



## **Earth Science Education Forum (England and Wales)** **Minutes of the 56th meeting**

Held in the Arthur Holmes Room, Geological Society, London, 1.00 pm, 13 October 2015.

### **Present**

Chris King (Earth Science Education Unit)  
Duncan Hawley (Geographical Association) via Skype  
Isabel Markham  
John Stevenson (BGS)  
Martyn Bradley (Geology Trusts)  
Nikki Edwards (ESTA)  
Susan Brown (Rockwatch)

### **1 Apologies**

Alan Holiday  
Annette Shelford (NHM Learning Team/Real World Science)  
Cally Oldershaw (All-Party Group for Earth and Environmental Sciences)  
David Bailey (Geologist and science communicator)  
David Brook (London Geodiversity Partnership)  
Lesley Dunlop (English Geodiversity Forum)  
Loraine Craig (Imperial College London)  
Maggie Williams (Liverpool Uni.)  
Nic Bilham (GSL)  
Pete Loader (ESTA)  
Steve Brace (RGS & IBG)  
Tom Hose (GeoConservationUK & University of Bristol)

### **2 Minutes of the 55th meeting, 12 May 2015**

The minutes of the 55<sup>th</sup> meeting were accepted as a true record. A copy has been placed on the ESEF website.

**Action: JS**

### **3 Matters arising**

#### **3.1 National Curriculum (KS3 & 4)**

**CK** reported that dialogue is ongoing. A visit from Stephen Stanton (DfE) is scheduled for the Association of Science Education (ASE) annual conference in January 2016.

**NE** reported that the OFQUAL reform of A and AS level geology was on schedule for first teaching in September 2017.

**CK** reported that GCSE Geology revisions are on schedule for first teaching in September 2017.

#### **3.2 Training for secondary geology teachers :**

**CK** reported that the WGGC were committed to running two bursaried places at the Geoscience Summer School in 2016 and two in 2017 (£1500 each place).

### 3.3 *Geology for Non-Geologists training 'Geolab':*

**NE** reported that the next two Geolab events are planned for the North West and North East of England in Spring 2016. The tutors may be ESEU facilitators or school teachers.

### 3.4 *Destination survey for A-level Geology students:*

Nothing to report.

### 3.5 *National Geology Database:*

**JS** reported that Diana Clements of the Geologists' Association had nearly completed the 'national group' guides and the meeting point for these guides has been added to the BGS GeoBritain Map. The next step is to add the numerous guides yet to come from the local GA groups.

**JS** highlighted that there is no obvious directory for loanable rock collections e.g. county museum collections.

**Action JS:** to seek and find institutions that have rock collections that are available to loan to schools and add them to the BGS GeoBritain map.

### 3.6 *International Conference on Geotourism 22/23 October 2012.*

Tom Hose, not present at the meeting, provided the following update. The last paper went to final production mid-October. All papers will be published online in October 2016. Volume, as SP417, will be published online in November. The printed and bound hard copy will be published c. January 2016.

### 3.7 *'Bus Pass Geology':*

**IM** reported that the proposed route be expanded to include part of the [London Outer Orbital Path](#) i.e. long distance footpath that includes various parks. Work is ongoing.

### 3.8 *Earth Science Week (ESW):*

**JS** reported that Earth Science Week was celebrated a week early by the BGS. Staff were involved in the NERC's 50th anniversary celebrations aboard the RRS Discovery which was moored alongside HMS Belfast for most of w/c 5 October. The BGS demonstrated their aquifer model and took part in science busking with a giant floor poster of 'underground London' in the shadow of Tower Bridge. See [RRS Discovery visits London](#).

**SB** reported that Rockwatch would be at the Sidmouth science festival during Earth Science Week.

### 3.10 *Geological poster map of the United Kingdom and Ireland:*

**JS** reported that the map is undergoing its final edits and the publication date has been revised for late April 2016, possibly in time to launch at Geographical Association Conference, with a view to making teaching resources available for September 2016.

### 3.11 *Future talks*

8 December 2015

Annette Shelford, NHM Real World Science

1 March 2016

Susan Brown – About Rockwatch or TBC About the 'ESEU'

## 4 **Finance report**

Nothing to report.

**5 ESEF website ([www.esef.org.uk](http://www.esef.org.uk))**

The website is up to date.

**6 All-Party Parliamentary Group for Earth and Environmental Sciences update**

Nothing to report.

**7 Potential collaborative projects**

Nothing to report.

**8 ESEF Achievements**

Nothing to report.

**9 AOB**

**10 Dates of future meetings**

8 December 2015	Meeting at the Natural History Museum, Dorothea Bate Room
29 March 2016	TBC
10 May 2016	TBC