

**Notes of the**  
**CORNISH MINING WHS BID OFFICER WORKING GROUP**

**Held on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2002 10.00 – 13.00**

**Restormel Borough Council, St Austell**

Present: Nicholas Johnson (County Archaeologist, CCC)  
Jeanette Ratcliffe (Project Co-ordinator)  
Adam Sharpe (Project Manager)  
Christopher Young (Head of World Heritage and International Policy, English Heritage)  
Susan Denyer (ICOMOS UK)  
Nicholas Molyneux (Inspector of Historic Buildings, English Heritage)  
Stuart Smith (Trevithick Trust)  
Steve Edwards (Conservation Officer, Penwith DC)  
David Edmonson (Senior Planning Officer, Caradon DC)  
Barrie Collins (Chief Planning Officer, Kerrier DC)  
Malcolm Pinch (Planning Policy Officer, Restormel BC)  
Alison Sherrell (Manager, Tamar Valley AONB)  
Frances Griffith (County Archaeologist, Devon CC)  
Alyson Cooper (Conservation Officer, Carrick DC)  
Andrew Davey (Area Manager, National Trust)  
Sarah Cawrse (Conservation Officer, North Cornwall DC)

Apologies Andrew Wetherelt (Mining Lecturer, CSM)  
Mike Hawkey (Head of Countryside & Historic Environment Unit, CCC)  
Shelagh Evans (DCMS)  
Ian Morrison (English Heritage – Nick Molyneux attending in his place)  
Carol Wilson (Environmental Manager, South West RDA)  
David Andrew (Devon CC)

**Agenda  
Item**

**1**

**Matters Arising from minutes of last meeting (22.02.02)**

Jeanette Ratcliffe & Nick Johnson report progress on the actions agreed at the last meeting.

- Historical significance text to be circulated to OWG members - done
- Devon Historic Landscape Characterisation mapping to be incorporated into WHS general mapping - done
- Criteria for defining WHS Bid Areas - project team to draft document defining have been selected & and circulate this to OWG Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March; OWG to email comments by Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March; criteria to be circulated to WHS Bid Partnership prior to meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> March - done
- English heritage to set up meeting with RDA & GOSW re concordance between economic regeneration and WHS Bid within Camborne/Redruth area – meeting has taken place
- Project team to produce a guidance note on the number, composition and remit of these panels for circulation to the Partnership prior to the meeting on the 25<sup>th</sup> March - done
- Project team to draft brief for WHS economic baseline assessment and circulate this to OWG for comment – see item 4 below.
- WHS Bid Presentation to District Council Chief Executives – being arranged via CCC chief exec office, planned for September 2002, Devon CC & West Devon BC chief execs also to be invited to attend.

- WHS Bid Presentations to District and County Council elected members – chief execs to be asked to facilitate these (after September presentation to them).
- Elected members trip to Blaenavon WHS – John Rodger of Blaenavon has been contacted and is providing possible dates for visit in September/October 2002.

## **2 Update on project progress**

Jeanette summarised progress made since last OWG meeting.

- Successful Partnership meeting at which criteria for selecting bid areas were endorsed
- Area Panels set up & convened and producing very useful results (see agenda item 3 below)
- Detailed mapping and SMR record creation almost complete within draft Bid Areas
- Web site launched at Partnership meeting
- Discussions have been held with English Heritage re the review of statutory protection (scheduled monuments and listed buildings) within the WHS Bid areas, with a view to CCC carrying out this work on a consultancy basis from late summer/early autumn 2002.
- Comprehensive (costed and prioritised) lists compiled of future HLF/Obj One projects which will deliver key aspects of WHS Management Plan
- Meetings with RDA, GOSW & HLF re funding of these projects

## **3 WHS Bid Areas – Area Panel results**

- Nick reported that each of the seven panels had met at least once and that the meetings had been incredibly valuable as forums for discussing how the draft Bid area boundaries should be refined.
- Adam Sharpe showed (via the GIS mapping) the changes to the boundaries for the different Bid areas suggested by the Area Panels (note: this mapping will also be presented to the WHS Bid Partnership at its next meeting – 5<sup>th</sup> July)
- In every case the panels suggested extensions (sometimes very substantial) to the Bid Area, and additional outlying sites had also been identified.
- OWG members discussed and fed back their comments on these alterations.
- Particularly important in terms of ensuring that the Bid is acceptable to UNESCO were the comments made by Chris Young (Head of World Heritage and International Policy, English Heritage) & Susan Denyer (Secretary, ICOMOS–UK).
- They agreed with the overall, landscape-based approach being taken and that it is important that the Bid reflects the complete socio-economic story of Cornish Mining, but think that it is going to be a challenge getting UNESCO to accept such a large disparate Bid.
- ICOMOS (UNESCO's adviser on WHS nominations) is itself still in the process of embracing the idea of Cultural Landscapes (as opposed to discrete sites).
- It was recommended that boundaries be smoothed off, with buffer zones perhaps being used to make more comprehensive, less ragged boundaries, and that isolated individual sites be excluded from the Bid as these will make it less cohesive and compromise its chances of success.
- Such sites can be identified in the WHS Management Plan as forming part of the context for the WHS and given statutory protection in recognition of their importance & association with the WHS.
- Having gone through a local consultation process (via the Area Panels) there is now a need to draw back and look at how the different Bid areas contribute to the Bid as a whole.
- The relevant text of the Nomination Document (Section 2: Justification for Inscription; & Section 3: Description) now needs to be written as this will involve

describing the different Bid areas and stating explicitly how each contributes to the international significance of Cornish Mining, which will serve as an essential reality check in terms of the drawing of the Bid Area boundaries.

