

Spurn Liaison Group

Minutes of the meeting on Thursday 25th May 2017 at 5.30pm in Easington Community Hall

Present:

Councillor Richard Burton	
Peter Merchant	Houltons
Larry Malkin	Welwick Resident
Terry Smithson	YWT Director
Karen Abba	ERYC Principal Development Services Officer
Paul Jefferson	Sea anglers
Rob Adams	SBO chairman
Pat Swales	Secretary of Easington Evergreen Group
Councillor Dave Tucker	
Martin Standley	Friend of SBO
Sharon Smith	Easington Resident
Ian Smith	Parish Council
Roy Clubley	Parish Council
Andrew Wells	Westmere Farm B&B
Adam Stoye	YWT Spurn
Paul Rigby	YWT Spurn Project Manager

Apologies:

Andy Wainwright	ERYC Strategic Development Services Manager
Haris Livas-Dawes	Parish Councillor
Dave Steenvorden	RNLI coxswain
Christina Keyworth	Easington Youth Club

1. Matters arising

- a) **Minutes** – to correct the minutes of the last meeting in reference to those attending the previous meeting and with reference to the re-use of the point buildings being for the benefit of all parties and not just the sea anglers. IS made reference to a traffic management plan which had not been minuted previously
 - request that the minutes are sent out earlier so that people have sufficient chance to consider them prior to the next meeting. KA advised that she would endeavour to do this.
 - IS stated that he has now replace Tony Smith on the Parish Council
 - IS raised concerns regarding what the impact of the traffic will be on the village
 - IS and SS stated that they understood that TS was supposed to come back to this meeting with suggestions to improve the visitor experience

2. Communication

- b) TS advised the newsletter has now been issued and took the opportunity to express thanks to Christine Keyworth and the Easington Youth Club distributing the newsletter. TS advised that information points were now in place at the café and one at the site compound, Cllr Tucker requested one outside the Bluebell café rather than inside
- Cllr Tucker - It would be useful if key dates were in the newsletter or in a short note through residents doors, people are finding out about things through social media and not YWT which is not helpful
 - MS requested that e-mails are sent out to members of the group to advise of work dates and details of major works as there is a need to make sure people are aware and informed
 - SS raised the issue in respect of what was the point of the Liaison Group
 - KA discussed communication moving forward and advised that the Council and YWT were keen to improve communication and had discussed this with YWT have agreed that going forward e-mail notifications would be sent out informing members of the group when major works/important/key things were happening on site.
 - IS suggested that YWT send a letter to out to the village apologising for the lack of communication
 - Group requested that a detailed weekly programme be provided; YWT and project manager advised that they would provide regular updates both via email and on notice boards as appropriate, especially key vehicle movements, deliveries and specific works on site to keep people informed of what is going on.

3. Conditions

- c) All the pre-commencement conditions have now been discharged, Cllr Tucker expressed concern that it is necessary to ensure that all these conditions need to be met and communication needs to be better
- d) Cllr Tucker raised the issue of the CEMP and IS raised concerns regarding the noise levels on site and said it was not within the required decibel level
- e) PM advised that noise measurements have been taken and they are in accordance with the decibel level in the CEMP
- f) IS raised concerns that work is being carried out outside the tide times specified in the CEMP
- g) Cllr Burton acknowledged that this is a sensitive site and that if complaints are made the Council would investigate, KA confirmed that there had been no complaints received at present.

4. Visitor Centre Construction Update

- h) Work has now commenced on site.
 - IS raised concerns regarding the volume of traffic and complained regarding the timing of the traffic and larger lorries moving though the village (particularly at school times) and the impact this may have on the village.
- i) **Considerate Contractors** – Have YWT registered for the Considerate Contractors Gold Award? PR (YWT project manager) advised this would be difficult and it's only an

aspiration. TS advised that YWT would like to reach this award and would do their best. It was pointed out that the Liaison Group was not a decision making body so it could not insist that this is done.

- There was some talk within the group as to whether YWT were actually complying with the Considerate Contractors Scheme.
- YWT advised that the project has already been registered with the scheme and is being overseen by YWT and Houlton project managers.
- PR felt that some communication about the project on social media is not constructive or helpful, and that if people moving through bushes to take pictures of the contractors was disturbing to both wildlife and contractors and potentially dangerous.
- Members of the liaison group were asked to take responsibility, through their networks, and discourage this kind of behaviour and to ensure that factual information about the project is disseminated.
- MS suggested that YWT download the Considerate Contractors checklist and go through it and publish the results.
- Considerate Contractors scheme advocates leaving a positive impact on the area and questions were asked as to whether it would be possible to utilise the contractors whilst they are on site? possibly escorted visits to the site so progress can be seen.

5. Use of the point buildings

- j) PJ asked again whether they could be turned into a hostel or B&B type accommodation.
- The mechanics of this would need to be explored, have YWT considered this?
 - The buildings will be handed back to YWT once the Humber Pilots had finished with them and TS acknowledged that the suggestions regarding the use of the point buildings are a good idea but consideration needs to be given to whether this is viable and safe and asked for views from community and business reps in the room.
 - Cllr Tucker raised concerns that if the point buildings were to be used as B&B or hostel accommodation that this could have a negative impact on other businesses and road access/safety.
 - AW felt that as a local B&B he would not consider accommodation at Spurn as competition as this would cater for a different audience.
 - RA agreed that additional accommodation at Spurn would be a positive thing.
 - There are lots of challenges surrounding the use of the point buildings and TS advised that they would possibly look into the feasibility regarding this.

6. Purpose of the scrape

- IS advised that controlling water levels at Kilnsea Wetlands was important (it is either too empty or too full)

7. Suggestions for joint working and enhancement in Spurn Area

- a) Visitor Access** - PJ raised again the question of access to the point and whether any research has been done into the costs and benefits of re-instating vehicular access and whether any of the 1.1 million coastal communities fund be used for this?
- TS advised that this had been discussed at the previous meeting and that is it not an economical or feasible option and YWT do not have the money to look at the re-instating the road. A paper has been circulated regarding access to the peninsula.
- b) Vehicular Access/Traffic** -
- Suggestions on how to improve access and wider tourism in the area, create a wildlife spectacle to enhance the tourism offer.
 - IS more parking is needed and there are existing areas that could possibly be used for this
 - Can the footpath along the road be extended (as it finishes at Grange Farm) to provide a safe path from the village to Kilnsea wetlands entrance. TS felt this would be a positive thing but that YWT does not control this land and is probably something for the councillors to pick up. Cllrs Burton and Tucker and TS to meet to explore options.
 - IS brought along a map of the area with several suggestions for ways to improve the area overall (such as new bird hides and paths) TS asked which of these were priorities.
 - IS advised that controlling water levels at Kilnsea Wetlands was important (it is either too empty or too full and a new hide would be valued.
 - DT - there may be some money from the gas companies, although there is a funding gap. YWT were positive about the ideas put forward and TS will look into which could be brought forward and what would be needed in terms of permissions and funding.
 - Group said the ideas do not go wide enough and are based just on SBOT and they need to be more wide ranging and possibly include things like wildlife/nature trails/art
 - It was stated on TV that the 1.1 million was for the visitor centre – YWT advised that not just for Spurn Discovery Centre and the funding is spread across the whole of the coast and not just for the centre.

8. Any Other Business

None

9. Dates of next meetings

20th July 2017 – Further meeting dates to be discussed at the next meeting.