



Peninsula Community Forum Minutes

Venue: Birdham Village Hall

Time & Date: 6 March 2017

Attendance and apologies in *italics*

Selsey	Carol Purnell Glenda Baum
Birdham	Laurie Pocock Timothy Firmston Elizabeth Hamilton
Sidlesham	<i>Paul Bedford</i> Corina Hall
East Wittering & Bracklesham	Joe O'Sullivan
West Wittering	Graeme Barrett Bill Buckland, Richard Shrubbs
West Itchenor	Jim Dunn
Earnley	Keith Martin Chris Charter
Apuldram	
Donnington	Heather McDougall Margaret Evans
Hunston	
North Mundham	Denia Turnbull
Speakers	Sue Crabtree - CDC Communities and Wellbeing Dr Jorge Gutic
CDC representation	Jenny Jones Steve Hansford

2.	Introductions and Election of Chairman	Action
	Laurie Pocock was elected Chair and welcomed the group to Birdham village hall. He explained that some Councillors are involved in an emergency meeting at County Hall but would endeavour to make this meeting at some point. He introduced the first speaker – Sue Crabtree	

<p>3.</p>	<p>Pre-Diabetes a Health Warning – Sue Crabtree</p> <p>“Pre-Diabetes is an early warning sign detected by abnormally high blood glucose (sugar) levels. If undiagnosed or untreated, people with prediabetes are up to 15 times more likely to develop type 2 Diabetes. Once you develop Diabetes you have it for life.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diabetes can cause serious long-term health problems if it is not managed carefully. Diabetes is currently costing the NHS 1 million a minute to treat patients with these problems. • The good news is that pre-diabetes is reversible if you act now. • Making simple changes to your diet and exercising can have a huge impact on reducing the risk of developing type 2 diabetes. Prevention is better cure. • Walk every day for 30 minutes. Don't have time? Break it down to 10 minutes, three times a day. If you cannot walk for ten minutes due to pain or other reasons then build it up slowly. But keep moving. If you don't use it, you lose it. • Reduce alcohol and sugary laden foods. Keep it to a treat twice a week. Pile your plates with vegetables and eat fruit. Again, not too much fruit or fruit juice. The fruit can play havoc with sending your blood sugar levels sky high. Keep fruit to 3 portions a day (fill up on veggies and soups if you are feeling peckish). Fruit juice should be replaced with water, tea or coffee. And watch your portion sizes and ensure your plate is loaded with a colour of vegetables.” <p>Sue ended by saying If the group would like more information or help with diet and exercise please call the Wellbeing team on 01243 521 041.</p>	
<p>4.</p>	<p>STOMP – Dr. Jorge Gutic, senior lecturer in tourism, University of Chichester</p> <p>Project summary and objectives of Sustainable Tourism On Manhood Peninsula</p> <p>The aim of STOMP is to develop a Destination Management Plan for the Manhood Peninsula region and supporting the formation of a Tourism Management Partnership for the region, resulting in a strengthening of the rural tourism offer across the area. The project will assess the current offer, evaluating the existing supply chain and identifying gaps and opportunities for local businesses across the sector. Stakeholder and business engagement events will be organised to support collaboration and new business entry to the sector, also supporting the formation of the Manhood Peninsula Tourism Management Partnership. The project will be conducted over a 12 month period between December 2016 and December 2017.</p> <p>The project seeks to establish a sustainable rural tourism offer that supports an increase in visitor numbers and visitor spend through an extension of the tourist season, increasing awareness and promotion of attractions and amenities to keep visitors on the Peninsula, converting day visitors to overnight visitors. This will be achieved through working alongside existing tourism businesses (including accommodation, cafes/ restaurants, visitor attractions and local sites), identifying opportunities for new entrants and collaboration across the sector.</p> <p>The objectives of the project are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examine the current rural tourism offer available on the Peninsula • Evaluate the current value chain supporting rural tourism in the region. • Assess business readiness for activity within a sustainable supply chain. • Identify opportunities for business development and develop a plan 	

- Promote business capacity building and networking opportunities
- Identify and map inter-DMP tourism strands across the C2C region
- Set up a Manhood Tourism Partnership that will act as a Destination Management Organisation
- Develop an updated Destination Management Plan for the Manhood Peninsula

Description and operationalisation of Work Packages

To meet the project aim, a number of specific activities will be implemented by the University of Chichester (UoC) and supported by other project partners, including Chichester District Council (CDC), Chichester Harbour Conservancy (CHC) and Visit Chichester (VC). The project is also supported by a number of interested stakeholders including the RSPB, Arun District Council and the Manhood Peninsula Partnership.

