

**Notes from the Meeting of the Working Group held on
Monday 8th August 2016 at 2pm in the Committee Room.**

AGENDA

Present: Cllrs Allen, Betts, Doy, Ladd and Rowan Robinson. Also present the Town Clerk

- 1) **Apologies for absence** – Cllr Windell.
- 2) **Declarations of Interest** – Cllrs Doy and RR regarding town noticeboards as members of the Southwold & Reydon Society.

2pm – AONB Neil Lister attended re promotion of marsh/common – noticeboards etc. Neil Lister is Countryside Officer for the AONB. Neil looks after the volunteer scheme through which twice a month volunteers work with various organisations on voluntary work. Work registered for Southwold already includes the painting of the white railings along the seafront.

Neil had received a copy of the comments from Emma Hay regarding the marshes review. Cllr Allen confirmed that £2,000 had been granted for noticeboards. Cllr Rowan Robinson confirmed that the three key actions arising from the review were (1) promotion of SSSI by noticeboards/creation of footpath, (2) improvement of drainage, (3) review of Golf Club drainage and designation. The grant monies are towards key action (1).

Explanation was provided regarding creation of an integrated management plan which could include the areas of the marshes, Common and Boating Lake areas and the project could involve AONB, Natural England, Common Trust, WDC, Southwold Town Council. Partnership working could enable grant monies to be applied for.

It was confirmed that action point (1), the promotion of the SSSI by noticeboards and creation of a footpath, would be a short term goal. Information about potential noticeboards had already been provided and a meeting will be held with the Halesworth Millennium Trust regarding the creation of footpaths and applications for grant monies.

Mr Lister advised that the project seemed very positive and exciting and that the AONB might like to assist but have limited resources. Present grant schemes include the Community Countryside Fund and the Sustainable Development Fund. The AONB might also be able to help with volunteers in conjunction with members of the community. Neil advised the Working Group of other areas working on such projects, with both Woodbridge and Beccles working under the title "Transition Towns". This designation would not be appropriate for the Southwold project and Neil suggested that careful consideration should be given to the title of the project. Neil suggested that the AONB

would recommend an early events programme to show the community information about the project and to get volunteers to help support the project. It was suggested that Touching the Tide (Bill Jenman) may also be able to assist with the project.

Discussion took place regarding the retention of the appropriate areas of the marshes for the birds and wildlife. The AONB run a workshop about such areas and the operation of areas where dogs can or cannot be allowed within SSSI sites.

Information for the noticeboards;

Information about SSSI sites

Photographs/pictures of birds that can be viewed on the site

Pictures/photographs of the marshes being grazed

Information for members of the public i.e. dogs/litter/respect for the area

Action

- Details of marshes and Common Trust Management Plan to be sent to Neil Lister in due course.
- Costing for noticeboard, text, information. Noticeboard material to be considered. Noticeboard to be lectern style. Information regarding SSSI sites to be obtained from Emma Hay. (AONB presently working with Tunstall Common on similar project).
- Natural England (Emma Hay to be updated regarding progress of the grant monies of £2,000).
- Pathway across the marshes to be costed.

Recommendation – that Leisure & Environment Working Group match fund the £2,000 provided by Natural England with £2,000 for additional noticeboards. Asset budget £15,000. Expenditure and committed expenditure to date £3486.00

Neil Lister left the meeting.

Cllr Palmer attended re fingerpost -report drafted by Parking Review Group.

Cllr Jeans and Tucker had provided a report regarding fingerposts and they were thanked for their work in the creation of the report. Cllr Palmer introduced the report. The meeting advised that fingerpost numbers 5, 9 and 10 are in areas where map boards are being provided by the Southwold & Reydon Society.

Cllr Palmer left the meeting.

Projects

- *Fingerposts* – the Working Group reviewed the report drafted by the Parking Review Group and consolidated the information contained within the report. £4,000 grant is being provided by WDC to assist with the purchase of the fingerposts and an application for £2,000 has been submitted for a SCC Locality Grant. £2k has been committed from the L and E asset

budget. Once costings of the fingerposts have been received the Committee will consider the funding required to complete the project.

- *Blue Plaque Scheme* – following details provided to the Organ and Gazette one additional name had been put forward by a member of the public. It was agreed that details of the names suggested to date would be provided for the Southwold Museum, so that consideration can be given as to the next step. Cllr Temple and Mr G Denny to be updated.

Environmental Matters

- *Common /Marshes – Update on drainage, educational promotion, masterplan for the whole area.* See Notes above.
- *Memorial Garden* – no update.
- *Ferry Road Garden* – no update.
- *Volunteer works to shelters along the prom – what is outstanding?* No update.

Cllr Ladd left the meeting

Events

- *Remembrance Sunday* – 13th Nov 2016
- *Armistice Day* – Nov 11th 2016
- *St Edmunds Day* – Nov 2016
- *Arbour Day* – Nov/Dec 2016
- *Xmas Carol Concert* - Dec 2016 – *Date to be confirmed with church.*

Other Matters

- *Play areas* – Bark chippings/Assistance from Lions Club/weekly inspections/Quote from Streetscape for extra equipment/Quote from Sovereign – await update from Cllr Windell.
- *Volunteer projects* – see AONB notes above.
- *Litter Bins* – extra provision – WDC had provided a quote for 10 Jubilee bins to be placed along the prom at a cost of £3750 plus Vat. The present bins are inadequate and seagulls can easily access the bin contents. Jubilee style bins are the recommended bin for the prom. Discussion took place about the possibility of them being damaged/washed away in the winter. Discussed with Norse who advised that they would be bolted down and therefore secure – however if there was a major flood due they would arrange to remove them in case of damage.

It is the recommendation that Town Council approve the purchase of 10 Jubilee bins for the prom at a cost of £3750. These to be purchased from the L and E fixed asset budget of £15,000. Expenditure committed to date £5,486 (plus £3750 for bins).

- *Sign for Boating Lake* – the Working Group considered the request for a sign for the boating lake on the Klondyke site. The Working Group felt that it was not appropriate for such a sign to be on the site. So long as hedges around the Klondyke are maintained appropriately then a sign within the boundary of the boating lake would be adequate.

In progress

- *New Outside Gym Equipment – List facilities in all play areas o/s.*

Other Matters

The Working Group were asked to consider other matters including; horses on the prom/beach – are these allowed? Cllr Allen to find out from WDC. Overgrown hedges – Norse to be advised of individual areas requiring attention. People sleeping in car on North Parade – police to be advised on 101.

L and E Financial update as at 8.8.16;

	Budget	Actual
Events	£ 2,775	£1652
Purchase of fixed assets (Bins/ signs/ play equip/ seats etc.)	£ 15,000	£1486
Annual RosPa reports and repairs	£ 1,500	£0
Memorial seat maintenance	<u>£ 1,500</u>	<u>£0</u>
	£20,775 for 2016/17.	

Next meeting – Formal Public Cttee meeting – Monday 3rd October 2016 at 2pm

Noticeboards for marshes.

Recommendation – that Town Council approves match fund the £2,000 provided by Natural England with £2,000 for additional noticeboards. Asset budget £15,000. Expenditure and committed expenditure to date £3486.00

Litter Bins for Promenade

Recommendation - that Town Council approve the purchase of 10 Jubilee bins for the prom at a cost of £3750. These to be purchased from the L and E fixed asset budget of £15,000. Expenditure committed to date £5,486 (plus £3750 for bins).