K Gainfort (Dale Sailing Company), Mr M Hearn (MAFF), Cllr. B Morgan (Marloes & St. Brides Community Council), Prof. L M Warren (Department of Law, Aberystwyth), Dr C Wooldridge (Department of Maritime Studies and International Transport, Cardiff), Mrs M Dunn (Wildlife Trust - West Wales).

Absent were: Mr B Cairns/ Mr B Deas (Welsh Coastal Inshore Fishermen's Association and National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations), Mr R J Daniels/Mr J Harrison (Sports Council for Wales), Mr J Deason (Pembrokeshire County Council), Mr C Doyle (Welsh Federation of Sea Anglers), Mr N O'Sullivan (South Wales Sea Fisheries Committee), Mr J Orchard (Pembrokeshire Sea Canoeists), Mr G Perriman (Welsh Office Agriculture Department), Dr M Kaiser (School of Ocean Sciences), Mr P Morris (HM Coastguard), Mr J Skinner (Crown Estate).

1 MINUTES OF ELEVENTH MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING

The Chairman welcomed members in particular Ms M Rees representing the Environment Agency, Mr P Smithies councillor for Marloes & St. Brides Community Council and Ms S Bailey representing World Wide Fund for Nature. Members were introduced to Dr D Parker, CCW's Director of Conservation.

The Chairman took members through the minutes of the last meeting and these were accepted as a true record.

Mooring licences still awaited from CCW Land Agency. Delays have been due to workloads of staff and this has been considered a low priority.

Dr R Crump continues to represent the MNR Advisory Committee on the liaison forum for the Pembrokeshire Marine candidate SAC (previously named Pembrokeshire Islands candidate SAC).

The MNR management plan review has not been fully completed but it does highlight shortfalls in the work programme and staffing resources. Dr D Parker told members that document delivery on the new CCW website may be possible, and there is the potential for access to the management plan on the website in the future.

Mr D Chant updated members on SWSFC's current funding situation. Funding should have been increased, but has not and this is causing serious problems. Lawyers have advised that the situation is unlawful. The running costs of the fisheries patrol vessel *Cranogwen* and staffing cannot be maintained under the current circumstances. Mr D Chant thanked CCW staff for their letters of support.

The Chairman said that CCW is very aware of the value of the SWSFC and will continue to support whenever possible.

On the subject of tankers anchoring in St Bride's Bay the Chairman had heard no further news about the discussions that Capt M Andrew (Milford Haven Port Authority) had had with DETR. These discussions centred around proposals to discourage the use of St Brides Bay as an anchorage and instead to encourage the practice used at other ports for ships to stay at sea until berths in the port were available. Miss J Hodges reinforced that this is a continued concern and needs to be pursued further.

An example of a fishing effort distribution map produced by Geographical Information System was included in the Annual Report. The chairman apologised for the poor colour selection used for the lines but it had not been possible to change it.

Fugro-Geos have continued to conduct equipment field trials in the MNR and have provided a variety of support to the MNR. This has been summarised in the Annual Report.

The Chairman told members that the invasive seaweed species, *Sargassum muticum*, has not been reported at any additional sites. Mr F Bunker reported that along with CCW Intertidal surveyors he had found *Sargassum* in rockpools at West Angle Bay that they subsequently removed. The Chairman said that *Sargassum* had been found at West Angle since 1998 and was known at Broad Haven north.

Dr P Lloyd was concerned that there were no bathing water quality data available for Martins Haven in 2000. Mr P Newman explained that bathing water quality testing at Martins Haven had been carried out by PCC throughout the 2000 season, however their recording procedure had been changed and PCC was not able to easily access the detailed data usually supplied to the MNR. An agreement has been arranged with PCC staff to email the data on a monthly basis to the MNR during the 2001 and future seasons.

Dr R Crump and Dr C Wooldridge, as joint Chairman of the Research and Education Sub-Committee met with Dr D Parker on the 4th October 2000 to discuss the Skomer MNR Interpretation Booklet and MNR staff resources. The minutes of the meeting were tabled.

