

MINUTES OF GREENPRINT ENVIRONMENT FORUM

Monday 30 January 2006, 7.00pm

Council Chamber, Suffolk Coastal District Council

Present

Name	Representing	Name	Representing
Cllr Mary Dixon	SCDC	Joan Huxley	SWT Alde & Blythburgh
Phil Gore	Head of Health, SCDC	Frank Huxley	Leiston cum Sizewell TC
Fiona Patrick	SCDC	Judith Foord	Aldeburgh Society
Gillian & Tony Hughes	Felixstowe Society	Alan Clement	
R Dixon	Felixstowe Society	Guy Ackers	SWT
J Welsh	Green Living Society	John Coles	NFU
D Ardine	Yoxford Parish Council	John Forbes	Martlesham PC
S Haslam	Yoxford Parish Council	Diana Ball	Woodbridge TC
S Aylward	Suffolk Wildlife Trust	L Burrows	Martlesham PC
K Carr-Tansley	Benhall & Sternfield PC	K Webb	Walberswick PCC
Tony Pritchard	Suffolk Mothgroup	D Webb	Walberswick PCC
Colin Coates	Woodbridge RSPB		

Apologies

Several apologies received including: - Cllr Andrew Nunn, George Onuoha, Liz Mark and D Aufenast

1. Introductions

Cllr Mary Dixon welcomed everyone to the Greenprint Forum.

2. Forum Members update

Trimley Railway Track - Cllr Mary Dixon

Due to the possibility that dual railway track will be laid at Trimley a study of the wildlife is taking place and has shown lots of different species including slow worms and grass snakes.

Hedgerow Surveys - Guy Ackers

Approx. 3 new parishes have made enquiries since the last meeting.

Green Living Family Fun Days - John Welch

24th & 25th June 2006 - Chantry Park, Ipswich

All about sustainability - looking for companies to help support the event.

Further information and Leaflets available from Green Living Centre - 01473 718874

Ideas for Greenprint Forum - Phil Gore

We will soon be sending out a consultation questionnaire to all Greenprint Members to find out what topics the members would like the forum to cover.

3. Management of the Suffolk Wildlife Reserves at Captain's Wood, Dingle Marshes and Hen Reedbed - Steve Aylward, Reserve Manager, Suffolk Wildlife Trust (SWT).

Website: www.suffolknature.co.uk

Hen Reedbeds (near Southwold)

Hen Reedbeds was a poor quality reedbed, which SWT have worked on and turned into a new freshwater habitat not vulnerable to seawater. They have seen quick results and all species that they had hoped to attract have been achieved including Bitterns and Marsh Harriers. There is a public hide at the eastern end, which is well worth the walk. They have Konic horses that are very hardy and like the wetland environment. The Konics are there to create structures in the reed beds, which is the environment suited to the Bittern. In 2003 Hill Farm Marshes was purchased, an extension of 32 Acres.

Dingle Marshes - Walberswick/Dunwich

Run in partnership with RSPB & English Nature. Saline lagoons. The shingle ridge sea defence is in unfavourable condition and is unsustainable. If the shingle ridge is breached all freshwater species are severely affected, but as the habitat changes other species will benefit. Awaiting Environment Agency to make a decision concerning sea defences in this area.

Captains Wood

141 acres of open, airy woodland with a mixture of habitats. Wonderful veteran trees, ancient oaks and acres of bluebells. Maintenance of the area is helped by a herd of fallow deer. 6 acres of rhododendrons removed, re-establishing woodland cover planted with deer proof tree guards. Opens to public May 2006.

Discussions - on rhododendrons management, Walberswick sea defences and Bracken management.

4. The Suffolk Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) by Mary Norden, Suffolk Biodiversity Partnership.

UK Level BAP 1994, priority species and habitats. Translated at a local level, Local BAPS. Suffolk LBAP started in 1996, has 73 action plans with sensible/achievable targets that are timely and clearly state who is responsible for what. Full presentation is available upon request.

Mary Norden can be contacted on mary.norden@sbrc.globalnet.co.uk

Discussions included having an LBAP article in the Coastline, Suffolk Coastals Magazine and that it would be beneficial to do voice recordings capturing the wealth of information held by some local residents.

**Dates for next meetings - 24 April 2006, 24 July 2006, 30 October 2006
and 29 January 2007**