

The Earth Science Education Forum (England and Wales)

Minutes of the thirteenth meeting

Held in the Davey Room of the Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining, 1 Carlton House Terrace, London, at 2 p.m. on Tuesday 13 July 2004.

Present: Allan Rogers, Chairman (BGS Board and Parliamentary Adviser)
Cally Oldershaw (ESEF(EW) Development Officer) – partial attendance
Gordon Riddler (Mineral Industries Educational Trust, IOM³, and MIRO)
Malcolm Walker (Royal Meteorological Society)
Maria Pack (Royal Society for Chemistry)
Susan Brown (Geologists' Association and RockWatch)
Martin Whiteley (Earth Science Teachers' Association)
Elizabeth Clements (Quarry Products Association)
Kathy Whaler (Committee of Heads of University Geoscience Departments)
Dale Johnston (Geological Curators' Group)
Lorraine Craig (Royal Geographical Society / Institute of British Geographers)
Ian Thomas (National Stone Centre)
Helen Turner (Health and Safety Executive)
John Reynolds (UKRIGS)

1 Chairman's Introduction

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from representatives of the following member organisations: Chris King (Earth Science Education Unit / Geological Society of London), David Bailey and Elaine Johnston (British Geological Survey), Alan Rhodes (Association for Science Education), Peter Warren, Margarita Petri (Natural History Museum, London), Robert Pine (Camborne School of Mines), Peter Davies (IOM3), David Cope (Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology), Challenger Society, Geographical Association and Hazel Rymer (Open University).

3 Minutes of the twelfth meeting, 18 May 2004

The minutes of the twelfth meeting were accepted as a true record.

4 Matters arising

[Numbers in square brackets are paragraph numbers from the minutes of the twelfth meeting.]

[4.3] *LTSN representation:* L Craig to contact Development Officer. **Action: L Craig/C Oldershaw**

[9.4] *Current state of geology teaching in universities:* C Oldershaw had received information from H Rymer on OU courses and will pass this to Kathy Whaler and Malcolm Walker.

Action: C Oldershaw

[9.5] *Meteorological courses:* M Walker noted that there were several meteorological courses missing from A Parker's paper. There is a link on the R-Met website under 'education' listing all the information. K Whaler to complete paper and commentary on data with contribution from H Rymer.

Action: K Whaler / H Rymer/ C Oldershaw

5 AGM Conference and Constitution

5.1 The Chair reported progress from the two meetings of the Steering Group, which took place on the 15 June and the 13 July (immediately prior to this meeting) and gave title and outline of

programme, which were agreed. The next meeting of the Conference Steering Group will be on 21st September. The title, focus and sponsorship of the proposed conference were discussed.

- 5.2 *Conference Title:* After further discussion, it was agreed that the title should be “Improving the Effectiveness of Education Resources for Earth Science and Industry”. **Agreed**
- 5.3 *Venue:* The bid had been submitted for use of the Attlee Suite in the House of Commons, the result of the bid will be known on 19th July. In case the bid is unsuccessful, Room E, 7 Millbank (capacity 80) has been booked in the name of the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Earth Sciences, with Officers of the Group as sponsors for the booking.
- 5.4 *Structure and Speakers:* Speakers have been contacted, including Lord Oxburgh and Lord Sainsbury for keynote speakers. Development Officer has prepared a spreadsheet showing structure and progress in confirming speakers. It was agreed that those who had made the suggestion should contact speakers, in the first instance. Kathy Whaler and Helen Turner will contact Cally Oldershaw with suggestion of a speaker from WISE/Equality Challenge Unit (Royal Society). **Action: Kathy Whaler**
- 5.5 *Programme preamble* A preamble had been drafted for use in Conference publicity material and will be distributed to all steering group committee members. **Action: Cally Oldershaw**
- 5.6 *Conference finances* Gordon Riddler met with Patrick Foster (CSM) to discuss the MIST bid incorporating ESEF as a partner. The Chair thanked Gordon Riddler and encouraged all steering group members to help with securing funds from their organisations/elsewhere. **Action: All**

6 Finance report

- 6.1 Gordon Riddler gave the finance report. Results of the MIST bid would be known at the end of August.
- 6.2 Chair asked that expenses submitted by the Development Officer be paid. **Agreed**

7 Development Officer’s report

Nothing to report (Development Officer not present).

8 ESEF(EW) website

Martin Whiteley asked for the minutes to be put on the website. **Agreed**
Action: D. Bailey

9 Potential collaborative projects

- 9.1 Martin Whiteley (ESTA) reported that there would be increased ESTA/ESEU collaboration in Wales.
- 9.2 Ian Thomas (National Stone Centre) reported NSC collaboration with QPA and mentioned the Growing Schools Initiative (DfES).
- 9.3 Lorraine Craig (RGS and IGS) reported RGS collaboration with LEAs.

10 SESEF update

ESEU launch of ESEU/SESEF facilitators will be in Edinburgh on 17 September 2004.

10 Government policy issues

Nothing to report.

11 AOB

- 12.1 Martin Whiteley reported that Geology Today was distributed to all schools (with funding from Shell) and could be the vehicle to promote the ESEF(EW). Development Officer to contact Peter Doyle (Geology Today, Editor). **Action: C Oldershaw**
- 12.2 John Reynolds (UKRIGS) reported on Defra’s Local Science Guidance (based in Bristol) and will send details to the Development Officer. **Action: John Reynolds**

13 Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as 2 p.m. on **Tuesday 21 September 2004** at IOM³ in Carlton House Terrace, preceded by the next Conference Steering Group meeting (1 p.m. start).

Cally Oldershaw 16 July 2004