

Heritage Asset Review Group

Notes of Meeting held on Thursday 2 April 2015 starting at 11.30 pm.

Present:

Mike Barnard
Jacquie Burgess
Colin Gould
Peter Warner

In attendance:

Ben Hogg – Historic Environment Manager
Simon Hooton – Head of Strategy and Projects
Prue Smith – Consultant on Cultural Heritage
Andrea Long – Director of Planning and Resources
Will Burchnall – Project Manager
Kayleigh Wood – Planning Officer
Sandra Beckett – Administrative Officer

16/1 Apologies for absence and welcome

16/1 Apologies for absence were received from Murray Gray and Julie Brociek-
(a) Coulton.

16/1 Appointment of Chairman

(b)

In light of Murray Gray's absence and the previous Vice-Chairman of the Group no longer being a member, the Director of Planning and Resources invited nominations for Chairman for the meeting.

Jacquie Burgess proposed, seconded by Mike Barnard, the appointment of Colin Gould as Chairman for this meeting.

Colin Gould in the Chair

16/2 To receive the note of the fifteenth meeting held on 7 November 2014

The Note of the fifteenth meeting of HARG held on 7 November 2014 was received as a correct record.

16/3 Points of Information arising from the last meeting

There were no further points of information arising from the last meeting other than those to be discussed within the agenda.

16/4 Conservation Area Re-Appraisals

Progress was reported on the following Conservation Areas.

(1) Oulton Broad Conservation Area Re-Appraisal

The Group noted that the Oulton Broad Conservation Area re-appraisal had been the subject of a second consultation particularly with those in the new part of the Conservation Area. A meeting of the Oulton Broad Community Enterprise group had been held to discuss the matter and Waveney Councillors Mike Barnard and Colin Law had been in attendance. The meeting had confirmed that they were content with the new boundary. It was hoped to take a report to the Planning Committee in May recommending its adoption.

(2) Halvergate Marshes Conservation Area –Re-Appraisal adoption.

A report had been submitted to the Planning Committee in February 2015 and the Halvergate Marshes Conservation Area re-appraisal had been formally adopted by the Authority.

(3) Stalham Staithe Conservation Area Re-Appraisal

A bid had been submitted to the Authority's Project Development Group for a rapid assessment to be undertaken of the Stalham Staithe Conservation Area within the Authority's boundary. Prue Smith had undertaken a draft reappraisal. This was a very coherent area with redevelopment having followed historical development as far as possible. However, the north western area of the Conservation Area did not wholly appear to conform to the criteria for designation. As the area came partly within the jurisdiction of North Norfolk District, discussions had been held with the appropriate officers who were satisfied with the approach the Authority's officers were taking.

It was intended that a Draft Conservation Area Re-appraisal would be prepared for the next HARG meeting and if available sooner would go straight to the Planning Committee meeting for approval for consultation.

(4) West Somerton Conservation Area Re-Appraisal

Preliminary work had been undertaken and given that there were two conservation areas - East and West Somerton, it was proposed to discuss any proposals with the Parish Council and officers from Great Yarmouth Borough Council.

16/5 Heritage at Risk

Buildings at Risk Schedule 2015

The Group received the updated Schedules relating to the Buildings At Risk Survey as well as the Schedule relating to current and potential Enforcement issues.

The Group noted that following HARG agreement, appropriate follow up action had been undertaken to try and further progress on several of the buildings which had been on the list for some time. The Group was pleased that progress had been made in respect of Manor Farm, Oby.

It was noted that at least two of the Mills at risk within the schedule were to be included within the Landscape Partnership Scheme bid. However, a total of 20 had been identified for inclusion. It was hoped that following agreement with Eastern and Ottery College being part of the partnership scheme and heritage skills being embedded in their curriculum, maintenance of those mills would continue and therefore by 2022 some would be taken off the At Risk register.

It was noted that being pragmatic and realistic, several mills would be left as ruins within the landscape, although it was hoped that steps would be taken to prevent further decay.

The Historic Environment Manager confirmed that the Authority's officers liaised closely with the relevant Building Control officers where necessary.

The Group noted the progress being made and the sensitivities involved.

It was agreed that photographs would be available for the Group at the next meeting as Aide-Memoires.

16/6 The Local List for the Broads

Further to Note 13/5, 14/5 and 15/5 Kayleigh Wood (Planning Officer) introduced her report on the responses received from the consultation exercise relating to the 58 Waterside Chalets recommended for inclusion on the Local List. The work had been undertaken as part of her Masters degree, the dissertation for which had now been submitted. The Group noted that the work identified in November had been completed.

