



Yorkshire Wildlife Trust

8197 Spurn Liaison Group

Notes of meeting on Wednesday 20th February 2017

Present:

Richard Burton	Chair/ERYC councillor and cabinet member
Martin Batt	YWT
Haris Livas-Dawes	Parish Council
Larry Malkin	Local Community
Rob Adams	SBOT
Martin Standley	Local Community
Sharon Smith	Local Community
Pat Swales	Local Community
Christina Keyworth	Youth Club
Roy Clubley	Parish Council
Tony Smith (ToS)	Parish Council
Andrew Wells (Awe)	Westmere Farm B&B
Adam Stoye	YWT
Terry Smithson (TeS)	YWT
Andy Wainwright (AWa)	ERYC strategic planning

Apologies:

Jackie Cracknell	ERYC ward councillor
Dave Steenvorden	RNLI
Fred Firman	ABP Hull
Lyn Healing	ERYC ward councillor
Dave Tucker	ERYC ward councillor

1. Welcome and introductions

RB welcomed the attendees, especially those new attendees, and thanked them for taking the time to contribute. MB reiterated that the purpose of the group was to bring together those wish to contribute toward a positive future for Spurn and the surrounding area, and that although this would not be a decision making group, YWT are committed to working with the community and would ensure that the wishes are taken on board.

2. Notes of the last meeting and matters arising

RB checked and confirmed that all had received papers for meeting.

RB welcomed other suggestions for attendance of the group for consideration. These included, Yorkshire Naturalists Union, Sea Anglers (Paul Jefferson), Chad Chadwick. AWa suggested that we need to be cautious about extending the invitation too far, that the 20 or so attendees so far may already be too many, and that with other similar liaison groups, those present were happy to communicate through their own networks.



RC queried process as to allocation of E.ON funding to area.

Action – AWA to check process of allocation of E.ON funding to local area.

3. Terms of Reference of the group

RB introduced the draft terms of reference for the Liaison Group. That the focus of the group was advisory, to build relations and to move forward in a constructive way. YWT would support this as much as it can, will listen, and try and implement the wishes of the group.

MS asked for confirmation that this group was the Liaison Group referred to in planning conditions, and asked that the group be kept informed of plans and timing in relation to visitor centre.

TeS confirmed it was YWT's intention to keep group informed of timelines and of proposals as much as possible. For example YWT would also invite the main contractor project manager to this group.

AWa explained that the planning condition now formalises the need and approach for this group and that the terms of reference would be submitted to discharge the condition.

RB confirmed acceptance of the Terms of Reference by the group.

4. Priorities for discussion and action by the group

MB explained that group members had asked for three discussion items to be brought to the meeting.

a. Access to Spurn Point – dealing with the breach

TeS explained that YWT is supportive of improved access to the Point but that there does not appear to be a simple solution which might answer everyone's needs. He explained that there are three key considerations which guide YWT's approach to this - 1. Impact on wildlife and people – access to the point must avoid negative impacts on legally protected habitats and species, for example damage to salt marsh or dune habitats, or disturbance to protected bird species. Many visitors to Spurn are now pleased to see that cars are no longer driving to the point and welcome the increased feeling of wilderness. 2. Any access provision needs to be able to work with the coastal processes and allow the peninsula to erode and reform further west. The creation of hard structures in the past has meant that the peninsula now stands proud of the coastline and makes it more susceptible to extreme forces and more unpredictable changes. 3. The access route must be cost effective and affordable. The costs and logistics of replacement of the road were an important factor in ABP's decision to move their operations from the Point.

Discussion amongst the group indicated mixed views on whether full public access to the Point was needed but concluded that an improved access route would be welcomed, for the wider public cars may not be appropriate but alternatives suggested were family bikes, safari and sail bogy.

Action – YWT to explore options for improved access to the Point.

b. Better communications - Community Newsletter, Spurn Safaris for Easington & Kilnsea families

HLD – suggested quality newsletter which could explain some of the planning conditions to address some of preconceptions and explore concerns. Happy to help with newsletter.

SS – to outline intentions for traffic measures.

AWa – take care that explanation of conditions are not for consultation but for information.



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MS – to bring some of the discussion, e.g. highways, to the liaison meeting where timing allows.

CK – offered to deliver newsletter across Parish.

Action – YWT newsletter to circulate across parish. Available as PDF so that stakeholders can circulate to their contacts and hard copies available for Parish Council/Youth Group.

Action – YWT to circulate outline of conditions and which could be brought to group.

Safari for all residents was welcomed as a positive approach. CK offered support to coordinate with Youth Group.

Action – YWT to set out dates for safaris and circulate for booking on these dates.

Action – AS and CK to work together to set dates and promote to parish.

c. YWT/SBOT working relationship

Agreed that important that SBOT and YWT work to rebuild positive working relations. The Liaison Group could be available to explore areas of concern.

Action – RA and TeS to set up SBOT and YWT liaison meetings.

5. Visitor Centre construction: methodology and timetable

TeS outlined timeline for build of visitor centre. YWT hope to have centre open for Spring 2018. Aim for start of works in the Spring, with completion of main construction works by the end of summer and internal fit out in the autumn/winter.

SS – explained that noise from proposed piling works for foundations of centre were of greatest concern. TeS explained that YWT had taken this concern on board earlier in the design process and had asked for a non-piled foundation in the design.

MS – asked if Project Manager could come to the Liaison Group. TS explained that this as the intention as time and resource allowed.

6. Any Other Business

SS – asked that SBOT be invited onto the Recreational Disturbance Management Group. TS explained that YWT was happy to consider this but wanted to see positive progress on the YWT/SBOT relationship first.

7. Date of Next Meeting

28th March 2017. 5:30pm at Easington Village Hall

Action – YWT to send round doodle poll for future dates