

Bawdsey Coastal Partnership / Committee Meeting

Held at Old Rectory, Alderton on 14/01/2019

Minutes

Present : Christopher Langley, Bill Vaudrey, Nick Crick, Andrew Block, Anne Page, Andy Rouse, Gavin Handford.

Appologies : Jenny Webb, Chris Ray, Brian Johnson.

1. Previous Minutes were reviewed, No points arising.

2. **Coastal Conditions review :**

(Martellos = W (at East Lane), X (Dismantled), Y (Holiday let), Z (Buckanay Farm), AA (at Shingle St.)

2.1 South of Martello W - The bay area up to 1st line of pine trees appears stable, but slippage and erosion of the cliff has taken place further south up to and beyond the EA1 drilling site. (AB)

2.2 East Lane north to Martello Y - More shingle has recently built at the N end, but the section in the middle where it was overtopped last winter is still a problem. The EA are intending to address this on 28/01/19 (NC)

2.3 Shingle St - The river mouth is volatile and constantly changing week by week. Shallows now extend along way out. Best revealed at low tide. (AP)

2.4 PGL frontage - The beach in front of PGL's piled section has both grown & retreated so far this winter.

2.5 Recent investigations by ENBE (Noel Beech & Alex Schofield) reported back on thickness, testing and seating of the steel piles. The intention for sections to the southern end of PGL frontage is to re-skin in front of existing piles and concrete fill behind, then rock revetment to protect along the base. This approach is less viable to the northern end where beach narrows to virtually nothing. They are also considering stabilisation of the Pulmanite cliffs above. PGL are currently doing EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment) & applying for licences etc. To ensure some protection for next winter, the proposed programme is for Piling 2019, Rock Revetment in 2020 and Pulmanite thereafter. Bill Parker has been on board throughout.

3.0 - PGL / General - Gavin will be away more over coming months on new PGL site in Surrey.
- Cox & Kings have recently sold PGL to Entrepreneurs in the Gardening Retail sector,
- PGL Bawdsey, 2019 bookings are good. (GH)

4.0 **Simon Read update** – Nick and Anne met recently at East Lane with Saltmarsh Expert Simon Read to gain his views on the areas suitability to accommodate Saltmarsh in the event of a Managed Retreat. SR is also active on the Deben Estuary Partnership. He showed astonishment at both the extent of the potential agricultural land loss at stake if the existing wall was breached, as well as the massive length of new wall needed for an MR solution, (particularly as the existing wall is still in pretty good condition). As both the area and costs involved here at Bawdsey appear higher than many if not most other cases being considered around our coast. In general, he appeared doubtful and undecided about its potential.

He also enquired what the views of local farmers were on the matter. NC to meet up and confirm. Although now the SMP review is underway the local Farming community will be formally approached for their views anyway.

5.0 **TV coverage** - Christopher Langley met with Didi Longe who is a consultant on the BBC's advisory board to review subject material for new programmes on rural topics. They are prepared to make a pitch on the Bawdsey Coastal issue at their next quarterly Meeting in Feb. NC to provide them supporting material.

6.0 **AGM** is planned for 23/02/19 at Alderton Village Hall. Guest Speaker is Cllr Andy Smith. Anne Page has sent out poster ads to all. Everyone to bring large coffee jugs / percolators.

7.0 Action - Need to chase Sharon Bleese for a copy of any Minutes arising from the East Lane Coast walk meeting with SCDC etc on 12/12/19.

8.0 CL proposed an Exhibition and Sale of Beachcomber debris & findings, as a summer fundraising event for BCP. Date & Location TBC.

9.0 Date of next Committee Meeting is Mon 18/02/2019 just before the AGM.

End of Mtg.

Andy Rouse