

Minutes of the meeting of the Leisure and Environment Committee Rep 1/2019

DATE & TIME	MONDAY 14th January 2019 – 3PM
PLACE	TOWN HALL
CHAIR	Cllr Rowan-Robinson
PRESENT	Cllrs Beavan, Bradbury, Doy and Rowan-Robinson. Guest Simon Raven re Blyth Valley River Trail.

Item	Subject	Details
1	Apologies and Declarations of Interest	Apologies were received from Cllrs Ladd and Cardwell.
2	Minutes of previous meeting	The Minutes of the previous meeting were noted.
3	Standing Orders- public section.	Simon Raven – Blyth Valley River and River trail. Mr Raven who is the co-founder of The Cut has been involved with many tourist related issues within Halesworth and is looking to improve the information about the footpath trail from Halesworth to Southwold. His main aims through the project are to provide a guide for the public, to provide information panels at each end, to create a structural piece of work at each end to denote the presence of the trail, to promote a website. Estimated cost of these is £60,000 for which Heritage Lottery Funding will be sought. Mr Raven advised that bus service no. 88 operates between Halesworth and Southwold stopping at Blyford, Wenhaston, Blythburgh and Southwold all of which are on the route of the 11 mile trail. The Town Council is being asked to morally support the project but no financial commitment will be required. Mr Raven provided a sketch of the proposed structural design that he would wish to have at each end of the trail which is a pole engraved with various features of both Southwold and Halesworth. His ideal would be to have this in bronze but if this was not possible, for it to be created in steel with bronze blasted onto it. Discussion took place about the trail and its accessibility. Mr Raven was advised that it may prove more popular if it was referred to as a “Blyth Valley Walk” with an emphasis on the eateries and pubs along the way as well as mentioning the natural environment and the initial basis for the trail. Maintenance of the path will need to be considered as in areas this becomes very overgrown and Mr Raven advised that parishes will be asked to take responsibility for the footpath piece in their area. Signage will be required along the route especially where the route meets a section of road at Walberswick. Thanks were extended to Mr Raven and he was asked to continue to update the Town Council as the project moves forward.
5	Environmental matters – timelines and completion dates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Meeting with EA/AW – Cllr Beavan – 22nd January 2019. Cllr Beavan</i> • <i>Internal Drainage Board – Cllr Beavan reported that he had attended a meeting of the East Suffolk Internal Drainage Board and advised that they are looking for third party works to increase income. Cllr Rowan-Robinson advised that we had asked them to quote for works on the marshes but that their costs were expensive. Cllr Beavan</i> • <i>Blyth Estuary Partnership – Cllr Beavan advised that he would hope to encourage</i>

