

ACTION POINTS

For convenience, actions relating to members are as follows:

All members	7, 10, 20
Peter Doyle	7, 8
Warren Goodall	6
Alison Henry	11
Terry Hughes	5, 7, 11, 14
Ewan Hyslop	17
Brian Marker	1, 12, 17, 21
Michael Poultney	12, 13, 17
Henry Russell	14, 22
Ian Thomas	11, 17
Chris Wood	15
Tim Yates	18

1. Warren Goodall was welcomed to ESF. It was noted that Ewan Hyslop was now a member of the ESF and that Alison Henry was now working for English Heritage. **Brian Marker agreed to contact Martin Ashley about his involvement in the ESF.**

2. It was reported that a form on planning for the European Commission Directorate of Enterprise and Industry consultation on issues for strategic minerals had been submitted, receipt acknowledged, and had been copied to ESF members. It had also been sent for information to the BGS minerals team.

3. It was reported that the Peak Park Minerals Strategy is at the options stage. A safeguarding policy for stone slate is being prepared. The National Stone Centre is undertaking an assessment of stone slate and building stone resources in, and within 5km outside, the boundary of the Park. The policy is likely to reject major development within the Park unless exceptional circumstances exist. Working of similar resources outside the Park should be undertaken before attention is turned to resources within the Park. End-use controls are proposed – if permission is given for building stone then it should be worked for that product. The emphasis should be on meeting the needs of development within the Park, not the wider area, and existing permissions are capable of doing that. Processing of waste for aggregates would normally be opposed because of increased traffic on unsuitable roads and the need for materials to be used as restoration fill. Also, crushed gritstone is of poorer quality than limestone. The definition of major, as opposed to minor, development is one to be considered by the Mineral Planning Authority on the basis of area, rate of extraction and planning issues. The requirement for scoping and environmental impact assessment also depends on what is proposed and where. Proposals had been discussed with Derbyshire County Council. Comments on the proposals were currently being analysed. It was expected that these would be reported to the Planning Committee and a strategy be agreed in about one month after which a public examination would take place. No areas for safeguarding building and roofing stone have been identified in the strategy but the principles for safeguarding have been set out. Safeguarding areas for building and roofing stone will be identified in a subsequent development plan document.

4. It was reported that a meeting had taken place as part of the process of preparing new European standards to cover Brazilian roofing stones and Scandinavian roofing schist and phyllite.

5. A summary of progress on the Stone Study was tabled **(to be circulated with this note)**

6. **Warren Goodall agreed to provide a link with the Scottish Stone Liaison Group**

7. Progress on developing the website and securing links with other sites was reported (paper ESF 10-2). It was agreed that links with conservation interest and church architects would be desirable. Also, **Terry Hughes agreed to provide a paragraph on progress to Peter Doyle for publication.** The issue of a statement to make clear the copyright status of material on the site was raised. **It was agreed that Terry Hughes should prepare a draft statement and circulate it for comment.**

8. A draft basis for a paper on sustainability of natural stone was considered in terms of general structure and content. Key points were:

- economic, social and environmental aspects should be considered under all of the sub-headings;
- use should be made of bullet points although there might be prospects for two forms of material: on the website with bullet points, and a published paper in more narrative style;
- the section on impacts should take more account of the scale and visibility of sites into account;
- the final section should be a check list of points for identification of sustainability options consistent with the decision tree on selecting stone that has already been placed on the ESF website;
- the section on “Making the best use of quarried materials” requires more discussion of waste and by-products that are not immediately saleable;
- it is probably not possible to compare environmental implications of natural stone products with other materials but some relevant information can be obtained from the University of Bath study; work being undertaken by Heriott Watt University for Historic Scotland and the SSLG that is due to be completed soon; the BRE Green Guide; and some recent work on dimension stone in the USA. The most recent issue of Stone Specialist is also relevant;
- caution should be exercised about comparing carbon footprint with that in developing countries because the latter are low energy, high labour input operations; and
- ESF work on imported stone and ethical trading should be limited to this paper.

It was agreed that Brian Marker should prepare an expanded draft and circulate it for comment by all members and then produce a revised draft in time for it to be considered at the June meeting of ESF. It was also suggested that the paper might provide the agenda for a future conference.

