

**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)

**Cllr. Alan Mackenzie** – Madeley Town Council (MTC)

**Chris Hogarth** – Natural England (NE)

**Cllr Jean Jones** – Shropshire Council (SC)

**Andy Wigley** – Shropshire Council (SC)

**Alex Page** – English Heritage (EH)

**Louisa Moore** – English Heritage (EH)

**Timothy Slator** – English Heritage (EH)

**Barbara Taylor** – Ironbridge Gorge Museum Trust (IGMT)

**APOLOGIES:** **Rev'd Keith Osmund-Smith** – The Gorge Parish Council, **Ken Stringer** – The Gorge Parish Council, **Katherine Kynaston** – Telford & Wrekin Council, **Mandy Thorn** – Marches LEP, **Henry Owen-John** – English Heritage, **Colin Pitcher** – Telford & Wrekin Council, **Karen Price** – Environment Agency, **Cllr Ian Pickles** – Broseley Town Council

**Intro:** Les Sparks opened the meeting and wished everyone present a Happy New Year. Les Sparks also welcomed Timothy Slator, Regional Estates Surveyor and Louisa Moore, Principal Local Engagement Adviser West Midlands, both from English Heritage.

**Minutes of the last meeting:** The minutes from the last meeting on 13 October 2014 were approved by all present:

**Stabilisation Update**

**JACKFIELD PROJECT.**

Neal Rushton (TWC) reported that the project was progressing well although the piling is a few weeks behind schedule, it is hoped this can be made up during the summer months. The temporary road which was moved up hill to a new position just before Christmas to allow work to continue on the lower pile rows, will move back to its semi-permanent position in the summer of 2015 when part of it will be surfaced with tarmac. Work at Maws Craft Centre is progressing well, the footpath near to the centre and the landscaping will also be complete by summer 2015.

**LLOYDS COPPICE**

The project, to make good a 40m section of bank and create a rock defence wall will start soon and will hopefully be completed by Easter 2015.

### **World Heritage Site Management Plan (WHSMP)**

The Plan is two thirds complete and the Working Group will meeting again to establish a more complete document which will be shared with the Steering Group.

### **Ironbridge Power Station**

Michael Barker (TWC) gave the Steering Group his report on the latest developments following a recent meeting with Eon. The Power Station will close before the end of 2015 when a period of decommissioning will follow which could take 12 months or more. The cooling towers will be demolished but a large part of the site will continue to be used as an important electricity facility. A master plan for development is to be commissioned to ascertain possible uses for the remainder of the site.

### **Iron Bridge HLF/ERDF bid**

Alex Page (EH) advised the group that he will bring a full paper on the repairs and maintenance of the Iron Bridge to the Steering Group in April. Trial repair work on the Iron Bridge is planned for 2016/17.

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