

OC Full Meeting 2011
29th March - Pembrokeshire Activity Centre



Attendees:

Name	Organisation
Jordan Williams	Celtic Quest
Pablo Thorne	PCNPA
Sophie Hurst	Preseli Venture
Andrew Tuddenham	National Trust
Alec Williams	Sealyham
Steve Quinton	Pembrokeshire College
Ian Meopham	PCNPA
Claire Rees	Pembs County Council
Tom Luddington	Outdoor Charter
David Jones	PCF
John Cliffe	AALS
Helen Roberts	PAC
Matt Lister	NT
Chris Payne	PCC
Denise Marriot	Newgale YMCA
Steve Small	PAC
Brian James	MOD Castlemartin
Dave Perry	Pembrokeshire Footsteps
Kim Jameson	Pembrokeshire Footsteps

Apologies: Mike Mayberry, Mark Hicks, Mark Wilson, Jon Haylock, Tommy Barthorpe, Emma Lockwood, Robin Mogg, Colin Porter, Martin Leonard, Nick Bamber.

Following introductions, and welcome, group confirmed minutes from last meeting as true, and went through action points.

- TL gave a brief summary update on progress to date.
- Membership Criteria discussed.

Action Point – Group to Provide feedback on Criteria for membership to Outdoor Charter group.

Funding issues briefly discussed. Most members would be willing to pay a membership fee as long as it is not excessive –
TL - membership fees could be used to draw down match funding.
DP –Not for profit company, and would find it difficult to justify paying for membership. However could put on events for visitors and donate monies to OC group. Tick in the box to donate money at stage of booking?

TL – small percentage of funding is now coming from OC centres through the coasteering workshop donations, and will increase when new website is launched.

Minutes from last meeting:

Matters arising – CP explained about Masterclass Surfing – PCC felt that they were operating from the car park, and no license had been granted. Not sure of the outcome for this year.

Action Point – DJ to send FreshWest Comments from Rec Plan.

Updates from Members...

Newgale YMCA – Busy start to the season, bush craft activities increasing. NT making resources available & new staff coming on board.

Sealyham – New staff, booking okay, numbers down for schools. Building works moving on slowly, but making progress.

Celtic Quest – Slow start, but looking forward to Easter.

Preseli Venture – Slow start too – have adopted Abermawr and Aberbach as MSC beach cleans. 10th April Beach clean day.

Action Point TL to help advertise event through OC facebook page.

Stackpole OL – Moving End May to new building at the quay. Plan to run Sit on Top tours and coasteering from the quay in small groups. Sunday May 1st Cycle Sportive at Stackpole.

PCC – CP – 12 Blue flag 13 Green flag beaches. Pilot CSO on bathing waters Monitor 3 beaches. Signage on the beach when CSO's are overflowing. This has been piloted in Cornwall, but not done before.

Mobile info unit for Blue Flag beaches. Need info in unit from projects.

Designated 14 more beaches for EA to test.

TL – New posters produced in collaboration for wildlife in distress and posted in beach notice boards county wide. **Attached for info.**

Pembrokeshire College – SQ less funding, doing Watersports with PAC & helping PCNPA with work.

PCC - CR – Uncertain future for printed guide, and so are developing online facebook and twitter profiles.

Action Point - [Activity Pembrokeshire Website](#) needs input from OC members

PCNPA – IM – lots of John Muir award work – urged OC members to get in touch with PCNPA if any help needed with awards. Overhead wires gone at Strumble Head which is good. Coast to Coast coming out soon supporting OC group. Car parking charges are in – annual rates are available.

PCNPA – PT – Pablo Thorne is the new Ranger for the Castle Martin Range. Increase in access. Sheep off last two weeks in April – complete access last week of July. 1st Week of August Range East no firing. Last surfing briefing on Thursday.

Update John Cliffe AALS – Nothing confirmed in writing yet except that there will be changes. Likely to be a Code of Good Practice instead on licensing. Long Delay in Parliament process. Needs agreement across the whole of the UK. HSE (health and safety executive) has to draw code of practice from Lord Youngs report.

Group can input in to ideas for code.

Action Point TL to email Contact details and summary to group (attached).

Group asked if code of practice would be sport specific. JC – It could be, not sure yet. Group asked if OC group could be used as an example of good practice. JC – Put it forward to the HSE. Maybe an inspector based regime, unclear as yet.

TL - Progress to date of the Wales Activity Tourism Organisation (report produced and can be seen on OC website).

Update on Coasteering at Abereddy – AT – National Trust is the major land owner, and most coasteering activity takes place on NT land. NT would like to license the activity on a commercial scale. Operators will have to provide NT with evidence of suitable insurance, high standards of operating, and OC membership. Small charge of £50 per year for license. NT keen to move towards activities and nature. Have been talking to various centres and have a lot of catching up to do. Trying to be more proactive – 75 people per half day commercially at Abereddy. Online booking system is in place for licensed operators.

NT has also been working with Pembrokeshire Paragliding to provide a license and take account of any potential environmental impacts. Take off and landing zones provided at Maiden hall.

Bush craft – Newgale YMCA licensed and found area for centre for bush craft activities. NT promoting walking cycling and camping walking festival looking for area for wild camping during festival in October.

IM – OC group has been excellent in dealing with the thorny issues of coasteering at Abereddy. 6 meetings to date.

Action Point - CP need to find out about ownership of slipway at Abereddy.

TL – overview of Proactive coasteering mapping project, and recent workshop.

TL – Gave group demonstration and progress report on new website.

Action Point – TL - Website to go live in May.

Action Point – TL to invoice OC group members who wish to have a spot on the google Map on the new site.

TL – Should we look for advertisers to support the new site?

Group felt that best not to, but if essential to due to funding issues then advertisers to be in keeping with outdoor activities eg Patagonia, DMM.

Action Point – OC group to make sure their own websites link back to OC group.

DM - Members log in section?

TL and group to monitor analytics to see if there are click through from OC site and visa versa.

IM – Badges of OC logo for rucksacks?

Should High Ropes centres be included on OC site? Group voted not to include this activity for now as it takes place on private land.

Action TL to remove high ropes icon from website.

TL Thanked group for attending and PAC for Hosting.

Date of Next Meeting: **25th October 6pm Venue TBC.**