

Notes of the Northstowe/Longstanton Heritage Steering Group

29 April 2024

Held on TEAMS

Present

Dean Harris (Homes England)

Hilary Stroud (LDHS)

Jane Stoner (LDHS)

Ellen Cox (SCDC)

Quinton Carroll (CCC)

Emma Fitch (CCC)

Sally Croft (CCC)

Emma Bunbury (CCC)

Also Invited

Representatives for Longstanton Parish Council and Northstowe Town Council

1. Introductions

EF explained that the increased CCC presence was to ensure continuity should QC be off work again.

2. Purpose of Group and Membership

ToRs reviewed and agreed to amend to remove direct reference to the heritage facility but to keep ambitions for physical displays and exhibitions in alternative locations. (**ACTION QC**)

Meetings to held quarterly and set up in advance (**ACTION QC**)

Oakington PC to be approached to join the group (**ACTION QC**)

3. Summary of Heritage Facility

The land for the facility has been reinstated and returned to Homes England. CCC, HE and National Highways are keen to continue with an exhibition making use of the one already designed and prepared within this calendar year.

Reminder of S106 obligations for HE to LDHS for storage and display, and also of the MoU between CCC, LDHS and HE.

CCC are looking at possible storage options for LDHS as part of its own storage requirements.

HE reported the proposed community hub could have a heritage space from 2028.

Finance: there were remaining funds from the various grant schemes for the facility that could be used for further work. This was dependent on a viable proposal being agreed with the funders asap.

A statement on the Northstowe FAQs has been issued as follows (**ACTION EC/EF**):

“Up to the point of the main contractor going into administration, when unfortunately, the dedicated Heritage Centre project had to stop mid-build; all of the £570,000 National Highways Designated Funds grant and £173,007.93 of the £257,374.00 Homes England Section 106 (S106) Phase 3A monies had been used. Whilst this situation was outside of our control, by using the remaining grant

funding and S106 monies, the County Council intends to achieve the main aim of the Heritage Centre by pushing ahead with displaying archaeological finds for the benefit of the community. Finds from both Northstowe and the major upgrade to the A14 will be exhibited at alternative accessible venues to deliver an exhibition near the areas where the artefacts originated so everyone can view the exhibits and find out more about local history. A copy of the County Council's original press release setting out the way ahead for both the A14 & Northstowe archaeological finds is available here: [County Council agrees way ahead for A14 & Northstowe archaeological finds display - Cambridgeshire County Council.](#)"

4. Requirements of National Highways

A proposed exhibition using multiple venues in the area linked by a common thread that encourages people to travel around. Possible venues include schools, Bar Hill Library, Longstanton P&R, the Cabin, Sports Pavilion, Oakington Community Centre, Over Community Centre.

The location and content of each case to be reviewed with content creators and the importance of keeping the local communities involved was stressed.

A small 'Task & Finish' Group to be established, chaired by Sally Croft. Those present agreed to be corresponding members with Vidar Media and a few others participating. Possible options include use of AR/VR and a community officer support. **(ACTION SC to arrange)**.

Initial proposal by end May, implementation end of year. **(ACTION SC)**

5. Other Heritage Matters

Pillboxes: LBC obtained for 4 to be converted to bat roosts

Paddocks: now owned by HE and management plan to be implemented

ROC Survery: GPR has located a possible void in the location of the ROC bunker. Awaiting report.

LDHS AGM: solid information about next steps for exhibitions and storage to be made available before LDHS AGM later this year **(ACTION QC)**

Meeting Closed