The beneficiaries of the project will be SME and mostly micro businesses already operating within the rural tourism sector on the Peninsula. Businesses will benefit from the knowledge generated around capacity gaps and required business support through the development of a DMP that aims to achieve increased visitor spend, an extended visitor season, and conversion of day visitors to overnight visitors. Additionally, STOMP will identify opportunities to promote sustainable tourism opportunities around the autumn and winter tourism season e.g. promoting tourism around birds and wildlife experiences on Pagham Harbour and Chichester Harbour.

Finally, the project will produce and support the promotion of an updated Manhood Peninsula DMP. Crucially, the DMP development will be driven by local stakeholders, tourism organisations and businesses and through engagement with local communities, with the aim of creating a sense of ownership and momentum to carry the actions forward.

Two of the main STOMP's outcomes are to produce and promote an updated DMP, and to achieve the formation of the Manhood Tourism Partnership. As the development of the DMP would have been driven by local stakeholders, tourism organisations and businesses during the project's engagement with local communities, many of whom are expected to go on to constitute the Manhood Tourism Partnership, this will stimulate ownership of the DMP by the Partnership and will provide the interest and initiative on the different members of the Partnership to implement the necessary actions identified by the DMP.

In terms of managing this output, all project partners will be provided with a detailed list of expected project outputs and deliverables that will be used to monitor activity and to identify any challenges or bottlenecks in terms of project delivery.

Business engagement and creation of new business relationships will be monitored through the data collection process and through planned networking and training events - for example, a list of all attendees at events will be collected to use as an indicator of engagement with the sector.

Additionally, businesses will be asked to take part in a short evaluation process to allow the project team to assess their success and the value of the project and its outputs to the rural tourism sector on the Peninsula.

In those development areas that link and feed into the wider work being done by other organisations (typically those working more locally across the Chichester District, but also other DMP teams and projects operating across the CtoC LEP region) around strengthening tourism and developing initiatives to grow the sector into the wider visitor economy within the surrounding area, STOMP will identify and align with the

	<p>common areas of activity that it has with these organisations in order to a) compare and contrast approaches to projects with a view to achieving best practice, and b) in those cases where synergies or economies of scales are identified that make these viable and practical, will identify coordination opportunities that link the project area with the actions of other CtoC organisations and surrounding LEPs in terms of coordinating the promotion, development and support of specific inter-DMP tourism strands. It is expected that some of these common strands will include the promotion and marketing of linkages around food & drink tourism, farming / rural life, and an active tourism offer focused around walking and cycling opportunities.</p> <p>Jorge Said that Jane Cunningham is happy to act as the nucleus for this project (jcunningham@chichester.gov.uk) and that they are working with Selsey Town Council, Chichester District Council and with Manhood Peninsula Partnership</p> <p>Questions:</p> <p>GB added that there were at least 2 organisations which could help, Chichester Harbour Conservancy and the Chichester Canal Society, so contacts could be sent on if required. Jorge thanked him but stated that he was more interested in the smaller commercial businesses. It was suggested that a data sheet with all the information required by the parish councils would be the best way to capture exactly their requirements.</p> <p>A question was raised with regard to the amount of funding from DEFRA and the fact that infrastructure to the Peninsula was more of a priority.</p> <p>Jorge replied that: Re the DEFRA funding – one of the conditions DEFRA put on this project was that the funding should go towards this project and not towards anything else to do with highways etc. He is aware of the traffic concerns but the plan is to reflect community views and needs. His vision is more to do with the smaller groups.</p> <p>CP added that what Jorge’s group intend to do is create a destination management plan and within this plan it will show what the bottlenecks etc are and will be for destination management group to take the plan and show as evidence. This information all helps.</p> <p>Jorge added that one of the results they hope to show is all about getting people out of their cars.</p> <p>LP asked whether they would be looking at the size of the economy as it exists now and review. CP stated that they already have a destination management plan which was developed by the Manhood Peninsula Partnership and is now out of date. That is where those figures are shown. LP said that if those figures need reviewing then that is what should be done first.</p> <p>Jorge said he would like a brand created from this project which visitors could recognise.</p> <p>Re- Rural Tourism, which is being funded by the DEFRA, does Jorge think that farmers could contribute by e.g. Bed and Breakfast or farm based activities where people could live the life on a farm for their holidays? Jorge said that this is a good thing as well as purchasing local farm produce. This will go towards a brand identity.</p> <p>East Wittering has had holiday camps being turned into housing estates. Hopefully this message will be put into the work he is doing.</p> <p>The group thanked Jorge for his presentation and hoped he would return with his findings.</p>	
5.	SWish – Robert Carey	
	<p>Robert began by explaining that SWish stand for Surface Water Issues and Solutions which was formed by Paul Bedford the Chair of SWish but cannot attend tonight due to illness. Swish is also a subgroup of the Manhood Peninsula Partnership.</p> <p>Going through the issues he explained where the parish councils could take a role in this as they can help to compliment SWish’s work.</p> <p>Currently there are flood groups from Birdham, Earnley, Sidlesham, Selsey, Itchenor, West Wittering and hopefully soon East Wittering and Bracklesham.</p> <p>They have had 3 meetings so far with reps from the WSCC being the lead local flood authority, CDC, The EA, Southern Water and the Heritage group and their overall aim is to provide a unified system of land drainage management across the whole of the Peninsula, taking into account the resources available to maximise the level of</p>	

protection from flood risk for all the communities.

