

North Norfolk Pathfinder

Helping coastal communities adapt to coastal change

Welcome to the latest North Norfolk Pathfinder newsletter to update you on the latest.

Development of Replacement Houses

North Norfolk District Council has now purchased houses on Beach Road, Happisburgh prior to the properties being demolished. The Council is seeking to obtain planning consent to replace them on a site elsewhere in Happisburgh.



The proposed development site, North Walsham Road, Happisburgh

A preferred site has been identified for the relocated homes and prior to a planning application being submitted the Council is seeking views on the proposal. A drop-in session is being held between **3pm and 7pm on 3 August in The Wenn Evans Centre, Blacksmith's Lane, Happisburgh, NR12 0QT** and the deadline for responses is 15 August.

Further business support

A key element of the North Norfolk Coastal Pathfinder Programme has involved supporting and enabling local businesses to adapt and respond to the challenges of the changing coast.

The Pathfinder **Business Advice Project** and **East Norfolk Marketing Project** have been well received and support for businesses is being developed, such as:

- Coastal business grants
- Coastal business loans
- Development of business networking and mutual support process

NNDC's Economic Development Team are now finalising these schemes, which will initially be open to those businesses who have been involved with the Pathfinder Business Project. Details of these schemes will be publicised shortly. In the meantime please contact Jose Socao, Economic & Tourism Development Officer on **01263 516303**.

New car park and beach access at Happisburgh

Work has commenced on the removal of beach debris and construction of a new car park, beach access and other facilities.

The work focuses on improving the beach and cliff-top environment and will include the construction of a new beach access ramp, the removal of beach debris and the construction of a new car park, public lavatories and picnic area.

Much of the failed sea defences, concrete filled pipes and assorted debris which has fallen from the cliff top is being removed. These materials will be sorted and where possible sent for recycling or stored for reuse. Some of the larger concrete blocks will be incorporated into the existing rock armour sea defence to strengthen this where possible.



Sorting and recycling of beach debris on the site of the soon to be car park

A new pedestrian beach access ramp will be created, leading down to the attractive sandy 'bay' to the south of Beach Road. It is anticipated that Happisburgh Parish Council will manage the car park, lavatories and cliff top area following the completion of the project in September.

Members of the public are asked to be aware that during working hours, pedestrian access both along the beach and cliff-top will be restricted. The beach will remain open to the north and south of the village and the existing car park will remain open whilst the new one is being constructed. The existing steps to the beach will remain in place.

Conclusions to the Buy to Lease Project

The Council considered a range of options for addressing the blight suffered by houses that are predicted to be lost to erosion, in the medium to long term. Unfortunately the conclusion was reached that the Council could not proceed with the proposal to buy these houses and lease them to the existing or future occupants.



The report outlaying the options considered can be found at <http://www.northnorfolk.org/minutes/Cabinet/04%20Jul%202011/Pathfinder%20Buy%20to%20Lease%20Project.pdf> or by looking at the 4 July **Cabinet Report** on the **Committees Page** of the **Council & Democracy** section of the NNDC website at www.northnorfolk.org

Pathfinder Evaluation

Pathfinder was funded by Defra to investigate and trial methods of helping communities adapt to coastal change. Defra is beginning its evaluation of projects and the **North Norfolk Pathfinder** team and others involved in our projects, will ensure that important findings are passed on, in order to inform the Government's Coastal Policy in the future.



How to keep up to date with what's happening

NNDC's Coastal Website has pages specifically dedicated to the North Norfolk Pathfinder. Please visit

www.northnorfolk.org/pathfinder/



This Newsletter is regularly produced to help keep you up to date with the Pathfinder Programme. It is available at local libraries, on our Coastal Website and at our offices. It can be emailed or posted directly to you by contacting:

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Update

- The first tranche of funding has now been transferred to Trimmingham Parish Council to enable them to purchase the site for the **new village hall** and develop their plans.
- The final report into **Private Contributions for the Maintenance of Flood Defences between Wolferton Creek to South Hunstanton** has been completed and submitted to Defra for evaluation.
- The **Pathfinder Heritage project** is drawing to a close following the formation of the Happisburgh Heritage Group and the finalisation of the draft for the 'Book of Happisburgh'.
- The redirected Cromer **Marrams footpath** is receiving a warm welcome from users during the summer months.
- The **Business Advice Project** is now closed to new entrants (with over 90 businesses subscribed). Many businesses are now using their specialist advice 'vouchers' and developing business plans.
- The North Norfolk Tourism Forum is developing the detailed approach for the **marketing of the east of the district** for the next 3 years.

If you would like to receive this newsletter in large print, Braille, alternative format or in a different language please telephone 01263 516004 and we will do our best to help.

