



Morecambe Bay Partnership

Progress and update June 2011

Highlights - January to June 2011

- We submitted an application to the Heritage Lottery Fund for a large grant under the Landscape Partnership Scheme; we will hear the outcome in late July or Aug 2011.
- 20 beach cleans have taken place in the first half of the year involving nearly 300 volunteers who have removed 2 tonnes of litter from the shores of Morecambe Bay.

Looking forward - Summer, Autumn 2011

- We are planning our AGM and Conference for October this year.
- Our annual [Chapel Island Walk](#) will be on 21 August starting at 11am.

Heritage Lottery Bid - Landscape Partnership Scheme

Headlands to Headspace

We submitted an application to the Heritage Lottery Fund in February 2011 for a [Morecambe Bay Landscape Partnership Scheme](#). The title for this was Headlands to Headspace (H2H). It was submitted with over a hundred letters of support from community groups and organisations all around the Bay.

The proposals in the scheme would support communities to restore and celebrate the natural and built heritage of Morecambe Bay. Proposed projects included using the railway stations as hubs to access key sites, habitat enhancement, joint working between Lancaster Maritime and Barrow Dock Museums and community training in archaeology, oral history, surveying, safeguarding monuments and habitats.

A site visit with Lottery staff took place on 20 May 2011. We will know the outcome by early August. If we were successful, then the development phase would run in 2011 & 2012 with a four to five year delivery phase starting around 2013. We could resubmit if we are not successful as others have been successful on a second attempt.

Communities - BeachCare

BeachCare Successes

The volunteer beach cleaning programme continues strongly. Since its formation 8 years ago over 4,600 volunteers have taken part in 250 events and removed 33 tonnes of waste from our beaches. Our thanks go to the willing support of our volunteers, both as leaders and participants - the success of this work is a testament to their support.

5th BeachCare Group

A new BeachCare group has formed, covering the area from Middleton Sands to Sunderland Point. Many thanks to Jean Ellis and John Gilchrist for making this happen.

New partners, new beaches and new dates

New beach clean partners this year have included Lancaster University's Green Lancaster Volunteers, Grange Civic Society and Beaumont College. A new beach was added to the programme at Aldcliffe Marsh, which yielded an astonishing 20 kg of plastic bottles. The full programme of [beach clean events](#) is on our website.

Sport and Recreation User Group Meeting

The Group met with Barrow Wind farm vessel operators & Harbour Master at Roa Island Club on Wednesday 8 June. This well attended meeting heard updates on the construction and supported helpful dialogue.

Government White Paper

A Morecambe Bay Local Nature Partnership?

In the recent [Government White Paper on the Environment](#) provision is made for a number of new initiatives including [Local Nature Partnerships](#) (LNPs) and [Nature Improvement Areas](#) (NIAs).

Local Nature Partnerships are about joining up and prioritising action, and so there is the possibility of streamlining and aligning a number of plans and initiatives within a Morecambe Bay Local Nature Partnership.

Morecambe Bay is an area of high priority for nature conservation with interlinked habitats, and significant biodiversity value and threat. It is also a coherent, large area that makes sense from the perspective of the natural environment - what DEFRA refers to as a bio-geographic unit and exactly what they seem to be looking for.

We have looked at these opportunities and discussed them with partners including Natural England, Environment Agency, Wildlife Trusts, Silverdale and Arnside AONB, and the Morecambe Bay Wildlife Network (MBWN). We are exploring the best solution for Morecambe Bay and may wish to propose a Morecambe Bay Local Nature Partnership.

The background to the White Paper includes the [Lawton report](#) which called for joining up nature conservation work at a landscape scale, or in the report's own 4 word summary: *more, bigger, better and joined*.

Other News:

NW Coastal Forum - email updates

The [North West Coastal Forum website](#) has been redesigned and re-launched. This includes news pages and the option to [sign up to email updates](#) on coastal matters. With so much going on - a [UK marine policy statement](#) published in March, Marine Management Organisation launching [interactive marine planning maps](#) and the [Environment White Paper](#) this is a helpful way to keep updated.

New Copeland Coastal Partnership

Copeland Borough Council has launched a new [Coastal Partnership](#) to bring together a range of organisations that have an interest in promoting and enhancing the coast to encourage more people to enjoy the benefits of what is on offer.

Beach Cleans:

All at 10am to 12 noon unless otherwise stated.

Full details online www.morecambebay.org.uk
Saturday 9 July, Hest Bank

Saturday 16 July, Humphrey Head

Saturday 23 July, Middleton Sands

Saturday 23 July, Low Marsh, Flookburgh

Wednesday, 27 July, Half Moon Bay, Heysham
4.30 - 6 pm

Wednesday 3 August, Sandscale Haws, 11 am to 1pm

Saturday 20 August, Morecambe Lodge

Saturday 20 August, Middleton Sands, Potts Corner

Sunday 21 August, 11am [Chapel Island Walk](#)

Saturday 17 September, Sunderland Point

Saturday 17 September, Humphrey Head

Saturday 17 Sept, Earnse Bay, West Shore, N. Walney

Wednesday 21 September, Arnside shore

Saturday 8 October, Hest Bank

Saturday 15 October, New Barns, Arnside

Saturday 22 October, Middleton Sands

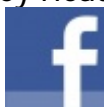
Wednesday 2 November, Holgates, nr Silverdale,

Saturday 19 November, Morecambe Lodge

Saturday 3 December, Silverdale Shore
Followed by lunch, venue to be agreed, all welcome

Saturday 10 December, Humphrey Head

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