

Report of the River Informal Working Group

Borough Council of Kings Lynn and West Norfolk

Regeneration and Development Panel

March 12th 2019

Brief give to the working party

- Investigate
- The future of the pontoons
- The Sail the Wash Project
- The Use of the Inland Waterways



Membership of the Informal Working Group

- **Councilors**

- Collingham
- Hipperson
- Howland
- Kunes
- Westrop (Chair)

- **Officers**

- Jemma Curtis
- Jason Richardson
- Martin Chisholm
- Rebecca Parker

Others involved

- Peter Harvey – Marine Consultant – Sail the Wash Project and advisor on marine opportunities to develop marine leisure tourism in the Wash
- Paul Separivuc Waterways Operation Manager Environment Agency
- Robbie Bell and Adrian Tebutt RYA – advising on water sport trends facilities and activities
- Captain Patrick Jary
- Bob Panrucker Kings Lynn Coastal Rowing Association
- Councillor Squire attended under Standing order 34 on occasion

Other activities

- Reviewed the Sail the Wash Report
- Looked at the data behind the bid
- Visited other sites in the Borough and reported back to the working party on the issues discovered
- Reviewed and interrogated data that has been collected re the experiences of visitors to the Pontoons
- Tested that against information received from people that came to the working group to give their views

Recommendations

- Develop Further the facilities at Kings Lynn Visitor pontoons
- Propose one of three options (option two preferred)
 1. Support the stage two application to the Coastal Community Fund
 2. Discuss with the Sea Cadets the use of facilities
 3. Provide a solution for waste disposal at Baker Lane

Recommendation

Sea Cadets Baker Lane ?

- Feedback about why the Pontoons are not an attractive destination – NO FACILITIES !!!
- Use of facilities in the Sea Cadet building = shower and toilet facilities in proximity to the pontoons become available
- Baker lane waste disposal possible with modification but not in proximity to the Pontoons
- Sea Cadets
- Option two is recommended

Recommendations

- The Council endorses the Vision and Objectives set out in the Sail the Wash initiative
- Endorse the recommendations set out in Development of Marine Leisure Activity in the Wash
- The Council continue to support and encourage further marine leisure activity on the river and the wash
- Support consideration to long term development of marine leisure activity at Boal Quay

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Stage 2 application what does it mean ?

- Extend the existing visitor pontoons to accommodate demand at peak times
- Install swing mooring to start the provision of permanent mooring facilities in Kings Lynn
- Improve mooring and anchorage in the Wash
- Employment of Marine Officer to deal with marketing meet and greet etc.

Recommendation slipway

- Council acknowledge the existing slipway is not fit for general marine purposes and therefore consider
- Installing a new slipway
- Relocate the existing slipway at Boal Quay
- Alternative appropriate location as part of the Nelson Quay redevelopment

Saddlebow

- The ability to attract water way users to Lynn – i.e. make Lynn a destination of choice
- Environment Agency can be supported to make improvements to the facilities available at Saddlebow
- Additional moorings
- WHICH WOULD
- Better utilise the existing footpaths and cycle links into Lynn from Saddlebow
- Provide opportunity for greater footfall of people coming in from that route particularly if marketed correctly

Other recommendations

- Relevant Portfolio Holder engage in initial discussions with ABP regarding the potential provision of lift and store facilities in Kings Lynn
- Officers engage with Environment Agency to monitor the effect of the Denver Visioning Statement on the development of the river

BUT.....

- CCF bid may not be successful and if this were so then we suggest the Regeneration and Development Panel consider reconvening the Informal working group to explore if there are any options

Lastly

- A thank you to all the staff who supported the working group and who put in a lot of hard work and produced a lot of information and data that enabled us to come up with the recommendations we have which we believe will
- “Improve the offer along the river and the facilitates available to develop Kings Lynn as a more attractive and accessible tourism destination for the marine leisure market