2 ANNUAL REPORT

The Chairman apologised for the short amount of time the Committee were given to read the report before the meeting. He explained that the Annual Report has been produced as a compromise between the old narrative style and that produced by the Countryside Management System database, which includes work targets and priorities. This style is easier to read than the 1999 Countryside Management System style report.

Mr P Newman, Skomer MNR Officer, led members through the Annual Report providing a summary of the report and highlighting and expanding upon specific issues using an illustrated presentation.

The MNR staff complement now consists of Phil Newman and Kate Lock. With only 2 full time members of staff fieldwork has suffered and staff dive times and days at sea have not yet recovered even to 1998 levels. To be able to field a minimum dive team the MNR staff had to book Area Marine staff (Blaise Bullimore and Mike Camplin) and volunteer Steve Myatt, however their available time was limited. HQ staff have been able to contribute some time but this only totalled 2 diving days on MNR projects.

Mr P Newman paid special tribute to the contributions made by volunteers, especially Steve Myatt who has provided valuable assistance in all fieldwork projects, the scallop survey team and Cardiff University divers. It is hoped that Steve will volunteer again this year. Cardiff University divers are keen to establish some survey projects in the MNR.

Dr R Crump asked how many scallops were counted in the survey, was this data available and how does it compare to the surveys completed in the 1980's? Mr P Newman explained that the data was currently in spreadsheets, but is still to be analysed. Dr R Crump said that in the 1980's survey only 70-80 scallops were counted in one week with 8 divers, how does this compare with last years data? Miss K Lock said that around 200 scallops were counted, however the survey method was different focusing on target sites. Dr R Crump said he looked forward to a report being completed, as the 1980's scallop surveys were part of the initial work that contributed to the Skomer area being recognised for its marine environmental importance.

Mr F Bunker asked if there had been any records of scallop dredging in the MNR since those in 1978. The Chairman said that last recorded commercial dredging operation was in the late 1980's.

Mr P Newman thanked all the Honorary Wardens for their contributions and told Committee members of newly appointed Honorary Wardens Nic Davies, fisherman; and Carl Wonnacot, crew of the *Dale Princess*.

Dr P Lloyd asked if volunteers are provided with safety training for working in boats. Mr P Newman said that the volunteers are given boat safety procedures to read before boarding boats and onboard familiarisation of safety equipment. Dr P Lloyd recommended that volunteers should attend a safety training course.

Mooring maintenance had been carried out to a bare minimum. Miss J Hodges asked if it was due to staff resources that the moorings were not being maintained sufficiently. Mr F Bunker asked if mooring maintenance could be contracted out. Dr P Lloyd said that visitor and other moorings should have maximum maintenance otherwise it could be dangerous.

The Chairman explained that we are not being negligent, MNR moorings are inspected more frequently than most other moorings, however we set high standards and would ideally be inspecting the visitor moorings monthly as they have seven months high usage. Dr P Lloyd said that the visitor moorings were much appreciated.

Mr D Chant said that it is good that they are inspected so regularly but if replaced with new chain and shackles each year this should be satisfactory.

Dr P Lloyd asked what Trinity House had come up with regards to the Eelgrass markers. Mr P Newman said they wanted a cross above a yellow buoy; the problem was this could mean anything. Mr F Bunker suggested that a sign under the cross could be used. The Chairman agreed that this was a good solution.

Mr J Brown asked what the policy was for overnight mooring. Mr P Newman said that it was discouraged except in extremely calm condition and that the buoys have been specifically marked 'Day visitor'. If visitors want to stay it is encouraged that they put down anchors. Mr

J Brown said that this is what he also advises visitors.

Patrol levels had been maintained and had been carried out on 21 days concentrating on Sundays and Bank Holiday weekends. Disturbance of sea birds by canoeists was recorded twice.

Miss J Hodges asked what was the nature of the disturbance. Mr P Newman explained that as canoeists circumnavigate the island they disturb and herd the birds in front of them.

