

**Minutes of the Severn Estuary Levels Research Committee
AGM 2003,
Bristol University, 8.11.2003**

1. Apologies for absence

Barbara Taylor

2. Minutes of last AGM

Accepted as true record

3. Matters arising

The new leaflet was widely welcomed. The stock was divided between English and Welsh members, Rick Turner holding the Welsh stock. The Severn Estuary Partnership were to distribute 1,800 copies with their newsletter.

4. Chairman's report

Briefly reported on success of Redwick and Hawcombe Head site visits. Membership remaining relatively constant (149 in 2003).

5. Treasurer's report

Income from 2003 was £4,985 as opposed to expenditure in the same year of £6,540. This highlighted the delicate state of the SELRC finances and the need to keep expenditure under tight control and to seek sponsorship of articles in the journal. Thanks were given to Keith Crabtree for auditing the accounts. The balance at 31/12/2003 was £3,699. The balance at 6/11/03 was £2,144.

6. Editor's reports

The editor reported on the successful completion of volume 13. That volume had attracted grant aid of £480. Articles had already come in to partially fill the next volume.

7. Election of officers

The membership was reminded that three officers would be standing down at the next AGM, the Editor, Treasurer and Publications Officer. Applicants were asked to apply to the Secretary or the Editor.

8. SELRC website

A Barbara Taylor was moving abroad a new webmaster was required. Suggestions were made that Lampeter University or Mark Hilditch might be interested in taking over responsibility.

ACTION: Nigel Nayling to investigate possibilities

9. Severn Estuary Partnership (SEP)

Thanks to John Allen for being the SELRC rep with SEP. Rick Turner reported that there would be a new Interreg Project with a budget of £36,000 for a cultural and heritage strand. S. Gloucs council were the lead for this part of the project. Further detail was expected soon but the potential existed for the development of heritage projects. Match funding for the Interreg bid was likely to be needed.

10. Current and forthcoming research

Potential projects included:

- Steart-Stolford managed retreat proposal
- GGAT undertaking review of historic waterfronts fro CADW including Chepstow, Newport etc. The discovery of 17m of a barge during construction of a riverside wall had highlighted the need for the work.
- Wessex Water pipeline from Oldbury to Ost in s. Gloucs. Avon Arch doing the work

11. Field meetings 2004

A tour of the Newport ship in its store was suggested. Rick Turner suggested a trip to see the lathe net fishery at Blackbrook.

ACTION: Nigel Nayling to investigate Newport trip. Rick Turner to investigate Blackrock trip

12. Venue and topics for 2004 AGM

A suggestion was made to revisit the National Museum in Cardiff. Chepstow was raised as another possibility. Suggestions for speakers at next AGM included Upper Severn Aggregates project, work on Wye valley and Welsh Marshes, Humber wetlands guest speaker.

ACTION: Richard Brunning to organise venue and speakers with the help of the steering committee

13. AOB

None