

ANGUS COUNCIL

PLANNING AND TRANSPORT POLICY COMMITTEE

25 April 1996

SUBJECT: TAYSIDE NATIVE WOODLANDS LTD

REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF PLANNING, TRANSPORT & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Abstract: Angus Council has been invited to enter into a partnership with Scottish Enterprise Tayside, Scottish Natural Heritage and the Forestry Authority Scotland to form Tayside Native Woodlands Ltd. This report discusses the background to the invitation and recommends that Angus Council becomes formally involved in the partnership.

1 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee agree -

- (i) to accept the invitation to become a partner of Tayside Native Woodlands Ltd;
- (ii) to contribute £5,000 from the Planning Department's Rural Affairs budget as Angus Council's contribution for 1996/97;
- (iii) that the Council's Countryside Officer represents the Angus Council on the Board of Directors of the Company.

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 Tayside Native Woodland Initiative (TNWI) was set up in May 1993 as a partnership between Scottish Enterprise Tayside, Tayside Regional Council, Scottish Natural Heritage and the Forestry Authority Scotland. The Initiative's aims are to -

- assess the native woodland resource of Tayside.
- identify major problems and priorities for action in terms of appropriate management, restoration and extension of native woodlands.
- assess existing support mechanisms and their effectiveness to promote the value of native woodlands.
- encourage the conservation, extension and sustainable multi-purpose management of Tayside's native woodland resource.

2.2 To this end, the Initiative employs one full-time project director, assisted by short-term contractors. Details of the Initiative's achievements over the last 3 years is included in the TNWI Final Report May 1993-April 1996: (copy in the Members Room). These can be summarised as follows:-

- For the first time in the UK, a system has been developed and implemented to identify and map all the native woodlands in the area.

- A review of standardised survey methods was undertaken and new wide ranging form-based survey system for native woodlands devised.
 - The TNWI is the first organisation in the UK to undertake a comprehensive sample survey of the extent, location, composition and condition of a regional native woodland resource.
 - The survey results have been published in a summary, “The Future for Tayside’s Native Woodlands” which contains outline recommendations, and a series of Technical Reports.
 - The first Native Woodlands Forum - the Tayside Native Woodlands Forum, has been established, now with over 50 members from broad ranging sectors.
 - A series of seven Demonstration Woods have been established in partnership with the owners/managers, the Royal Scottish Forestry Society and Scottish Native Woods, and a programme of visits initiated.
 - A video “Your Native Woodlands” has been produced for those who own and manage the Scottish countryside and is accompanied by a suite of eight local Factsheets covering all of Scotland.
 - A submission to the Forestry Authority’s national office resulted in innovative use of grant to fund native woodland surveys, production of management plans and their implementation.
 - A partnership funding package with Angus District Council was being piloted in the Angus Glens to encourage grant applications for existing native woodland.
 - Seminars about resources to funding for native woodlands, hardwood timber marketing and the future of Tayside’s Native Woodlands have been held.
 - A hardwood timber field day workshop held, with demand for this popular industry event to be repeated.
- 2.3 As a partner, Tayside Regional Council contributed a total of £27,000 over the three years. Whilst not a partner, Angus District Council contributed £1,500 towards a major sample survey of native woodland in Tayside and a further £2,000 as the sponsors of the Initiative pilot project “Plan Preparation Fee” grant in the Angus Glens.

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- 3.1 As the objectives of the Initiative have been achieved, new opportunities have emerged including substantial financial resources such as through like Millennium Forest for Scotland and European funding (LIFE and Objective 5b). This offers great opportunity to contribute to the economies and environment of rural Tayside. The Initiative partners now wish to access these opportunities. With Tayside Regional Council no longer in existence remaining partners, Scottish Enterprise Tayside, Scottish Natural Heritage and the Forestry Authority Scotland have taken the opportunity to propose a new organisation to which both Perth & Kinross and Angus Councils are invited to become partners

- 3.2 It is proposed that the new organisation be a limited company, aiming to achieve charitable status as none of the original funding partners are able to act as an employer, as has been the case to date. Also it makes easier applications for Millennium Forest for Scotland and European funding.
- 3.3 The draft aims and proposed outputs of the Company are summarised in Appendix A. It is anticipated that the new partnership will run until the end of the Millennium (5 years).
- 3.4 Copy of the draft memorandum and articles of association of Tayside Native Woodlands has been inspected by the Director of Law and Administration who proposes no modifications.