Mr D Chant asked if there was any evidence of a decline in numbers of birds due to boat disturbance. Mr J Brown said that razorbill numbers were down due to disturbance by ravens but it is very difficult to link effect on birds directly to boats. M D Chant said that the boat activities around Ramsey are very high and the birds seemed to have accustomed themselves and adjusted to the boats. Mr J Brown agreed that birds can become accustomed to regular boating visits however the occasional boat visits typical around Skomer make the birds more jumpy and can create more disturbance.

Mrs Y Evans asked if canoeists are represented on the Committee as they need to be reminded of their role, there also seems to be a lack of sports representatives on the Committee. Mr P Newman said that Mr J Orchard represents Pembrokeshire canoeists and that the Sports Council for Wales is also on the Committee. Miss J Hodges suggested that the problem of canoeists should be brought to the attention of the Pembrokeshire Outdoor Charter Group, additionally the PCNP has a leaflet on Code of Conduct for Canoeists, and people need to be made aware of sensitive areas. Mr P Newman said that Kate Lock has already provided the Pembrokeshire Outdoor Charter group with seal information and that disturbance to seabirds by outdoor activities could additionally be discussed by the group. Mrs Y Evans suggested that information to canoeists should be available at Martins Haven. Mr P Newman said that MNR staff talk to canoeists whenever possible and provide them with a waterproof copy of the user regulations and zonation map.

Mr P Lloyd reinforced that overall the message of wildlife disturbance is getting through to recreational users and the numbers of disturbances is reducing. Mr P Newman confirmed that there had only been two recorded disturbances in the 2000 season.

Mr P Newman informed members of the continued problem of scallop collecting by divers. On one occasion MNR staff reported a dive boat to SWSFC *Cranogwen* crew, who were in the location, unfortunately the divers were not caught. MNR staff have continued to keep a close check of the identified dive club.

Mr F Bunker asked if a letter had been sent to the club. Mr P Newman said the policy was to pass the information on to the SWSFC, which highlights the MNR's dependency on the SWSFC. Mr F Bunker said that in the 1980's there was a 'shame and name' policy of dive clubs that collected in the area that worked.

Mr P Crocombe asked how reliable was the identification of the dive club, Mr P Newman said that it was very reliable. Mr B Jones asked if it was within the MNR or just outside that the divers were collecting. Mr P Newman said that it was within the MNR and that the club had been given the user regulations leaflet and information about scallop collecting on more than one occasion.

The levels of fishing activity have continued to be recorded as before at weekends but with greater accuracy using GPS data to produce the maps. The Chairman added that nowhere else are these types of maps being produced with this detail and although they are an underestimated they are very useful datasets.

Mr F Bunker asked if there had been a decline in levels of fishing activity since the *Sea Empress* oil spill. The Chairman said that there are some regular fisherman and a high turnover of others, but our records have shown no decline.

Mr P Newman showed members a graph of seal pup production and survival for the whole

MNR since 1992. The graph showed that figures had been pretty static, although survival was very low this year due to storm conditions throughout the autumn.

The MNR has fared well with funding for the 2001 season. Contract work to be completed includes: Surface and burrowing sediment dwellers, plankton survey, territorial fish survey (volunteer project) and seal pup production.

MNR in-house projects not completed in the 2000 season included: sponge communities, algal depth limits and the expansion of projects.

Some projects continued to be developed and refined, these include: scallop survey using volunteer divers; seafan monitoring expanded with an additional seventeen colonies; analysis work on littoral transects and littoral viewpoint projects have been started by Caroline Dauget. Caroline came to the MNR as a volunteer during the winter and was then given a six week paid contract.

The Met Office has continued to manage the Waverider buoy; it is currently out of the water at Pembroke Dock. The MNR meteorological data for 2000 was incomplete due to IT problems at Martins Haven.

A new turbidity logger has been purchased; this will be fixed to the seabed alongside the current passive sediment trap. The logger will automatically collect data that will be downloaded on to a computer every 3 to 4 months. Sediment samples will also be collected by the passive trap and stored, so that they can be analysed if results indicate any significant events.

Mr P Newman also explained to members that the logger could in the future be fitted with additional probes eg. Salinity, temperature, dissolved oxygen etc.