The Planning Officer provided the Group with photographs and survey sheets of all the 58 chalets. She drew attention to those properties which had indicated they were not in favour of being included on the Local List for reasons of protection of privacy and/or potential additional protection considered to be unnecessary. The Group was sympathetic and sensitive to the concerns but considered that the properties should be included within the Local List as they met the criteria for doing so and were in accordance with the NPPF. All of those identified had been checked to insure that they were in line with Government Guidance and this was a continuing process.

Members noted that the consultation and survey process for those properties identified had been asked for their views on the plaque. Although the response rate had been low, English Heritage was in favour of such a scheme. It was agreed that that such a plaque to acknowledge that the asset is locally listed be offered as an option to owners at the time letters of notification of inclusion on the Local List are sent. Officers suggested that

such a scheme be explored further with the Authority's Project Development Group.

The Group acknowledged the concerns relating to the amount of information available and the sensitivities involved about privacy being compromised, particularly from those who had not wished their properties to be included. They therefore agreed that only limited information be made available as part of the listing on the Authority's website. This would include only the parish together perhaps with a synopsis of significance but without the full detailed survey sheets and photographs. In addition an informative be included which highlighted that these were private properties in private ownership and not open for public viewing. It was agreed that the owners of the properties not in favour be treated sensitively and specifically informed that their properties would be included but that their concerns were acknowledged.

The Group considered that the work undertaken was an exceedingly valuable and significant contribution to understanding the Broads landscape. They congratulated the Planning Officer on the excellent work and wished her well.

It was agreed that the consultation responses be noted and a report be prepared for the Planning Committee to

RECOMMEND that :

- (i) All 58 waterside chalets recommended for inclusion on the Broads Local List be put forward for formal adoption and the owners notified.
- (ii) The amount of information to be made available on the Authority's website be limited to a list of properties with only the parish and perhaps a brief synopsis of significance and the additional information be available to officers only. The owners to be notified.
- (iii) Options for a formal recognition of inclusion on the Local List i.e. a plaque scheme be agreed and that the plaque scheme is explored further through the Project Development Group and that it is optional for owners. The owners to be notified.
- (iv) A further report is brought to Members regarding those chalets considered suitable for inclusion on the National List following further survey and assessment work.

16/7 Water, Mills and Marshes: The Broads Landscape Partnership Bid

Will Burchnall, the Project Manager provided the group with a presentation on the progress on the Authority's Heritage Lottery Funding bid (HLF) for The Broads Landscape Partnership titled Water, Mills and Marshes. The Bid was due to be submitted by 1 June 2015 and it was hoped to complete the submission by May 2015. A decision was expected in October 2015. It would then take 18 months to prepare the Development Phase in order to submit a second round application. Once HLF approval had been given it

was intended that the 5 year delivery phase would be from 2017/18 to 2022/23. It was expected that the project would be seeking funding of up to up to £2.6 million pounds from the HLF. .

The Project Manager provided the context for the project showing the project area which was some 200Km² with the map work being in progress. The bulk of the area covered the Halvergate Marshes and its surrounds in which were based a series of multiple projects (up to 38) with multiple partners (up to 50). It had been chosen for its unique cultural assets, some of which still needed to be explored including its archaeology, its biodiversity value and potential, having the greatest concentrations of standing drainage mills in Europe as well as being unique in demonstrating the evolution of drainage mill technology and the only Conservation Area at risk in the Broads .

The Project Manager explained the aims of the project and how it had been broken down under the following headings:

- Landscape Exploration - *encouraging people out into the landscape; improving physical access to and within the area;*
- The Historic Landscape – *protecting and enhancing heritage assets at risk; discovering greccording and protecting waterlogged archaeological assets;*
- Natural Landscapes – *creating and connecting habitat corridors to strengthen ecological networks; improving land and water management regimes to adapt to climate change and development pressures;*
- Landscape Interpretation – *increasing information and interpretative material about the area's history and special qualities;*
- Learning and Future Skills – *engaging with all ages, enabling heriage and cultural skills training*
- Community Grant Fund – *enabling community projects through a small grants programme.*

He explained each of these in more detail, commenting that one of the most exciting facets of the project related to Learning and Future Skills where there appeared to be tremendous potential with links being formed with organisations such as Colleges, NWT, RSPB, and the Time and Tide Museum.

The Group welcomed the presentation and considered that the project now provided a coherent framework and structure with a logical basis. They were impressed, fully supportive and congratulated the Project Manager and team on the progress.

16/8 Any Other Business

No further business.

16/9 Date of Next Meeting – July 2015

It was noted that the next meeting of the Heritage Asset Review Group would take place on Friday **24 July 2015** following the Planning Committee meeting.

The meeting concluded at 13.00 pm