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The Initiative partners have produced a draft budget for each of the 5 years. This is attached as Appendix B. It should be noted that the draft budget includes £5,000 from Angus Council in 1996/97 and increasing in subsequent years. The 1996/97 £5,000 contribution can be met from the Planning Department's budget. Provision for future years contributions will require to be considered in the light of available resources. It should also be noted that the Forestry Authority, SNH and SET have also approved a contribution of £15,000 each for the year 1996/97.

5 CONSULTATION

- 5.1 The Director of Law and Administration and the Director of Finance have been consulted in the preparation of this Report.

6 CONCLUSION

- 6.1 Tayside Regional Council and Angus District Council have both been involved in and contributed to TNWI over the last three years. The level of achievement of the Initiative over the last three years can be regarded as a success.
- 6.2 It is considered that Angus Council's involvement in the new company is desirable in order to ensure the continued good work of the Initiative and to significantly increase the levels of external funding coming into Angus.

NOTE

No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above Report.

AA/SR/SP

Alex Anderson
Director of Planning, Transport & Economic Development

TAYSIDE NATIVE WOODLANDS

AIMS	DELIVERY ACTIONS	POTENTIAL PARTNERS	OUTPUTS
<p>1. Implementation</p> <p>a) Maximise availability of existing sources of finance for project/site based works, instigating proposals to access new resources including the creative packaging of existing monies, and raise awareness on the flexibility of funds.</p> <p>b) Maximise new sources of funding both locally and at a European level to address the priorities identified by the Tayside Native Woodland Survey.</p> <p>c) Identify and promote the inherent values of native woodlands to ensure the value of native woodlands is fully understood.</p>	<p>i) Produce an Action Plan for native woodlands in the area based on the Tayside Native Woodlands survey and The Indicative Forestry Strategy for Tayside, The Rural Strategy for Tayside. To consider greater community involvement and access issues. To be prepared jointly with the Tayside Native Woodlands Forum, the Millennium Forest for Scotland Trust and any other relevant individuals/bodies. Instigate the Action Plan's implementation.</p> <p>ii) Use the Action Plan as a basis to gear up funding from sources outwith the member organisations.</p> <p>iii) Develop Demonstration Woods in partnership with others.</p>	<p>i) Tayside Native Woodlands Forum, Millennium Forest for Scotland Trust.</p> <p>ii) Objective 5b, Other European Funds, Millennium Forst for Scotland Trust, SOAEFD, sponsorship, other sources.</p> <p>iii) Royal Scottish Forestry Society, Scottish Native Woods.</p>	<p>750 hectares per annum under formal management. 500 hectares per annum of regeneration. Initiate information for 5 Demonstration Woods to complement 2 already established. 6250 hectares into management over 5 years. Suite of 7 Demonstration Woods developed.</p>
<p>2. Education and Training</p> <p>a) Co-ordinate and host training seminars and workshops to target specific issues and participants, reflecting Tayside Native Woodlands initiative experience, and demands.</p> <p>b) Encourage and facilitate training and educational insitutions to incorporate native woodland aspects into their programmes.</p> <p>c) Produce a series of information publications.</p>	<p>i) Produce an Education and Training Programme identifying means of its delivery and resources required for its implementation in liaison with education/training bodies and the target audience.</p> <p>ii) Support development of the Xylodm.</p> <p>iii) Publish information material or use other mediums if appropriate.</p>	<p>i) Xylodm partners, Scottish Environmental Education Council, Forestry Contractors Association, Scottish Native Woods, Education Establishments.</p> <p>ii) Xylodm partners.</p> <p>iii) Education Establishments, Scottish Environmental Education Council, sponsorship.</p>	<p>Xylodm (Forest Centre for Scotland) established in the area. 5 presentations delivered annually. 2 training/education events held annually. 2 publications produced annually. 25 presentations, 10 events and 10 publications in 5 years.</p>
<p>3. Marketing and Promotion</p> <p>a) Promote markets and sources of timber building on Tayside Native Woodland Survey information, supply information and co-ordination.</p> <p>b) Provide advice and support to timber growers on appropriate management, and related issues.</p> <p>c) Demonstrate and develop local timber usage and assist with product design and development. Provide technical support to local timber/forestry businesses.</p>	<p>i) Provide details on sellers and buyers of native and hardwood timber in the area bi-annually.</p> <p>ii) Establish and promote silvicultural systems for native woodlands to provide multi-purpose benefits including increasing timber potential and value.</p> <p>iii) Encourage new woodland based business development, or diversification of existing timber business, to maximise local added value. Provide source of expertise.</p>	<p>i) Timber Growers Association, Scottish Landowners Federation, National Farmers Union, Highland Birchwoods, Grampian Woodlands, Scottish Native Woods.</p> <p>ii) Scottish Agricultural College, Farm Wildlife Advisory Group, Forest Enterprise.</p> <p>iii) Tayside BIAS, Angus Enterprise Trust, Highland Perthshire Development Co. Ltd., Perthshire Enterprise Co., Scottish Institute of Wood Technology.</p>	<p>Woodlots published and distributed every 6 months in the area. Develop one clear system annually and promote effectively. 1 business established/diversified each year. 20 requests for expertise met annually. 12 Woodlots printed 5 management systems established 5 businesses established/diversified 100 points of expertise delivered</p>

