

**ENGLISH STONE FORUM
SIXTEENTH MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 16TH JUNE 2010**

[DRAFT]

ACTION POINTS

For convenience, actions to be carried out by members are summarised as follows:

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| All members | 3, 9, 17 |
| Barry Cooper | 8 |
| Warren Goodall | 15 |
| Alison Henry | 7, 9, 12, 13, 20 |
| Terry Hughes | 5, 8, 15, 16, 22 |
| Graham Lott | 7 |
| Brian Marker | 8, 15, 19, 21 |
| Michael Poultney | 17, 22 |
| Ian Thomas | 2, 23 |
| Tim Yates | 6 |

Please note that actions 3, 12 and 17 are near-immediate.

1. The note of the previous meeting was approved subject to a clarification of the Peak Park Minerals Strategy.
2. It was noted that the Forum needs to secure a replacement representative from the RIBA. **Ian Thomas agreed to sound out a possible replacement.**
3. It was agreed that **all members should comment upon notes of meetings within 2 weeks of circulating the note of the meeting** so that an accurate version can be placed on the ESF website (in the case of this meeting, by 5th July)
4. It was reported that the Peak Park Minerals Strategy had been well received by the Park Planning Committee. A decision remained to be taken on whether to progress to examination or not when the policies of the new Government had been clarified and advice had been received from the Department for Communities and Local Government.
5. Discussions had taken place on the preparation of an article for the magazine of the Country Landowners and Business Association. The CLBA had requested a short item explaining the relevance of building stone issues to members including repair of properties and prospects for opening new quarries. **Terry Hughes would coordinate the preparation of the article.**
6. Tim Yates confirmed that a document was currently being prepared concerning the BRE Green Guide but it had not yet been seen. **Tim Yates would report to a future meeting.**
7. The meeting discussed representation at the Stone Show 2011. The Forum needed to make use of a stand. It seemed likely that English Heritage, BGS and possibly the Stone Federation Great Britain might have stands. It was reported that the Scottish and Welsh Stone organisations had expressed interest in participating and that a contact in Northern Ireland had also been secured. There would be possible problems in accommodating interest from the devolved administrations on an English Heritage stand. **Alison Henry agreed to report back on the prospects for putting material on an EH stand and Graham Lott would report on the possibility of using a BGS stand, if any.**
8. Barry Cooper was welcomed to the meeting. He gave a presentation on the Commission 10 initiative on Global Heritage Stone initiative of the International Association of Engineering Geology and the Environment. He pointed out problems in defining heritage significance and the need to secure international agreement on procedures and criteria for defining significant types of stone. He had submitted an article to the journal Episodes. **Barry agreed that the**

presentation and the article could be circulated to ESF members by Terry Hughes. In discussion, it was agreed that ESF should continue to engage with this initiative. It was suggested that key sources of internationally traded stone artefacts should be included. This was accepted as a suggestion that needs more consideration. It was felt that the initiative might, in time, help to drive the reopening of some sites. It was suggested that:

- **an article might be prepared for the stone industry journal in the UK:**
- **Barry should contact Chris Young of English Heritage.**
- there was a need to involve UNESCO. It was suggested that **Barry should contact Robert Missoten at the Paris office.** It was noted that an “hierarchy of significance” for various types of stone had been addressed in the Peak District safeguarding study. In future, there would be potential for identifying international significance of types of stone. **Brian Marker would attend the Auckland meeting of the IAEG and report back.**

9. It was considered that information on inappropriate uses of stone should be recorded but that this should be handled sensitively. A need to liaise with the Heritage Lottery Fund on good principles was recognised. **All members should continue to report instances to Alison Henry.**

10. John Humble introduced the new PPS5 and accompanying practice guide. It was noted that there is no explicit reference to industrial heritage in the policy statement but it was considered that this aspect was implicit in the wording. It was also noted that a reference to quarried landscapes in the practice guide might be appropriate. This could be taken into account when the guide is updated. It was also agreed that it would be useful if the partly drafted Practice Guide on Roofing Stone should be finalised and reference made to it in the PPS5 practice guide when it is updated.

