

PRESENT:

Les Sparks OBE – Chair

Anna Brennan – Ironbridge Gorge Museum Trust (IGMT)

Sir Neil Cossons

Russell Rowley, Severn Gorge Countryside Trust (SGCT)

Michael Barker – Telford & Wrekin Council (TWC)

Cllr Chris Turley – Telford & Wrekin Council (TWC)

Mike Vout – Telford & Wrekin Council (TWC)

Neal Rushton – Structures & Geotechnics Team Leader Telford & Wrekin Council (TWC)

Chris Hogarth – Natural England (NE)

Cllr Ian Pickles – Broseley Town Council (BTC)

Peter Boland – Historic England (HE)

Timothy Slator – Historic England (HE)

Barbara Taylor – Ironbridge Gorge Museum Trust (IGMT)

APOLOGIES: **Jean Jones** – Shropshire Council, **Katherine Kynaston** – Telford & Wrekin Council, **Mandy Thorn** – Marches LEP, **Henry Owen-John** – English Heritage, **Andy Wigley** – Shropshire Council, **Cllr Alan McKenzie** – Madeley Town Council, **Ken Stringer** – Telford & Wrekin Council, **Karen Price** – Environment Agency

Intro: Les Sparks opened the meeting and welcomed Cllr Ian Pickles who is the new Broseley Town Council representative.

Stabilisation Update

JACKFIELD PROJECT.

Neal Rushton (TWC) reported that the project was progressing well. The main piling phases are now complete. The risk of catastrophic land failure at Jackfield, which posed the greatest risk in the Gorge, has now been mitigated. All the Government funding is now in place and secured. The scheme will be complete by March 2016 after work near the river bank is finished and the landscaping is completed. Public information days will be announced shortly.

LLOYDS COPPICE

The project, to make good a 40m section of bank and create a rock defence was halted over the Easter period to allow a free visitor traffic flow. The project, which is a short life solution, will be completed by 24 April. Inclinometers are to be placed along this section of the Lloyds and monitored frequently.

World Heritage Site Management Plan (WHSMP)

The World Heritage site Management Plan is now in first draft. Steering Group members will now discuss the content with colleagues and report back comments and amendments at the next World Heritage Site Management Plan Working Group meeting.

Iron Bridge HLF/ERDF bid

Michael Vout (TWC) reported that Telford & Wrekin Council are in the process of reviewing the public realm project for the Iron Bridge and environs. The Heritage Lottery Fund bid will be revisited in conjunction with the English Heritage repairs to the Iron Bridge.

Ironbridge Power Station

Michael Barker (TWC) reported no change in the information regarding the Power Station from the previous Steering Group meeting. The Power Station will close at the end of 2015. The future use of the site is still unresolved.

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