

BEACH MANAGEMENT SUB GROUP
POLICY OF BROUGHTY FERRY COMMUNITY COUNCIL
ADOPTED 5 JANUARY 2016

1. Introduction

The Beach Management Group is a sub group of the Local Community Planning Partnership for the Broughty Ferry area (Ward 8). All sub groups, including the Beach Management Group, are required to report to the Community Planning Partnership at its regular meetings.

A Briefing Note from the Communities Officer identified the geographical area of responsibility of the Beach Management Group with the aid of a map (attached), and identified the remit, the core membership, and the proposed outputs.

2. Geographical Area

The geographical area extends west from the mouth of the Dighty as far as the Stannergate as identified on the map accompanying the briefing note and coloured green. More specifically, it will include the land and foreshore described there as: Balmossie Park; Barnhill Rock Garden; the Shiell Street Nature Reserve; Broughty Esplanade; Rugby Terrace/Tennis Courts amenity Ground; Broughty Ferry Beach; Castle Terrace Gardens; Castle Green; the grounds of Broughty Ferry Castle and the vicinity of the Harbour; the beaches running eastwards including those at Beach Crescent, Douglas Terrace, and Grassy Beach Sandy Beach and the related slip ways; and the foreshore running as far as the Stannergate.

3. The Remit

The remit of the Beach Management Group as currently drafted appears to have two inter-related elements:

- (1) The preparation and implementation of a plan incorporating actions to be achieved within the context set by the aims and objectives of the Broughty Ferry Local Community Planning Partnership and the Local Development Plan.
- (2) The provision of a forum within which progress in implementing the plan can be monitored and reported to the Local Community Planning Partnership.

4. Membership of the Beach Management Group

Much of the area identified in paragraph 2 above is in the ownership of the Council and managed by the Environment Department. Accordingly, the Chair of the Group was identified as the Director of the Environment Department or his nominee. The Chair will provide the Secretariat.

The core members of the Group have been identified for their potential to assist in the achievement of the remit. They include the Community Planning Officer for Broughty Ferry and one representative from each of the following bodies:

- City Development Department (City Engineers Division)
- City Development Department (Planning Division)
- Environment Department (Operations)
- Criminal Justice
- Broughty Ferry Community Council
- Friends of the Barnhill Rock Garden
- Keep Scotland Beautiful
- SEPA
- Port Authority
- Scottish Water
- Police Scotland
- Representative of recreational leisure craft
- Friends of the Earth

It has been decided that will be open to the Director of the Environment Department, following consultation with the core members, to have representatives of other relevant bodies co-opted for one or more meetings of the group.

It appears at first sight that this group is representative of the interest groups which may be involved. However, it is likely to fail unless it is reduced to a core group of senior persons with the authority to promote actions and ensure their implementation. A buy in to proposed action is essential and requires that others have the status of consultees

5. Fulfilling the Remit

The following are my observations on how the remit for the Beach Management Group can be taken forward with an economic use of scarce resources.

Integrated Plan

The first requirement is prepare an integrated Plan i.e. one to which all Sections of the Council are committed following appropriate community consultation. The oversight of the preparation of the Action Plan must be undertaken by the Chair of the Beach Management Group in consultation with and the assistance of others; and it should be submitted to the Local Community Planning Partnership for approval in accordance with the timetable set by the regular revisions to Broughty Ferry Local Community Plan.

I suggest that *The Beach Management Plan should have the following characteristics:*

- Made within the context set by the terms and time horizon of the then current operating plan of the Broughty Ferry Local Community Planning Partnership.
- Identify actions which are desirable in the longer term and those which are capable of implementation in the immediate or near future;
- Complement and support the work of the City-wide Tourism Group insofar as that affects the area covered by the Beach Management Sub-group.
- Take appropriate account of the content of the Local Development Plan and also the various statutory designations notably, but not only, the relevant Conservation Areas.
- The plan must not become an end in itself: rather it must be capable of rapid and effective revision in the light of changing circumstances.

Essential elements of the Action Plan should include:

- Along the beach and foreshore, identifying measures required for coastal protection.
- Measures to support the activities of the Friends of the Barnhill Rock Garden.
- Measures to conserve and enhance the amenity of the Local Nature Reserve.
- At Broughty Ferry Beach set out the array of measures required to meet the standards required for achieving the appropriate Awards.
- At Shiel Street set out the measures required to conserve and enhance the natural environment of the Local Nature Reserve
- In so far as possible, take account of measures to achieve appropriate standards of water quality in the Tay Estuary.
- Remedial works on the footpath on the south side of The Esplanade.
 - Initiatives to encourage environmental education using the area covered by the Beach Management Group as “an open air laboratory”.
- A section on implementation identifying the actions to be taken, when and by whom.
- A section on monitoring and evaluation and the procedures by which the plan will be revised.

Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation

In order to fulfil the remit the Core Group should meet at least 4 times per year with an Agenda which on each occasion includes the following:

- Monitoring of progress on each of the items identified in the Action Plan by the representative of the Group entrusted with progressing that matter.
- Identification of matters not specifically mentioned in the Action Plan which merit immediate attention. (These are like to include some or all of the following: keeping the footpaths

clear of sand for pedestrians, safety concerns relating to chestnut palings violations of the animal exclusion zone, the cleaning of Broughty Ferry Beach, jet ski-ing in the estuary and also, more generally, littering and dog fouling where statutory requirements are apparently not being met.)

- Any other competent business at the discretion of the Chair.

Beach Management "Walkabouts"

Before each scheduled meeting there should be a Beach Management "Walkabout" organised by the Chair in order that particular matters can be inspected, progress monitored on site and, where appropriate, remedial actions identified.

Annual Forum

The Beach Management Group should provide an annual forum for discussion which crosses disciplinary and divisional boundaries within the Council and brings together representatives of the public sector, and community and voluntary bodies, in order to meet challenges and take advantage of opportunities which are often multi-faceted and not readily dealt with in the absence of co-operative and co-ordinated effort.

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