Techniques have improved for mapping monitoring sites and improving data acquisition. This includes the use of GPS equipment, trialing sidescan equipment loaned by the School of Ocean Sciences and a depth sounder that has the ability to output to PC for which Fugro Geos has written the software. Other technical improvements include basic video editing software that can additionally take still pictures from video footage, and trialing a new digital land camera loaned by Fugro Geos.

The MNR exhibition had 16,000 visitors recorded by the break the beam logger between Easter and November. A placement student continued the visitor survey during July. Results show that the exhibition is where most visitors are made aware of the MNR and that further information in the form of a booklet would be welcome. Bones from the fin whale washed up near St Brides Haven in 1994 have been added to the exhibition and an illustrated 'sandwich' board now stands outside to draw attention to the display. The exhibition is however beginning to show signs of wear and tear after 7 years.

Committee members thanked Mr P Newman for his presentation. Everyone agreed that this was a big improvement to the meeting and greatly assisted understanding of what lay behind the years work at the MNR as summarised by the Annual report.

3. MNR STAFFING AND RESOURCES

The Chairman told members that CCW Grant in Aid had been boosted and that funding for Reserves including the MNR, was good. There was also additional funding available for marine work as terrestrial work has been reduced due to Foot and Mouth disease. This is both good and bad, contract work is a solution but there is a problem with project management that uses up substantial staff time.

The Chairman reminded members that the MNR staff now comprises two full-time members of staff. Volunteer contributions are good but limited. Supervision of their work is time demanding and there the problems with health and safety. The original submission for the MNR identified two full-time and one seasonal post. After the MNR's first two seasons it

was identified that more staff were needed to cover the workload especially in data work up. In the mid 1990's the seasonal post was extended to include winter work. A shortfall in staff reoccurred when he (the Chairman) moved to the district office to cover area marine work, leaving the MNR reduced again to two fulltime staff with only occasional help from himself and Mike Camplin. This shortfall of staff at the MNR needs to be resolved.

Dr D Parker gave members a brief background on CCW resources. CCW gained a better settlement this year due to the increase in its statutory responsibilities. These include work generated by the Countryside Rights of Way Bill, Natura 2000 sites and SAC moderation. Dr D Parker explained that in marine work the problem is that we still need to define what we have therefore survey work is required. Design of monitoring projects to cover the identified features is also required; funding needs to be spread widely. CCW is constrained by the National Assembly for Wales (NAW) on 'running costs' which includes staffing, though 'programme costs' are much more flexible.

Dr D Parker said that there was an unassailable case for a third person at the MNR. CCW will recruit immediately for a six-month casual post for this summer, with the possibility for it to be extended to nine months and he will put a bid in to the NAW for a full-time post. Currently the best use is not being made of the current MNR staff complement. By increasing the team to 3 it will mean safer and more effective use of staff.

ACTION: Dr D Parker

Dr D Parker told members that CCW sees the MNR in the SAC context; the MNR has and is continuing to develop protocols and standards for marine survey and monitoring. The MNR has ten years experience in marine management; this needs to be used to help establish protocols in the SACs. CCW has a responsibility to utilise public funds as effectively as possible.

Dr R Crump said that the meeting with Dr D Parker in October had been useful and had reassured him the MNR would not simply be absorbed into the SAC, he was pleased to hear this reassurance again, and that the experience of the MNR will be carried forward to help the SAC.

Dr D Parker reassured the Committee that CCW is fully committed to the MNR. The MNR Advisory Committee is an excellent example of working partnerships and should be used as a model in developing community based advisory committees to advise in marine SACs in Wales.

Mrs Y Evans said that the MNR is the 'jewel in the crown' and needs to maintain an identity of its own away from the SAC, they should not merge together.

The Chairman briefed members that the responsibility for SAC management falls to 'relevant authority groups' and depends on the members of the RAG integrating their efforts. In contrast the MNR is a nature reserve and its management is the statutory responsibility of CCW, albeit working with partners. The SACs and MNRs have two different purposes, there is lots in common but there are different focuses.

Dr D Worrall said that it is essential that the good example of the MNR Advisory Committee is taken forward to the SACs.

