



EAST OF ENGLAND CIVIC & AMENITY SOCIETIES

COMMITTEE MEETING

Friday 9th December 2011 - 10:30 am

Held at the CambridgePPF Office, Wandlebury Country Park, Cambridge

Minutes

- 1 Present:** Terry Betts, Alec Hartley, Peter Landshoff (chair), Carolin Gohler
Apologies – Andrew Sangster, Sue Sollihob
 - 2 Notes of the last meeting – 14th September 2011**
approved
 - 3 Matters arising**
as per below
 - 4 Chairman's Report**
 - Quality of historic environment and green infrastructures and their value needs to be ongoingly strengthened in relation to economic issues.
 - Transport issues noted, and ideas of toll road for A14 through East Anglia
 - Hertford Civic Society – add to regional list
 - Civic Voice AGM – very interesting and useful event and welcome increased engagement of CV on various platforms (such as campaigning on NPPF); additional benefits liked (free entry to NT and EH sites at least until April 2012); ANTAS reports good wider meeting in their area (North of London) and welcomed talk by Tony Burton
 - 5 Forums**
 - a) East of England Environment Forum (EEEEF) – 14th September 2011**
 - Broads Authority (not part of EEEF?) now coordinating efforts better in relation to public right of way network and saving expenditure; in other areas Rights of Way officers being lost; many permissive paths now being lost due to abolition of UK subsidies to agri-environment schemes on farms; more changes expected as councils are hugely contracting in staffing and expendable budgets
 - Marine environment now more protected but not as much as needed – see [Marine Conservation Zones](#)
 - Water shortage now a real issue
 - Update on [Local Nature Partnerships](#) made – still areas unclear and awaiting confirmation from Government in late spring
 - Forestry Commission has issued new management guidelines – very good and detailed documentation ([UK Forestry Standard](#) and supporting ones – for web links click on page 109)
 - b) Historic Environment Forum(HEF) – 6th September 2011**
 - NPPF – letters to MPs signed by chair of EECAS and regional directors of NT and CPRE produced 12 responses; NT and CPRE nationally keeping up the pressure; further consultation may happen but nobody is sure
- Following its recent consultation the Heritage Lottery Fund is developing a strategic plan and new items are progressively being put on its web site – includes more schemes and funding thresholds per project are changing; Catalyst scheme which matches philanthropic funding (e.g. [The Big Give](#)); applications being encouraged for WWI commemoration in anticipation of centenary of 2014 (a learning element is necessary); also [East Anglia Film Archive](#) now has over 200 hours of free film (based Norwich in association with UEA)

- [Penfold Report](#) – supposed to reduce red tape as certain conservation area consents are being removed; morale of conservation professionals is low as many cuts made
- Heritage Counts ([national report](#) & [regional report](#)) published; note all updated to include Big Society aspects
- [Heritage at Risk](#) – also updated

6 Financial report - Terry Betts

No change at present £750 – CG to establish CambridgePPF's secretarial expenditures for 2011/12 in time for next meeting.

7 Workshop – Cambridge 21st April 2012

- English Heritage has funding to be used by the end of the financial year for a meeting to relate Heritage Counts to the Big Society.
- EECAS' own event to be postponed to autumn 2012
- Civic Voice to be updated on change of dates and nature of event
- Autumn event – need to do early invite Griff Rhys Jones/ Civic Voice

8 Newsletter

Next deadline for articles – 15 January 2012

- Re-introducing small boats onto River Wensum (Norwich)
- EH etc seminar/ conference on Big Society
- Additional call for articles in early January
- Update on planning matters / regional matters

Agreed to use on-line e-newsletter system to ease management of recipients lists etc.

9 Website

- Recently updated by Peter.

10 Any other business

Norwich - Boat introduction on River Wensum – partnership working including EU funding for HUBS (Heritage Urban Bridging Strategy), Land Trust may taken on green spaces but funding required, riverside walkway now submitted planning application

11 Date of next meeting

- 7 March 2012 @ 10:30am @ Wandlebury Country Park
- Seminar – updates of programme and themes via e-mail

Items for next meeting

- Cost of secretarial support by CambridgePPF