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Notes of the 7th meeting of the Consultation Group
which was held on Thursday 19th Nov in the Town Hall,
Bridge St. Bideford at 7pm. 1987

Present

D.Clutterbuck	(RYA)
J.Lammerton	(NCC)
R.Evans	(LT)
T.Crocker	(BSAC)
C.Sylvester	(Fisherman)
R.Tait	(DTNC)
H.Worden	(DSFDC)
K.Bower	(DSFDC)
R.Kimberley	(DSFDC/Chairman)
P.Cole	(LFS/Hon.Sec.)

- 1 Apologies for absence were received from: P.Bromhead; J.Puddy; N.Willcox; R.Earl; L.Winsbury; R.George; K.Hiscock.
- 2 Notes of the meeting held on 30th April 1987 were agreed as a true record and were signed by the Chairman.
- 3 Matters arising. As agreed copies of the 37th, 1986 Annual Report, Lundy Field Society, had been distributed to all members of the Group.
- 4 Report from the reserve. R.Evans regretted that no one from Lundy could be present at the meeting and he spoke for Neil Willcox the island warden. 1987 had been a heavy year for potting with up to six boats involved and as many as 650 pots down at the same time. The season had continued until mid-October. There had been no potting from the island. There was discussion as to whether this level of fishing was too high but the DSFDC representatives were of the opinion that this number of pots was not excessive and that the situation would be self regulating. Although it lasted only fourteen weeks the 1987 diving season had been busy. Five visiting parties had stayed on the island using the Lundy Co's compressor. The number of such parties was expected to increase. There were now laminated information sheets on the Diver's Beach. Weekend diving from visiting boats was also popular and difficult to regulate although NW endeavoured to visit when possible. A small number had demonstrated what appeared to be ignorance of the bye-laws. Fears were expressed by some members of the Consultation Group that the area might become 'over dived' as had Start Bay. Improved methods of communicating with all visiting divers were being sought. Sub-littoral monitoring had been carried out in July and nine live seal pups had been counted in September. Neil Willcox was to be thanked for his report.
- 5/6 Activities 1987/88 The NCC had prepared a leaflet setting out the Code of Conduct, Bye-laws and Reserve Boundary and were an excellent, and widely available, means of educating all visitors to the reserve including

divers. It was also appreciated that local fishermen who took parties diving in the reserve carried out a voluntary but important role in seeing that regulations were observed.

J.Lamerton had taken eight journalists to the island for a days visit in June and a meeting of NCC Voluntary Wardens was also held there.

- 7 Proposed construction of pier. RE said that this was still at the planning stage and as yet the design had not been finalised nor had planning permission been obtained but it was believed that such a structure would bring important benefits to the island. The general view was that it would not have an adverse effect on the ecology of the reserve and would provide another habitat. The source of funds for the work were being looked at and some might come from the tourist board.

- 8 Any other urgent business. It was agreed the DC could bring a representative of local yachtsmen to the next meeting.
A representative of the NDSFC said that fishermen wishing to carry out activities not allowed under the new bye-laws should apply to the Clerk of the Sea Fisheries Committee in the normal way.

- 9 Date of next meetings. April and Oct./Nov.1988.

PBFC.HON.SEC.LMCG