11. John Humble referred to the developing NAMHO research framework for the extractive industries. The first year of the project will be devoted to data collection and the second year to analysis and reporting. Seminars will be held to collate information, including one on building stone. The project currently covers England but is being monitored by the devolved administrations.

12. It was reported that nine county areas within the Strategic Stone Study had now been published. Separate work had been undertaken on small specific areas in Scotland and a study of historic stone sites had been completed in Northern Ireland. **It was agreed that Alison Henry would circulate the web address for the Stone Study results. All members should visit and comment on the site by 25 June 2010.** Money had been provided by the Regional Assembly for Yorkshire and the Humber to undertake work on that area earlier than would otherwise have been possible.

13. There had been no recent additions to the ESF website but a number would be made soon. Alison Henry reported that a quarrying guide had been placed on the IHBC website. **Alison would circulate information on this in due course.**

14. Michael Poultney reported that seeking information on building stone from the Corporation of London was not worth following up. The Forum agreed that this matter should rest.

15. Ian Thomas reported that a good article linking stone in buildings to the original quarries had appeared in Lincolnshire Life. There could be merit in trying to stimulate similar articles in other county magazines. It was agreed that this would be desirable but that the Forum should concentrate initially on identifying target audiences and preparing a comprehensive communications strategy linked to press releases. **It was agreed that Warren Goodall, Terry Hughes and Brian Marker should prepare a draft strategy for consideration at the next Forum meeting.**

16. In respect of selecting stone, it was noted that architects for major projects commonly visit quarries but seem not to be aware of what questions they should ask. It was suggested that English Heritage and Stone Federation GB material on selecting stone should provide the basis for a power point presentation that could be used in CPD events. English Heritage regional seminars for architects in 2011, linked to the Strategic Stone Study, might provide an opportunity. **It was agreed that the SFGB document should be placed on the ESF website.**

17. Members were asked to comment on a draft sustainability paper by 2nd July. The paper needed more material on embodied energy drawing on Barry Cooper's paper for a recent conference in Alicante. **Michael Poultney agreed to provide information on the link to a recent Scottish report included material on energy issues.** It was also suggested that more should be made of landscape aspects of cultural heritage.

18. It was reported that the IMMM had been approached a number of times about their new Natural Materials Association but had not responded. The impression had been gained that collaboration could be achieved only by applying for membership but the ESF had no funds to do so.

19. Copies of the York Conference Proceedings had been sent to conservation course directors. There had also been a number of recent requests for copies. Cheques had been made out to the SFGB. **Brian Marker agreed to check whether these were being paid into the ESF account held by the SFGB and how much money now remained in that account.**

20. It was reported that the English Heritage publications department was enthusiastic about the proposed book linking stone in historic buildings to the quarries that supplied it. **The next step was for Alison Henry to liaise with that department on the nature and scope of the book before going back to the National Trust to secure it as a joint venture to be published by EH and marketed by the Trust.**

21. The paper on the discussions at the 2009 BGS meeting at the Geological Society was briefly discussed. It was reported that Ewan Hyslop had provided comments. **It was agreed that Brian Marker should now provide a brief summary on one side of A4 setting out proposed actions.**

22. Possible outreach opportunities were discussed. **It was agreed that Terry Hughes should liaise with the local organisers of IHBC 2011 about the possibility of sponsorship from the Welsh slate industry including, if possible, a quarry visit.** It would be necessary to engage the Welsh Stone Forum in this. **Michael Poultney would report back on prospects for ESF involvement in Ecobuild 2011.** The RICS Conference 2011 would be discussed at the next ESF meeting.

23. Other business included:

- An SPAB course on traditional building materials and techniques would be held in Aberystwyth on 22nd June. **Terry Hughes would report back if necessary.**
- the National Stone Centre Training Centre will open on 28th September 2010. Courses will include one on lime use for structural engineers.
- Ian Thomas had received a Churchill Fellowship Medal for his lay persons' guide to building stone issues in Scandinavia. He would send a copy to Terry Hughes.
- A proposal had been put forward that the main Welsh Slate industry area should become a World Heritage Site.

24. The 17th meeting of the Forum will take place on Thursday 14 October 2010 and the 18th meeting on Wednesday 26th January 2011 at the SPAB offices.