		<p>the Blyth Estuary Partnership to move forward with various projects. Cllr Bradbury advised that as a member of BEP he could advise that the organisation is still doing works and is in a healthy position. Cllr Bradbury</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ferry Road Model Yacht pond - update from Cllr Beavan re fencing/upgrades etc.</i> Cllr Beavan advised that volunteers had assisted with the clearing up of the pond and that for health and safety reasons there is now fencing around the pond. Cllr Beavan • <i>Boating Lake – update from Cllr Beavan re meeting re pumping water to the site.</i> Cllr Beavan advised that he is looking into the possibility of attaching the inlet pipe fixing to one of the rocks to improve the ease of use of the water inlet pipe. Cllr Beavan advised that there are a number of hurdles to overcome with licences etc. Funding should be available from the Model Yacht Pond Organisation to cover the costs involved. As Landlord the Town Council would need to enter into any agreement/licences. Cllr Beavan • <i>Common/Marshes mgt plan – Suffolk W T – public meeting held 28th Nov 2018.</i> Approximately 50 people attended the drop-in consultation and the majority were generally supportive of the plan. SWT to report back again in the Spring. All Committee • <i>Marshes drainage works - await available finances.</i> A sum has been placed in the budget for 2019/20 to carry out extra works on the marshes. Quotes for the larger works will need to be secured as at present we have one quote from the Internal Drainage Board at around £50,000. Other quotes to be received from Mr Colyer and from the contractors who carried out works at the caravan site. Town Clerk • <i>Multi agency group meeting - to be arranged.</i> Discussion took place regarding the suggestion of a multi agency group. It was suggested that a brief/ remit would need to be worked up before any meeting could be held and that the brief should include matters on coastal erosion, drainage and the marshes. Local agencies who could be invited would include STC, Common Trust, SWT, BEP, CCT, SCC, WDC, EA, Anglian Water and neighbouring parishes including Blythburgh and Walberswick. Cllrs Beavan, Bradbury and Rowan-Robinson offered to draft the brief for consideration at a future meeting. Cllrs Beavan, Bradbury & Rowan-Robinson
6	<p>Amenities/ Town Improvements – Timelines and completion dates to be established for each project</p>	<p>Items to consider for town improvements including from previous minutes;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Ladies Walk – poppies/ planting</i> – Cllr Bradbury advised that the area would need careful cleaning prior to any planting and that volunteers would be required. Cllr Doy will contact the allotment holders to request their assistance. Cllr Bradbury offered to take the lead on this project and will source the poppies. Date for planting provisionally agreed as Saturday 6th April 2019. Cllr Bradbury/ Doy. ○ <i>Marshes Information Boards – update from Cllr Bradbury.</i> Cllr Bradbury advised that himself and the Town Clerk had met with the designer regarding the extra boards. The designer has suggested that a different narrative be placed on each board as they would all form part of a rectangular walk. It was acknowledged that this may delay the delivery of the project. It was then suggested that four boards could contain the original design whilst the ones intended for both ends of Ferry Road footpath could have different pictures and texts. Cllr Bradbury offered to source the text and photographs early in February and bring to the next L&E meeting. Cllr Bradbury ○ <i>Town Council information boards – see previous minutes.</i> It is intended that the existing boards on York Road and Hospital Green be replaced by weatherproof

		lockable boards. Cllr Bradbury and the Town Clerk to cost. Cllr Bradbury / Town Clerk <i>Cycle racks/ loops - /rear of Town Hall – ongoing</i> <i>Fingerposts – ongoing</i> <i>Cannons – Gun Hill ongoing</i>
7	Other Assets	
8	Parish Community Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Arbor Day / Tree planting – consider Spring 2019.</i> It was suggested that the arrangements for Arbor Day take place in November 2019 as per the National Scheme. Cllr Ladd is seeking permission from SCC to carry out planting along Pier Avenue. Individual tree planting i.e. Sue Allen memorial to be done separately to the larger event. Cllr Ladd • <i>Suffolk Day – June 21st 2019 –</i> Cllr Ladd was advising on the flag that would be required and was also due to advise on the events being carried out by other towns and parishes. Cllr Ladd • <i>Norse litter clean 2019 –</i> letter has been received from Waveney Norse suggesting a community litter clean. Cllr Doy offered to take on this project and coordinate with Coral. The areas being suggested were the greens on North Parade and St James Green. It was suggested that this could take place on Saturday 6th April 2019 as an additional activity to the poppy planting. Cllr Doy
9	Play areas and Open space improvements	
10	Other matters to consider/ To progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Sport and entertainment leaflet – update.</i> Although sports clubs had initial enthusiasm for this project, there has been a lack of information from those who offered to contribute. Cllr Rowan-Robinson will chase. Cllr Rowan-Robinson • <i>Essential Information leaflet/ map to include location of defibrillators – update.</i> It was considered that with the new CCT map being still available there was no need for a new map at the present time. N/A • <i>Southwold Heritage Project re viewing platforms – Cllr Cardwell.</i> Await update from Cllr Cardwell at next meeting. Cllr Cardwell • <i>Blue Plaque Scheme -</i> date for meeting awaited from Mr Wells. All Committee
12	Date of next meeting	Monday 11 th March 2019 at 3pm

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL L AND E MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AND PRESS. THE TOWN COUNCIL ABIDES BY THE PARISH AND TOWN COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT 2012.