LEISURE AND ENVIRONMENT notes – from meeting held on Wednesday 7th September 2022 at 6.00pm. REP L and E 4/2022

AGENDA

Item	Subject	Details
1		Katie Hunt re long Distance Walkers Association future event.
		Katie and Malcolm attended to discuss a national 100 walking event they are planning for 24 – 26 May 2025 (Bank holiday weekend). Being organised by Norfolk and Suffolk long distance walkers assn. There will be up to 500 walkers from throughout the UK – and the route will be Lowestoft – Beccles – Halesworth – Snape – Aldeburgh – Walberswick – Southwold - Lowestoft.
		All walkers start at 10am, runners at 2pm, and will take between 28 – 48 hours depending on whether running or walking. Breakfast stop will be at 64 miles at Leiston. This will all be on footpaths, not on roads. There will be a stop in Southwold for a drink/ toilet stop – will approach Millennium Hall/ Arts Centre/ Pavilion for availability/ staffing. The marshals/ stewards helping at the event will do a practice walk in early May 2025. Event will be called the 'East Point Hundred'
		Katie and Malcolm left the meeting.
2	Present	Cllrs Rowan-Robinson (MRR), Bradbury (IRB) and Sutton (JS). and the Town Clerk and the ex offiicio Town Mayor (WW) 1 member of Skatepark community group. Due to a lack of quorum, it was agreed that this would be a working group meeting to catch up on projects that are already taking place.
3	Apologies and Declarations of Interest	Apologies were received from ClIrs Goldsmith and Jordan - these were noted. Other members not present – ClIr Beavan.
		Cllr Bradbury chaired the meeting.
4	Minutes of previous meeting	See notes of the previous meeting. Noted.
5	Standing Orders- public section.	See Skatepark community group below. No other members of the public were present.
6	Skatepark Group	Mel Wilson attended on behalf of the group. The open day on 14 th August was a very hot day – but went well and new people attended. Ash Lever provided skate coaching, and other skaters helped with promotion etc. The event was used to find out what coaching might be required once the facility was open. This event was funded by ESC community partnership. Monies remaining will eb used to provide some coaching at the new facility.
		Funding – donations are still coming in through Just Giving. Another application has been made to ESC for £5k. Reydon PC is being approached as

well as the Southwold and Reydon Trusts. Present pledges are in region of £47K.

Action – Trevor/Lesley to liase re memorandum of understanding.

Designs – are being drafted for community consultation and for choice of layouts to be selected. It was noted that STC wishes to ensure that that design is aimed at those children who presently regularly use the existing facility, i.e. those living / going to school in Southwold – under 11's.

Planning application – will be submitted by STC. Timescale is early 2023.

Materials – it will be made from smooth concrete and banked with grass.

Footprint – discussion about the footprint – the gallopers presently take up some of the site.

Action – WW to liase with Martin Loades re the galloper's location.

Mel left the meeting

7 Environmental matters – timelines and completion dates

• Ferry Road Garden – Update E mail from Champaign read to meeting.

Discussion about having an exit from the garden out the back onto the Ferry footpath – and it was suggested that this could be stage 2 of the project. James Mellish might be able to apply for grants for this.

Action – PG to arrange date for volunteers to assist and to contact the volunteers. Note, that to be sustainable, it will need to have volunteers looking after it once finished.

LB to contact James Mellish.

- Footpaths see also PROW group notes. A member of SCC Rights of Way
 has been invited to the next meeting of the group.
 Feedback on the cutting of the footpath has been good. Couple of areas
 for Vertas to revisit.
- Marshes management including ditch, sluice and culvert works
 There are no works pending no issues with the management of the water levels as there is not much water in the ditches.

Sewage in the sea – MRR checked the EA page on beach cleanliness. Pier area has been declared as blue flag statues. Denes area is adequate. All tests are virtually 0% of sewage and there does not appear to be sewage in the sea at Southwold. Must be borne in mind that flash floods do sometimes alter the ratings.

There was an unexplained spike in August 2021 – but this did not come through again in 2022.

JS advised that on the Safer Seas site – there is an amber warning today for Blyth beach.

Seagulls – the clerk advised that there had been several emails in the summer regarding aggressive seagulls, and some calls saying that the gulls are not being looked after. Discussion about how to improve peoples understanding re seagulls i.e., signage on prom about not feeding them/and asking fish and chip shops to ensure customers dispose of food stuff and to not leave it on pavements etc. This messaging is to get to the source of the issue – i.e., not to feed seagulls,

		and to dispose of waste effectively. Open bins to be changed to closed top bins. Better messaging on the bins themselves. Action - signage on prom about not feeding seagulls/and asking fish and chip shops to ensure customers dispose of food stuff and to not leave it on pavements etc. This messaging is to get to the source of the issue – i.e., not to feed seagulls, and to dispose of waste effectively. Open top bins to be changed to closed top bins – i.e., 2 in Bartholomew Green. Better messaging on the bins themselves.
6	Leisure and Other matters	
6	Leisure and Other matters	 Skatepark open day – see above Town Wi Fi – Soft launch took place in Aug. Karen is going around all businesses to promote the wi fi and the Town App and to check that businesses are happy with their entry on the town app. Reading Room – Gun Hill is not covered by the public Wi-Fi – costs to be ascertained. Footfall trackers at Harbour – costs to be ascertained. Action - Reading Room – Gun Hill is not covered by the public Wi-Fi – costs to be ascertained. Footfall trackers at Harbour – costs to be ascertained Future events - First Light event Oct 2022. As part of First Light Lowestoft, there is funding to put on events in the market towns. Southwold event will be based on health and wellbeing and will take place 22nd Oct 2022 – event being organised by First Light Ltd. Signage/ town trail update – Sculptures/ information boards will be put in over next 3 weeks. Sky seats at Pier car park will be moved. Shelter on North Parade – Chris Websdale and James Mellish working on an extension to the information boards to include some for the North Parade Shelter. Suggested that solar lighting could be installed and that the seats need repair and maintenance. Rospa inspections – are being undertaken in September. Finger posts update. Location agreed by all. Cost to install has been provided. Order made. Boardwalk onto beach – Kessingland PC has asked if we would like to work with them to lobby ESC for a boardwalk on our respective beaches. It was agreed that this would be a good project - Joint meeting with ESC to be arranged. Memorial benches – On Denes there is concrete left in and a wooden seta used to be on top. As wooden seat is missing and concrete is damaged, Norse to eb asked to take the concrete away. This could then be an area for a new memorial bench. Xmas Lights 2022 – discussion about arrangements and what work the Bus Assn has done on the arrangements. Consideration to be given t

		Discission about whether there is the need for a switch on event or just a switch on? Action – meeting to be arranged with Bus Assn. • Updates on other matters previously agreed. Tiles to go back on electricity green – all tiles sorted and now need to be cleaned, and put onto a hard backing, before hanging back on wall. Mr Goffin is doing the works – Coral to chase regularly. Blue Plaque Scheme – Museum were previously asked to proceed with the research required for the scheme. It was suggested that an update be requested from them. After meeting clerk advised that the last email from the museum in 2020 advised that they did not have sufficient resources.
7	Date of next meeting	TBC

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