



EAST OF ENGLAND CIVIC & AMENITY SOCIETIES

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING

October 10th 2014 at 10.30am at Wandlebury Country Park, Cambridge

Present: Jennifer Lawler, Terry Betts, Mary Ash, Peter Landshoff (Chair), Catherine Bailey, (Secretary).

1. **Apologies:** Carolin Göhler, Andrew Sangster, Peter Lee

2. **Minutes of last meeting** - accepted

3. **Matters arising**

- The next **Regional Chairs meeting** is in November 2014
- **NHPP2** – Simplification of language needed.
- **The Marque:** a review has been set up by new Labour administration
- **Landbeach Barn:** a trust is to be set up
- **Historic Environment Forum:** solar farm applications are fewer but bigger
- **English heritage** – nothing to report at our meeting but since then Government approval for the separation of English Heritage into two organisations has been confirmed. You can find details of this [here](#).
- There is a suggestion that the original Garden Cities should be considered for World Heritage Site status.

4. **Chairman's Report**

- **'Power to change'** – Proposed new £150 million fund endowed by the Big Lottery Fund that will support community-led enterprise across England. Due to open in 2015. <http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/powertochange>
- **Heritage Enterprise Fund** – Heritage Enterprise supports enterprising community organisations across the UK to rescue neglected historic buildings and sites and unlock their economic potential. Priority for deprived areas <http://www.hlf.org.uk/looking-funding/our-grant-programmes/heritage-enterprise>
- **Townscape Heritage Fund:** The Townscape Heritage programme helps communities regenerate deprived towns and cities across the UK by improving their built historic environment. Grants range from £100,000 to £2million. Can include areas of public realm. Applies to schemes in Conservation Areas. <http://www-tmp.hlf.org.uk/looking-funding/our-grant-programmes/townscape-heritage>
- **Landscape Partnership Programme** – Landscape Partnership schemes put heritage conservation at the heart of rural and peri-urban regeneration. Local, regional and national organisations work by conserving habitats at a landscape-scale. The scheme focusses on nine key outcomes. <http://www.hlf.org.uk/looking-funding/our-grant-programmes/landscape-partnerships>
- **Big Lottery Fund**– <http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/> Focus on communities, welfare and deprivation.
- **Farrell Review** – now an update on the web. The issue of VAT for works on old buildings is discussed.

- **National Trust** – new national strategy planned. Holding international conference in June next year in Cambridge.
- **Local Government** – ongoing concern on finance for local government beyond 2016.
- **Heritage Open Days** – English Heritage support ending.

5. **Forums:**

- **East of England Environment Forum (EEEF):** now meets annually. National Character Area (NCA) profiles discussed <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-character-area-profiles-data-for-local-decision-making/national-character-area-profiles>. Landscape East webpages also host details of regional landscape types <http://landscape-east.org.uk/east-england-landscape-typology>. Environment Agency is consulting on River Basin Management Plans (inc. agricultural impact on water supply leading to farmers dogging their own reservoirs) and Flood Risk Management plans.
- **Hertfordshire Local Nature Partnership (LNP)** has inventoried habitats and modelled the potential for enhancing the ecological network
- **Regional Biodiversity Forum** – active
- **Regional Landscape Forum** – virtual
- **Forestry Commission** – focus on tree diseases

6. **Finances** – nothing to report

7. **Civic Voice Seminar** now scheduled for November 1st in Peterborough. Free, open to everyone. Civic Voice says it is the first of proposed four meetings per region. Please advertise to your members. Signing-up details to be confirmed.
Action: **Peter**

8. **Any other business** – The effect of superstores on Hertford described by Terry. Norwich Society City Centre Strategy is being developed and should be on their website shortly.

9. **Date of next meeting: Friday January 16th 2015 at 10.30am at Wandlebury Country Park**