



## NORFOLK COAST PARTNERSHIP

PROTECTING AN AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY

# The Norfolk Coast needs you!

**The Norfolk Coast Partnership is about people working together to protect this area of outstanding natural beauty**

### ***If you:***

- care about the Norfolk Coast area
- would you like to be involved
- are keen to learn more about this special area
- are happy to occasionally give a little time...

***we would love to hear from you***

### ***Why we need you***

- We want to hear the views and opinions of the people that live and/or work here so that there is greater community input into the management of this special area.
- Occasionally we have information to share with communities and need help getting it out there – e.g. putting a flyer on notice boards about competitions, funding opportunities, events etc.
- Sometimes we attend events such as Wells Harbour Day and would love to have a pool of people we could call on to help out.
- There may be other skills you possess that could help us care for this special area.

**It doesn't matter what your level of knowledge is now, we just need people with a positive attitude, that care about the environment of the area and its people.**

## What is the Partnership's aim?

**To ensure that the use and management of the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty are sustainable, so that future generations can also enjoy and benefit from its special qualities.**

This includes a concern for the social and economic well-being of the people living and working in the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, as well as for its landscape quality.

The Norfolk Coast Partnership aims to foster a commitment to the area, encourage local partnerships and generate informed support from locals and visitors.

## What's involved

- You will be invited to attend occasional gatherings which will include a guest speaker, light supper and a chance to share thoughts and ideas.
- Your comments from the meetings will be taken by the Parish representatives to the Partnership Forum for consideration in management decisions and plans for the area.
- Ideally you will have access to email and the web so that information can be easily shared.
- You will have other opportunities to get involved in volunteering, e.g. website input, working with other organisations in the partnership, joining working groups.
- You will be kept up to date with what is happening in your Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.
- You may attend occasional parish council meetings to help keep us aware of concerns and developments in communities and to raise any issues or opportunities that may exist.
- We will provide you with information, support, learning opportunities, and cover travelling expenses.

## Interested?

Please send an email or phone Maree to give your details. Maree is also very happy to discuss any questions or concerns that you may have.

Email [maree.limpus@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:maree.limpus@norfolk.gov.uk), phone 01328 850530

*[All information is supplied in confidence for the sole use of the Norfolk Coast Partnership and will under no circumstance be passed on to any other parties].*

## What next

An initial gathering will take place on the evening of Wednesday 28 November 2007 in Fakenham, and you will be invited to come along, learn more, meet others and if still keen, sign up to become member of the Norfolk Coast team. Nibbles, tea, coffee, etc. will be provided.

## Why have a Norfolk Coast Partnership?

Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty belong in a sense to us all: the government gives them their status and our planning laws protect them. However, because the government doesn't own or administer the land, organisations such as the Norfolk Coast Partnership have been established to protect these areas.

Set up in 1991 the Norfolk Coast Partnership (*then known as the Norfolk Coast Project*) consists of organisations and agencies such as the National Trust, RSPB, and local authorities which have land and/or influence within the area. Communities are an important part of this partnership. All of these groups have, over the generations, shaped the area's rich and familiar patterns. It is appreciated that the countryside is not a museum and supports a distinct and vibrant rural way of life.

## What does the Norfolk Coast Partnership do and achieve?

Some of the projects which the Partnership has initiated or been involved with include:

- **CoastHopper bus service**
- **Norfolk Coast Cycleway**
- **Local food initiatives i.e. 'Local Products Directory'**
- **Field Study Guide** ● **Easy Access Guide** ● **Quiet Lanes**
- **Overhead wires undergrounding**
- **Various studies including Tourism, Affordable Housing and Renewable Energy**
- **Norfolk Coast Guardian newspaper**
- **Administer the Sustainable Development Fund**

## How do Parish Representatives fit in?

The Parish Representatives are the Partnership's formal link with local communities. Elected by the Parish Councils in their area, these representatives bring a community viewpoint to decision making. However, there are only five of them - not many for an area of 450km<sup>2</sup> stretching from near Kings Lynn to Mundesley and beyond, in which there are 68 parish councils!

## Finally . . .

Five decades have passed since the designation of the first AONB's, but during these years, few major urban or industrial developments have scarred any of these areas. This is a clear vindication of what is, essentially, a policy of trust, which has left the nation's landscape treasures in capable local hands.

For more information about the Norfolk Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Norfolk Coast Partnership check out the web site at:

[www.norfolkcoastaonb.org.uk](http://www.norfolkcoastaonb.org.uk)

**Contact Maree on** [maree.limpus@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:maree.limpus@norfolk.gov.uk), phone 01328 850530 or for information about other Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty visit the National Association of AONB's web site at: [www.aonb.org.uk](http://www.aonb.org.uk)