

Item 10: Agenda for BPC meeting 15.03.17

Background information to discussion at Council meeting on 15th March

BQVC UPDATE

Since our last meeting, the BQVC Working Group met on 7th February. Minutes of that meeting and a memorandum of the discussion have been circulated.

That meeting decided to write to Andrew Jarvis, Strategic Director at SCDC, to inform him of an outline interim proposal for use of the BQVC site which would involve modest expenditure and which was independent of the outcome of the sale of Bawdsey Manor. The purpose of the letter among other issues was to show that BCP was not giving up on the project and to seek an opportunity for a meeting to discuss future plans. A copy of that letter has been circulated to Councillors and WG members.

We recently received a reply which is attached.

You will note from the letter that SCDC is not at this time willing to discuss any development of the site until certainty of the Manor sale is known. It re-emphasises the necessity of an acceptable business plan. This latter point is reasonable but we pointed out in our letter that we were not putting forward a full blown plan; we were seeking an opportunity for a discussion.

There are however positive points in SCDC's letter. They would be supportive of developing the site for wildlife and educational uses using our funds but helping with staff resources. They would issue licences for BPC to run such uses. They would be willing to enter into further discussions when more information about the Manor sale is known. You could almost read into the letter that subject to a fundable business case they would (might?) discuss transfer of the site.

However,

In further thinking about general improvement to the landscape of the site, PW had an idea that a small defined project which did not involve on-going administration by the Parish might be a way ahead and has suggested refurbishment of the pond and surrounding planting might be considered:

This would maintain discussions /relations with SCDC. Laura Hack has responded enthusiastically to such a scheme and will speak with her colleagues. I can give more details on Wednesday including costings

With this background I think our main discussion on Wednesday should be on whether to look in more detail at an interim proposal such as described above.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

1. Coastal Revival Fund. It was reported in minutes of the last BPC meeting that this grant of £25,000.00 might be recalled by Government. It had been agreed that the

money could be transferred to the Radar Trust and therefore be retained in the Deben Peninsula area.

Of the £25,000.00 grant £5,129.65 was spent on Architects fees which was acceptable; the remainder to be returned. £13,300.00 which was allocated for windows has been repaid to SCDC. We have received a letter from SCDC (copy attached) requesting repayment of two amounts for rooflights and sanitary goods as and when we have sold these assets.

- 2 The Capital grant from SCDC has never been received because capital works have not been undertaken. The time limit for this grant expired at the end of February. I enquired about altering the object of the grant but was told that without submission of a full business case for a revised project SCDC would not consider any further extension. We are obviously not in a position to do this at a moment's notice.

WATER MAIN INSTALLATION

Authority to proceed with this has been confirmed by SCDC and work will be starting on 27th march.

SEWAGE INSTALLATION

No instructions have been received from SCDC about continuing with a sewage installation. At a meeting on site with Laura Hack it seemed that she was not aware of this issue. She is looking into it.