

**Pollinators Taskforce Meeting  
Newtown  
24 November 2014**

<b>Attendees</b>	<b>Apologies</b>
Andrew Osborne – Torfaen County Council	Alan Michie – RDP Monmouthshire
Claudia Howard – NWLP	Alison Heal – Ceredigion County Council
Colin Cheesman - Plantlife	Angie Polkey
David Thomas – WG Pesticide Policy	Ann Jones – NFWI
Francis Gellatly - APHA	Belinda Wyatt-Lister – WG Horticulture Policy
Gemma Light – WG Biodiversity Policy	Bleddyn Lake – FoE Cymru
Helen Ovens - FUW	Caryn Le Roux – WG Biodiversity Policy
James Byrne – WTW	Claire Dinham - Buglife
Jan Miller - NWWT	Deborah Procter - JNCC
Jane Rees - Anglesey Verges	John Ridgwell – Green Space Wales
Jenny Shaw - WBKA	Katherine Baldock – IPI
John Bowles - WBKA	Marc Carlton - Wildlife Gardening Forum
John Byrne – WG Network Management	Maria Golightly – Kew Gardens
John Watkins – WG Pollinators Lead	Natasha De Vere – NBGW
Julian Rees – Pollen8 Cymru	Rachel Lewis-Davies - NFU
Mike Howe - NRW	Rachel Palmer – Keep Wales Tidy
Nicola Bradbear – Bees for Development	Richard Watkins - Defra
Rob Owen – Keep Wales Tidy	Sarah Slater – Flintshire County Council
Russel Hobson – Butterfly Conservation Wales	Sinead Lynch – Bumblebee Conservation Trust
Steve Rose - BIBBA	

## Updates

### **Pesticides** – (David Thomas WG Pesticide Policy Team)

Policy “is to reduce pesticide use as much as possible in Wales” in consultation with CRD. Grandfather Rights will be removed by the end of 2015 with the following implemented:

- Training via City and Guilds and Lantra
- Equipment testing
- Grassland and Forage Group will be set up
- Mobile App for farmers

#### *Points raised:*

- fertiliser applications are more of an issue for pollinators
- bracken is v important part of the environment i.e. mosaic habitats

### **Cywain Project** – (Jenny Shaw WBKA)

Project runs from November 2014 – May 2015 with 2 strands:

- Working in conjunction with Menter a Busnes offering advice and information to landowners and farmers in the form of a leaflet on honey production.
- Produced a video teaching aid for primary schools that is planned to go out across Wales.

## **Agriculture**

Suggestion to get a feature on BBC / S4C / Ffermio programme to engage with the agri-community

*Points raised:*

- Why weren't the Taskforce's Glastir recommendations incorporated?
- Farmers need incentives to maintain pollinators on their land

## **Road Verges**

Wildflower Verges Policy (John Byrne WG Network Management Team):

- Edwina Hart announced in June 2014 a 5yr programme funding 10 projects per year
- Expected outcomes: Creating and Enhancing; Maintenance; Protecting

Taskforce to feed into this initiative in a scrutiny role.

Road Verge Seminars – need follow up

**Grow Wild** (Maria Golightly – Kew Gardens)

- Seed packs for community projects can now be applied for for free.
- £120,000 available for a UK native flower project in Wales. Enquiries to Maria.

## **Nature Fund**

Rob Owen updated the meeting on the Keep Wales Tidy's Natural Buzz project in partnership with the Horticultural Trade Association and Green Space Wales.

Andrew Osborne gave an update on the Pollinators for Life Project at Torfaen County Borough Council

*Points raised:*

- Suggestion of GIS technology to be used to map the success and learning from the NF
- What monitoring will be put in place? How are we going to learn?

## **Next Meeting**

- James Byrne will be Chair with support from Gemma. Suggestion of Feb/March
- Location to be decided. Suggestions please for possible venues of interest.
- Possible speakers – Natasha De Vere (NBGW), Pete Frost (NRW), Caryn Le Roux (re Monitoring)

(Actions below)

	<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Partners</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Taskforce Members</b> Request representatives from the following to attend future meeting to discuss collaborative working: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group</li> <li>• WG Glastir Branch</li> <li>• Menter a Busnes / Farming Connect</li> <li>• Champions within farming community</li> <li>• RDP</li> </ul>	Gemma	John Watkins
<b>2</b>	<b>Pesticides</b> – Info on Integrated Pest Management to be circulated	Dave Thomas	Kathleen Carroll
<b>3</b>	<b>Menter a Busnes</b> – to include ‘supported by Farmers’ Unions’ on pollinator leaflets (contact Haf)	Gemma	Jenny
<b>4</b>	<b>Glastir</b> – follow up small grants initiative and circulate to taskforce for scrutiny	John Watkins	Gemma
<b>5</b>	<b>Road Verges</b> – follow up from Seminars	John / Caryn ??	Gemma