- In order for the Bid to be acceptable to UNESCO we need to present a convincing case for all of the following: why we are nominating Cornish Mining as a Cultural Landscape; why we are nominating more than one landscape - ie we need to make it clear that each of the different landscapes represent different but equally (internationally) significant aspects of Cornish Mining; and why the boundaries of each landscape have been drawn in the way they have.
- It was suggested that Cornish Mining WHS Bid Partnership host an international seminar to test the multi-landscaped approach of our Bid and sell the concept to an international audience, including potential evaluators and ICOMOS as a whole. The seminar (in Spring 2003?) could be arranged in conjunction with ICOMOS as a part of the process of developing understanding and acceptance for the concept of Cultural Landscapes.

**Actions agreed:**

- Adam to write Description and Justification for Inscription sections of Nomination Document
- In the light of this, Bid Area boundaries to be further refined (and buffer zones considered) in conjunction with the Area Panels
- WHS Bid Partnership to be asked to consider hosting international Cultural Landscapes seminar in conjunction with ICOMOS

**4**

**WHS economic baseline assessment**

- Sourcing of additional funding (CCC, RDA, Obj One) is in progress – together with £10,000 earmarked in existing Bid project budget, aiming at total budget for study of c£70,000 (similar to cost of Dorset & East Devon WHS economic study currently being undertaken).
- Meetings have been arranged for late June/early July with RDA (Carol Wilson) & Cornwall Enterprise (Georgina McLaren) who have agreed to assist in the drafting of the brief for this study. Other expertise will subsequently be co-opted in.
- Documents relating to comparable studies carried out within Cornwall & for other WH sites are being gathered together to inform the process.
- Predicted timetable – funding application to CCC early July & Obj One in time for PMG 5 meeting 17<sup>th</sup> July; consultants appointed by end of August; consultation draft by end of October (in time for circulation with draft Nomination & Management Plan documents); final report by end of December.

**5**

**Revision of project timetable**

- Jeanette flagged up the fact there was a need to rationalise the project timetable in the light of there having been some slippage in terms of the completion of the two draft nomination documents.
- Owing to the amount of time already spent and still to be spent refining the Bid Area boundaries the first drafts are unlikely to be completed before the end of October 2002.
- An added factor is the predicted timetable for the baseline economic assessment, with a consultation draft not anticipated until the end of October - it has become increasingly clear that all three documents should be sent out for consultation together in order to reinforce the economic regeneration element of WHS status.

The OWG advised the following course of action.

- The consultation process should be simplified so that the nomination documents go through two rather than three draft stages (but still include full consultation of the Partnership and public)
- This will shorten the consultation period by five months & allow the project completion date of September 2003 to be met.

**Action agreed:**

- Jeanette to revise the project timetable accordingly (see attached)

**6 Format of next WHS Bid Partnership meeting (5<sup>th</sup> July 2002)**

- Focus on results of Area Panels suggested changes to Bid Area boundaries and feedback from OWG (particularly English Heritage & ICOMOS –UK).
- Report overall project progress & revision of project timetable.

**7 Objective One project inspection**

- The Bid project was inspected by the relevant Objective One officers from GOSW on 12<sup>th</sup> June.
- It received a clean bill of health in terms of the financial and management systems being applied and the outputs (results) being generated by the project.
- The only potential area for improvement identified was more regular use of the press (via the Objective One press officer) to advertise progress on the Bid to a wider audience.

**8 Timing and Venue of next OWG meeting**

10.00 – 13.00 Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2002, Council Chamber, West Devon Borough Council, Tavistock)

**9 AOB**

- Lower Pengegon tramway embankment, Dolcoath – recent demolition of this early 19<sup>th</sup> century structure in advance of a planning application for housing development on the site has flagged up the need for ‘local lists’ of significant sites/features with the Bid areas currently without statutory protection, in order that they can be targeted at an early stage in the review of such protection.
- European Route of Industrial Heritage – the Trevithick Trust managed Cornish Mines and Engines site at Pool is the Anchor Point for this in Cornwall, connecting Cornwall to a promotional network of European industrial heritage sites – opportunities exist for integrating the WHS with this initiative.
- WHS Bid presentation to Prince Charles – the Bid team were geared up to give a powerpoint presentation to HRH at the recent Royal Cornwall Show, but in the event lack of time prevented this happening. However, the team had the opportunity to talk briefly with the Prince and the Lord Lieutenant is arranging for the presentation to be given at a future date (possibly at Highgrove).
- Future WHS Office – as part of the Bid process consideration is being given to the likely make-up of the team that will oversee the implementation of the WHS Management Plan, with a view to phasing in up to five posts (with responsibility for spatial planning, project development, documentation, education & publicity and overall direction) over the next 4 years.