9. It was reported that Chris Wood is likely to be able to report on contacts with a freelance journalist later in March.

10. On inappropriate use of stone, an opportunity to lobby for authenticity exists in the revision of PPS15. Action may be needed if this is not reflected in the revised draft document. **All members should continue to send examples of inappropriate use to Alison Henry.**

11. The Country Landowners and Business Association had requested an article from ESF on traditional sources of stone and the opening of new quarries. **It was agreed that Terry Hughes should send an earlier paper to Alison Henry and Ian Thomas who would jointly prepare a paper.**

12. The Forum agreed that Hillhead was not a suitable event for dissemination of activities. Ecobuild would be more appropriate. **Michael Poultney would investigate the possibility of an ESF stand or talks.** Since it would be a 3 day event members would need to provide appropriate cover. It was also suggested that it might be appropriate to secure a stand at the

Stone Show to cover the whole UK. **Brian Marker agreed to contact the Welsh Stone Forum, Scottish Stone Liaison Group and Bernie Smith at Queens University to sound out interest.**

13. Michael Poultney agreed to ask the Corporation of London whether it holds any records of types of stone used in listed buildings.

14. It was agreed that remaining copies of the York Conference Proceedings should be distributed to suitable organisations such as colleges running conservation and construction courses. **Henry Russell agreed to send a list of Conservation Course Directors to Terry Hughes who would circulate it to all members for them to add other suitable organisations to the list.**

15. English Heritage now wished to take a stronger role in the proposed book that had been discussed with the National Trust. **It was agreed that Terry Hughes and/or Chris Wood should report back to the next meeting of ESF.**

16. RICS had expressed concern about the ESF response on a proposed extension to Ham Hill Quarry. The ESF therefore considered how such matters should be handled in future. It was agreed that:

- ESF should not express views that fall outside its area of competence – it should be made clear at the head of the reply what that area is;
- it is for the MPA, not ESF, to weigh the issues;
- all members should be consulted on each matter that might need to be responded to and that a joint response should be agreed;
- some members might have to declare an interest and withdraw from discussions on such matters (these to be indicated in the ESF members list added to responses); and
- all members should be consulted on any draft reply.

17. Progress on consideration of the discussion session of the meeting held on 1st October 2009 at the Geological Society was reported. **The note of the discussion had been annotated with comments on relevance to ESF and recently copied to Michael Poultney and Ian Thomas for comment. When their comments had been digested Brian Marker would prepare a paper for consideration at the next meeting and liaise with Ewan Hyslop.** This should rank issues on one side of A4.

18. It was noted that revision of the BRE Green Guide is unlikely in the short term. It would be appropriate to await work by SFGGB on this issue and to see how the guide is being used alongside other standards. It would be useful to know what matrix had been used for the material in the guide on stone. Key weaknesses in the guide, as applied to stone, are the end-of-life aspect, an assumed service life of 60 years, and wastes. **Tim Yates would circulate any relevant material.**

19. Work on safeguarding of resources in Derbyshire was awaiting comments from the MPA before redrafting. Work on safeguarding being undertaken by BGS should be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

20. Attention was drawn to a consultation on “Development Management: Priorities and Planning” that would close on 19th March 2010. **It was agreed that any members who had comments should send these to Brian Marker for consolidation into a response.**

21. It was agreed that Brian Marker should investigate the purpose and relevance of the IMMM Natural Materials Association.

22. It was agreed that the IHBC Summer School for 2011 should be investigated. **Henry Russell agreed to investigate the possibility of involvement in the RICS Building Surveyors Annual Conference for 2011 and report back.** It might also be possible to put articles into the Building and Surveying Journal.

23. It was reported that the IAEG Global Stone Initiative now included 32 people in 20 countries. Tim Yates had discussed issues with Barry Cooper at a recent conference in Spain, in particular the need to focus only on stones of international and national significance.

24. It was reported that the Training Centre at the National Stone Centre would be in action from mid-September. A masonry course in association with Derby College had been agreed. Other courses would include stone cutting, use of lime, mineral planning and street masonry.

25. The 16th meeting will be held at SPAB on Wednesday 16th June and the 17th meeting on Thursday 14th October 2010.