

Meeting of the Management Team

Maldon & Blackwater Estuary Coastal Community Team

Tuesday 13th March 2018 – Thistle Barge, Hythe Quay, Maldon

Meeting Notes

Present:

Cllr Lew Schnurr	LS	Heybridge Parish Council
Paul Jeffries	PJ	Top Sails - Meeting Chair
Nicky Spurr	NS	Essex County Council
Marion Gibson	MG	Maldon District Council
Anglene Crowley	AC	Maldon District Council
Anthony Sinclair	AS	Friends of Heybridge Pits

Apologies:

Cllr Penny Channer, Mike Sandison, Jack Elum

1. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

- No declarations made

2. Previous Minutes 10 October 2017

- Agreed

3. Blackwater Activities Leaflet

- AC circulated a draft proof of the Maldon and Blackwater leaflet that had been mocked up by Chris Voisey in Communications. The Group liked the leaflet but agreed that it was too wordy. It was felt that the content needed to be cut down and interspersed with more pictures. AC invited the group to send any pictures that they have. Chris has offered to work on the leaflet, an offer accepted by the group. It was felt that the leaflet ought to maintain the distinction between the days and that perhaps each day ought to be differentiated with a different colour background. NS suggested that we ought to add CCT contact details. PJ added that there may be a second leaflet covering cycling and kid's activities. The leaflet also needs to have the message that this is a leaflet promoting local knowledge of days out.
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- AC to circulate next draft as soon as it's ready.

ACTION:AC

4. Apprenticeship Scheme

- PJ updated the group that AC has prepared a draft bid for £80k for an Operations Manager post to support the apprenticeship scheme for 2 years. He also said that with regard to the accompanying Lottery bid Jim and Lyndon at Downs boatyard have been encouraged to work up a larger scheme. AC told the group that the CCF application could be fastracked if spend

- could be made in 2018/2019. PJ agreed we could go for fastracking by 2 April as recruitment could be as soon as Sept/October 2018.
- Post title to be confirmed, an alternative of Apprenticeship Development Officer suggested in order to refer to the project.
- NS suggested comparing dates with the HLF bid when adding match funding. We should consider marketing and promotion.
- Salaries can be used as match.
- NS said that she thought cross Team working would be viewed favourably and suggested contacting Harwich and Leigh on Sea. AC added that Rochford and the Crouch CCT are also supportive.
- NS also suggested some contacts to speak to with regard to the bid. NS to pass to AC.

5. Essex Country Council CCF bid

- NS updated the group that a reinvigorated bid based on a previous round 4 bid is being submitted, focussing on promoting sustainable access of the coastal path. There will be signs at bus stops and train stations detailing access to the coastal path. The aim is to promote sustainable transport so the Dengie Dart may also feature. There may also be a 'Customer Services Apprenticeship' as Essex has not scored highly for good customer service in the past. Thirdly there is support for the theme of 350 miles of coast with 350 activities including a possible beer and wine route with a special train.
- Essex CC are also looking at a Coastal Warden Scheme to focus on cleaning up beaches.
- The group agreed to offer a letter of support if needed.

6. Lock Hill Proposal - Professor Lew Schnurr

- Prof LS outlined his concern over developing the garages and sheds to be found on the tow path at Lock Hill, Heybridge. He is seeking advice on the way forward. PJ said he thought there were already plans for a visitor centre further along the canal, but as yet there is no clear plan for the site. NS suggested getting a group of interested parties together to seek funding for a feasibility study and it may be worth approaching the British Canoe Union. Evidence will need to be shown to support what's needed.. CCF is not suitable as the fund does not include feasibility studies.
- AC to look into funding options.

7. Heybridge Lakes – Anthony Sinclair

- There is a planning application that has been called in by a Heybridge District Councillor as it is considered to not be offering appropriate development. .PJ stated that the CCT could support the promotion of the lakes as a tourism asset.
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