Miss J Hodges said the Skomer MNR was working in spite of the legislation; it is as though MNRs were a last minute addition to the Wildlife and Countryside Act.

Miss J Hodges told members about the development of the Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) group in Pembrokeshire led by the PCC. The local BAP was launched last October and includes marine species and habitat plans. The MNR will have a very important link to the local BAP process and make direct contributions to marine features in local BAPs.

Mr F Bunker commented that it is good that the MNR should act as a role model but there is

still a huge amount of outstanding data still to be analysed and written up.

Dr D Parker agreed that this was a general problem and there is also a need to start making data more widely available. There were plans for a 'Biodiversity Data Unit' to be established in CCW including a marine person to address this and to feed into the National Biological Network (NBN).

The Chairman added that the original justification for three staff at the MNR was health and safety, but that it had very soon become obvious that there was the need for staff to be in place throughout the year to work up data.

Dr D Parker told members about the Living Environment of Wales and the State of the Environment reports, which the Environment Agency, Forestry Commission and CCW produced jointly in order to give a realistic representation of the environment. There is a need to capture data to go into this report to demonstrate to the NAW the condition of the environment, to establish baseline sets of data and to monitor and identify change.

Mr B Jones asked why we were only looking for one casual staff; we should be bidding for two or three full time staff. There is a waste of the current MNR staff's expertise doing estate type work, therefore additional staff should be recruited to do the estate and boat work to support the marine conservation officers.

Mr D Parker replied that there was potential in this approach.

Mr Y Evans said that there should also be additional staff for the SAC rather than bolting on the SAC to the MNR and using their staff resources.

Mr D Parker agreed that more staff were needed to satisfy many shortfall areas.

Miss J Hodges said that there is a dependency on technical expertise; volunteers do have a limited use especially in marine work.

Dr D Worrall said that we must make use of best value for money, we must maximise our resources. CCW will have to use staff expertise at the MNR in the SAC but it will have to be a two way process.

The Chairman told members that there has been shared work between SAC and MNR staff and resources and that this has been essential for SAC support. During 2000 the MNR gained little support in return, but it is hoped that this will be redressed in the future.

Mrs Y Evans asked about the potential of using 'Objective One' money.

Dr D Parker said that 'Objective One' money could be used for particular pieces of work; there is also European LIFE money that has been used to fund some projects. The problem is that these projects are dependant on staff resources to put bids together. It is also difficult for nature conservation projects to demonstrate net benefit to the local economy. The Foot and Mouth situation has been beneficial in demonstrating the value of the countryside.

Dr P Lloyd said that conservation designations were confusing, PCNP, MNR, SSSI, NNR etc, the SAC on top is additionally confusing. In north Wales it is very confusing to work out the difference or the need for both the Menai Straits proposed MNR and proposed SAC.

Dr D Parker explained that the SACs were important in demonstrating the European importance of a site. Dr P Lloyd asked if all these designations are necessary. Dr D Parker said that at sea it is not as complicated as terrestrial as many areas will only be SACs. Mr P Lloyd asked about the Menai Straits example. Dr D Parker said both the MNR and SAC were needed as their focuses are different as the Chairman has already explained, he agreed that there are misconceptions and that clarification is needed.

Dr R Crump asked for confirmation that a six month casual staff was to be recruited immediately, crucial for this years already commenced field season, and that a bid for a full time post for a skilled person with diving, boat and biological analysis skill would be made.

Dr D Parker confirmed this.

Dr R Crump emphasised that he felt that the full time post must be for someone with biological analysis skills in addition to diving and boat work.

Mr B Jones repeated that he thought an additional bid should also be made for general staff so that there is a full team at the MNR including staff that can cover the estate type work allowing the marine specialist staff to concentrate more on the biological work.

Mrs Y Evans was amazed to learn that there were 16,000 visitors to the MNR exhibition and that these visitors were not being contacted and spoken to. She thought that this was a wasted educational opportunity. She added that whilst working at Lockley Lodge she constantly talked to visitors confused about who was who, the different reserves and different organisations.

Mr P Smithies said that there should be someone available to talk to visitors, to explain who was who and to give additional information about the MNR. Dr R Crump identified that this could be another role for volunteers.

