

Spurn Liaison Group

Notes of the meeting on Tuesday 28th March at 5.30pm in Easington Community Hall

Present:

Councillor Richard Burton	
Councillor Dave Tucker	
Karen Abba	ERYC Planning & Development
Paul Jefferson	Spurn sea anglers
Haris Livas-Dawes	Parish Councillor
Larry Malkin	Spurn lighthouse volunteer
Dave Steenvorden	RNLI coxswain
Martin Standley	Friend of SBO
Terry Smithson	YWT Director
Andrew Wells	Westmere Farm B&B
Adam Stoye	YWT Spurn
Christina Keyworth	Easington Youth Club
Pat Swales	Friend of SBO
Sharon Smith	Friend of SBO
Rob Adams	SBO chairman
Chad Chadwick	ex ERYC Chairman
Martin Batt	YWT

Apologies:

Roy Clubley	Parish Council
Tony Smith	Parish Council
Andy Wainwright	ERYC Planning & Development

1. Matters arising

- a) **Membership of the Liaison Group (SLG).** It was agreed that the list of members shown on the meeting notes of 20th February, with the addition of Paul Jefferson (Sea Anglers) should comprise the current membership.
- b) **Recreational Disturbance Management Group (RDMG):** Karen Abba confirmed that the draft protocol had been received, but not yet validated, by ERYC. This would be a council led group, but should have representation from the Liaison Group (SLG). The chairman recommended that Cllr Tucker should sit on the RDMG. The draft protocol will be circulated for the SLG's comments before the next meeting. Rob Adams asked that Ian Smith be considered as an alternate member for Paul French, the agreed SBOT representative, who often has external commitments. Terry Smithson agreed to consider this nomination.
- c) **Notes of the meeting on 20th February:** Martin Standley asked that his request for the SLG "to be kept informed" of the visitor centre development should be minuted as well as being simply added to the draft Terms of Reference protocol. Sharon Smith requested that the Notes should be clarified and re-drafted in the section on Highways. SS had asked that a representative from the department attend the SLG meeting when relevant documents were ready.

Action Karen Abba to take notes of future meetings.

- d) A request for the YWT Visitor Centre project manager to attend meetings was also reiterated. After discussion, it was suggested by Councillor Tucker that if possible, the project site should aim for a Considerate Contractor Gold Award.

2. Communications

a) Community Newsletter

The draft copy for the newsletter had been circulated. Cllr Tucker believed that its tone was unnecessarily negative and that it should be redrafted to accentuate the very positive aspects of the new visitor centre, the way forward, positive impact on local businesses. Harris Livas-Dawes felt that the priority was to be transparent, reflecting the issues of the past but thanking the public for their interest and involvement. Reasons for previous decisions could be outlined, but in a friendly and positive way. A second draft was to be provided by YWT with a pre-Easter publication date.

Action – YWT aim for Easter publication of newsletter

Action – Harris Livas-Dawes to send electronic version of suggested wording

b) Spurn Safaris for local families

The target start for these events was the period 8th-26th May, mid-week, and weekends in the early part of the morning, depending on high water. It was believed that there were 246 households in Easington, 30 in Kilnsea. It was suggested that to be seen as inclusive as possible, other local communities should be considered for inclusion: Welwick, Weighton, Skeffling, Holmpton, and Out Newton. This would require a professional leaflet drop, by mid April, and before the next meeting.

Action – YWT to set dates for community safaris and work with Youth Group to circulate and take bookings.

c) Drop-in sessions

Cllr Tucker suggested that these should be reinstated, and organised by YWT, based on project milestones, and with a ward councillor in attendance. Feedback from these events should be reported to the SLG. Pat Swales agreed to investigate how a “Comms Wall” for the project could be displayed at the Community Hall, with input from the principal contractor.

Action – YWT to set up date for community drop in.

Action – YWT to set up information and progress update at Spurn

Action – Pat to arrange for wall space in Easington Community wall.

3. Planning conditions

a) Overall scope and progress

A schedule of the conditions had been circulated giving an update on progress. Martin Standley asked a number of questions about the establishment of an amphibian and water vole fence requiring a shallow trench. Did this imply a start to the project, before discharge of conditions, or information being provided to the SLG? Karen Abba asked Martin to submit his detailed questions by email to her. Terry Smithson was asked to establish whether the trench dug had the potential to have damaged archaeology on the site. It was suggested that an ecological clerk of works should be appointed. TS explained that Adam Stoye had taken on this role.

b) Highway verges

Following a meeting with ERYC Highways on 21st February, the first draft condition report had been submitted to check that its contents matched requirements. This, combined with a monitoring plan, was circulated to the SLG for information. It was reiterated that a member of ERYC Highways should be asked to attend a suitable future meeting of the group to hear concerns, in particular, over the potential introduction of double yellow lines on Spurn Road.

c) Archaeology

The draft protocol submitted by Humber Field Archaeology had been circulated to the SLG for information. There were no comments made.

4. Visitor Centre update and timeline

Terry Smithson explained that a spring start for construction was being planned. Tenders had been invited for the both modular build and principal contractors. These would go through a selection process in the next few days. An independent project manager had been appointed. Rob Adams was interested to see a list of the principal contractors. Cllr Tucker was very keen to see YWT and the selected company sign up to the Considerate Contractor scheme at Gold level. Terry Smithson confirmed that YWT had requested the tenders enter the scheme. The build timeline would be determined by the contractor, but expect a window of activity until end August for the main works on site to be completed.

5. Any Other Business

a) Visit to Bempton Cliffs

Cllrs Burton and Tucker had attended the final meeting of the RSPB Bempton Cliffs steering group on 13th March. They both felt it offered a successful model of local consultation that could be valuable for the Spurn Liaison Group.

b) Enhancement work

The erection of a hide on the flood bank overlooking Long Bank Marsh was suggested as a way of adding to the wildlife viewing facilities of the area as an “offset” to the new visitor centre. Terry Smithson agreed to take this suggestion away for consideration.

c) Agenda items for next meeting

A number of agenda items were suggested for the next meeting:

- Access issues, e.g. for disabled people;
- Use of the Point buildings.
- The group was asked to bring further suggestions for joint working and wider enhancement to the Spurn area, for discussion at the next meeting.

6. Dates of next meetings

Following the online Doodle poll, the following dates were agreed: Monday 24th April, Thursday 25th May. Further dates to be agreed.