DRAFT BUDGET

Expenditure

Item	Year 1 1996/97	Year 2 1997/98	Year 3 1998/99	Year 4 1999/2000	Year 5 2000/2001	Total
Director* ¹	28,000	29,400	30,900	32,400	34,000	154,700
Travel & Sub.	3,000	3,200	3,400	3,600	3,800	17,000
Staff 1* ¹	22,400	23,500	24,700	25,900	27,200	123,700
Travel & Sub.	3,000	3,200	3,400	3,600	3,800	17,000
→ Staff 2 * ¹	Nil	18,600	19,500	20,500	21,500	80,100
Travel & Sub.	Nil	3,000	3,200	3,400	3,600	13,200
Secretary p/t* ¹	8,900	9,400	9,800	10,300	10,700	49,100
Office costs	3,500	3,700	4,000	4,300	4,700	20,200
Equip. & Mat.	5,000	2,500	2,500	2,800	3,000	15,800
Recruitment	1,500	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1,500
Promotions	2,000	2,100	2,200	2,500	3,000	11,800
Contingency	700	1,000	1,400	2,200	2,700	8,000
TOTALS	£78,000	£99,600	£105,000	£111,500	£118,000	£512,100

Income

Source

→ Forestry Authority	15,000	15,500	16,000	16,500	17,000	80,000
SNH	15,000	15,500	16,000	16,500	17,000	80,000
SET	15,000	15,500	16,000	16,500	17,000	80,000
P&K Council	5,000	10,000	10,500	11,000	11,500	48,000
Angus Council	5,000	10,000	10,500	11,000	11,500	48,000
Mill'm For. for Scot.	10,000	20,000	22,000	24,000	26,000	102,000
Others* ²	10,000	13,100	14,000	16,000	18,000	70,000
TOTALS	£75,000	£99,600	£105,000	£111,500	£118,000	£512,100

*¹ Figures allow for ENI at 7.3% and Superannuation at 17%. Salaries based on Director £22,500 Staff 1 £18,000, Staff 2 £15,000 and Secretary £12,000 (pro rata) per annum. Staff 2 may be utilised as an individual appointment or a series of contracts dependant on skills/expertise required.

*² Others may include EU sources of funding, contractual works, private sector contributions or sponsorship, or funds from other sources eg. The Gannochy Trust.