Issues over the last few years began with the floods in June 2012. Problems include:

- Coastal erosion
- Sewer inundation
- Poorly maintained water courses.

An issue exists with the distinction between ordinary water courses and main rivers. One of their issues is to try and enforce by ways of education etc and try to encourage and ultimately enforce the landowner obligation to maintain their own water courses, whether they are a farmer or householder.

There are limited financial resources for this, even though WSCC have been forthcoming with the Operation Watershed funding, and it will be for another year. He added that whilst it is quite significant funding, it is not enough to cover all the future work.

Another issue coming up very soon is the abolition of internal drainage district which covers a large part of the Southern Manhood from April.

The work Swish has done includes:

- Raising money from operation watershed and from EA to put in place new flood defences.
- Improved ditches and put in larger culverts also putting in new ditches and waterways
- Been very pro-active in raising awareness with leaflet drops etc.
- Started mapping the parishes – West Itchenor have done a lot of work on this with experts to help them.
- Worked with the Manhood Wildlife Heritage group particularly with their project FLOW which is a lottery funded project.
- Worked with the West Sussex Flood Group Forum, which is sponsored and facilitated by the National Flood Forum.
- Involved with commenting on planning issues where there is an issue of flood risk
- Helped to create the Manhood surface water management plan which was facilitated and sponsored by WSCC. A crucial document which holds people accountable in making sure works are being done and improvements made.

Future Challenges – it is crucial that the ongoing maintenance of water courses is done. Also to deal with the issues of sewer inundation.

To help funding Operation Watershed will match fund, but also Parish Councils are part of government and are a recognised authority and would have a formal input into the planning process - important when it comes to flood risk.

Parish Councils have some financial influence – precept plus PC's could also tap into developer contributions. They are more tax efficient as they can reduce a bill by 20% whereas flood groups have to pay the VAT costs.

Also the work of flood groups could be publicised within the Parish newsletters and distribute the responsibilities of riparian owners could be reached this way.

Robert asked the group if they could work together under these proposals:

1. Flood groups report to and abide by PC's and PC's could approve the work of flood groups – already being done with some PC's.
2. PC's consider being the first port of call in the enforcement process of the riparian owner. The PC issues the first letter. This could then move up to the District Council and then County Council, if no response comes from the owner.
3. PC's to earmark and build up funds and to share maintenance in particular e.g. a ditch which no one owns.
4. PC's can publicise the work of flood groups on their websites and in their newsletters.

Questions:

CP the EA have permissive powers not a duty. Robert said they have now got funding for another 5 years.

Earnley PC took out a low interest rate loan so that they could provide some match funding to operation watershed and the EA. This enabled Earnley to take forward a £500k project.

	CP complimented Robert on his work and also reminded the forum that it is the work of the Manhood Peninsula Forum which is behind this work.	
6.	Minutes of Previous Meeting	
	Were approved and seconded.	
7.	AOB, Future Meetings, Topics and next Venue for March	
	<p>LP asked that CP or GB explain the meeting which took place at County Hall referring to the A27.</p> <p>GB explained that the Minister has withdrawn the funding for reasons stated. Louise Goldsmith wanted to set up workshops which are made up of the Stake holders in the areas to get them to come up with ideas in order to move this forward.</p> <p>CP read out the letter from Louise setting out the Art of the Possible. She wanted all to agree – no recriminations – the whole community uniting to work together for the best solution for Chichester District. Next steps will be a formal campaign with workshops.</p> <p>More discussion took place on this meeting, including the possibility of bringing a consultant in. A plan needs to be set in place for Andrew Tyrie to fight for the funding and the RIS.</p> <p>Suggestions for future Topics included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A representative on the issues of Social Care Transformation • Speaker from Sussex Police • Presentation from FLOW – Jane Reeve • Presentation from Chichester Harbour Conservancy – Richard Craven • Presentation from Medmerry • Operation Watershed – Sue Furlong <p>Presenters to be confirmed by GB.</p> <p>Venues for future meetings: Monday 5 June – West Wittering Monday 4 September – Sidlesham Monday 4 December - Selsey</p> <p>Next meeting:5 June</p>	