

Notes from Coastal Forum Recreational Sub Group meeting

Scarborough Spa – 15th February 2006

Present ;

Les Atkinson, Ramblers Association
Peter Crooks, Royal Yachting Association
Allan Patmore, Coastal Forum chairman
Bill Breakell, North York Moors NP Tourism & Transport Officer
David Smith, North York Moors NP Ranger
Stewart Rowe, Scarborough BC coastal engineers & Forum officer
Malcolm Hodgson, Cleveland & Wolds Way Officer
John Beech, Coastal Projects Officer, N.Yorks. & Cleveland

Apologies ;

Jean Tallantire, Coastal Forum member
Jill Renney, North York Moors NP information service
Alan Staniforth, Cleveland Way assistant
Bernie McLinden, North York Moors NP Ranger

Rationale

JB explained the reasoning behind the group and stated that the group would be concentrating primarily on open access on the coast, ready in time for new legislation which is due to be discussed nationally in October 2006. The group would be the formal consultative group for the North Yorkshire & Cleveland coastline.

Chairing the meetings

Agreed that a figurehead for the group needed to be decided upon, ideally not an officer of a local authority. Support with arranging meetings & subsequent notes etc. will be available from officers.

JB agreed to be chair for the first two meetings, then it would need to be passed to another member of the group.

Membership of the Group

Agreed that invitations to join the group should be sent to YHA, Redcar & Cleveland BC, Mel Cunningham (NT), Sport England – David Gents, Sea Anglers Group, Local Tourism Partnership. PC noted that he would mention this to David Gents this week.

Group Topics & Updates

Open Access – Natural England (NE, formed from English Nature, Countryside Agency and DEFRA's Rural Development Service (RDS)) are currently working on development of coastal access and 4 target areas have been decided upon. Paper MH circulated is attached to the notes. LA updated on information he had received from Ramblers Association. MH to organise a speaker on open access from NE at the next full forum in September.

Interpretation – MH circulated copies of 5 new panels to be installed on the coast through the Nortrail (EU funded coastal footpath project) scheme. Also a report on condition of other coastal panels was circulated. Work on the Nortrail website is ongoing as another form of coastal interpretation. Agreed that Alan Staniforth be approached to give an update on interpretation at the next full Forum meeting in September.

Tourism- BB gave an update on current tourism trends and the formation of Area Tourism Partnerships. The Moors & Coast ATP will be launched on 1st April and will be a joint public/private sector venture to reduce duplication of brochures/ effort etc. PC noted that recognition has recently been given to Filey Sailing Club/ regatta in terms of visitor numbers in Filey.

Coastal Forum strategy & actions

A spreadsheet was circulated to the group on the priorities set out in the Forum strategy for the Forum members to act upon & give feedback. Agreed that the recreation group needed more time on this exercise to complete the recreational aspects of the strategy and the spreadsheet would be circulated with the notes of the meeting.

Feedback to Full forum

Agreed that the group would feedback to the full Forum on recreational matters at the next meeting.

Date of next meeting - Monday 12th June 2006 2pm at the Spa, Scarborough