Mr I Johnson asked if the new casual staff post was to be advertised widely or fast-tracked locally. The Chairman said it will have to be advertised widely as previous experience has shown that unless this is done there have been insufficient qualified people applying. This means that it will be a minimum of six weeks before we will have someone in place. Mr R Crump said it was essential that an advertisement is placed in New Scientist immediately. Mr J Brown added that Countryside Jobs Service is now well established and circulated widely.

4. MNR INTERPRETATION BOOKLET

The Chairman told members that the meeting in October between Dr R Crump, Dr C Wooldridge and Dr D Parker (minutes tabled) discussed the current status of the draft booklet and problems with CCW publications department.

Dr R Crump explained to members that the Research and Education sub committee felt it had been treated badly by the CCW publications department and he was still waiting for a reply to a letter he had written. This had been discussed at the meeting in October and that Dr D Parker had agreed to take the problem forward.

Dr D Parker apologised to members for the delays that had partly been due to an internal review of CCW's method of dealing with interpretation and communications. This has been completed and there are now more funds available for interpretation. The booklet can now be taken forward and it is in the Publication Officer's work programme. The subcommittee's suggestions and amendments for the booklet will be incorporated and he wants to see the booklet completed as soon as possible this year. He apologised that he had not pushed the booklet as hard as promised, it had not been a high priority especially in the last couple of months, however he will endeavour to now get it back on track.

The Chairman added that communications had also caused delays. It may be that the booklet will go out to contract, and, if this is the case, it will be essential that MNR staff can directly liaise with the contractors.

Dr D Parker said he would set up a timetable with Dr R Crump for completing the booklet. At the October meeting some issues with the first draft reviewed by the Research and Education sub committee had been resolved and some compromises agreed.

ACTION: Dr David Parker

Dr R Crump said that he was glad that progress with the booklet could now move quickly.

Dr D Parker agreed that another draft version of the booklet was required for comment by the

subcommittee.

5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Ms S Bailey told members that WWF were backing CCW's case for the Menai Straits MNR. She asked if any research at the Skomer MNR has or could produce any positive results concerning socio-economic benefits of marine protected areas.

Dr D Parker said that it is difficult to divide the MNR from Skomer NNR and the PCNP coast path, but there are some possibilities that could be looked into. Miss J Hodges added that there is such data for the coast path from before the designation of the MNR that could be used.

The Chairman told members that the date for the next Pembrokeshire Marine SAC public meeting and the Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum would be jointly run on the 16th June at Pembrokeshire College.

Dr P Lloyd said that he had enjoyed taking part in the Advisory Committee over the years and that valuable work had been achieved; especially in the early days by the sub committees. It is very good experience of user groups, councillors and conservationist working together and it would be good to see this being used as a model. He was glad that Dr R Crump was representing the views of the Committee in the SAC forum.

Mrs Y Evans said that there should be a review of Advisory Committee membership given who comes to the meetings.

Mr P Newman said that we needed to contact those that have not attended or sent apologies to find out reasons why. It is possible that others could represent them. Miss J Hodges added it is essential to first ask them why they are not responding. **ACTION: PN**

Dr R Crump said that there is a need to have local representatives especially in the area of sports. Dr P Lloyd agreed that it was very important to have local representation and that a 'use it or lose it' threat should be used to encourage their participation.

Mr P Smithies said that educational opportunities should to be addressed further. There is lots of wonderful information that should be accessible through an MNR website. This should include current information about life in the MNR, current work and data. If this is not possible through the CCW website then the MNR should have their own.

Dr D Parker said that CCW have a new website that has just gone live at Easter; this should be able to accommodate live data and information about the MNR.

Ms S Bailey asked if CCW could communicate internally to avoid clashes with other CCW meetings, she had meetings all week involving CCW and had to do unacceptable amounts of travelling so as to attend.

Mr P Lloyd asked if the date of next meeting could be agreed at the beginning of meetings in the future so as to include members who need to leave early.

6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Next meeting to be held at the Picton Centre on Wednesday 1st May 2002.