

Towans Partnership Meeting

Report from Cornwall Council's Countryside Officer, Tehidy & Hayle Towans

29 June 2011.

Progress Report

- Regular site inspections, litter picking, path clearance & information provision via interpretation boards & leaflets supplied locally at Gwithian Towans & St Gothian Sands LNR.
- AC attended Gwithian Green Advisory Group Meeting in April. Advice given on repairs to footbridge (recently completed - funded by Gwinear-Gwithian Parish Council).
- AC/Tim Bird attended site meetings for advice on eroded beach access points at 'High Tide Access' (Gwithian/St Gothians) , Mexico Towans Lifeguard steps(La Touche's), access slope at Toms Holiday Park, steps at the Cove & rocky slope below The Bluff with CC 'Beach' Engineers.
- Sand Dunes Code of Conduct & adder information signs provided & replaced on sites as required.
- Temporary Lifeguard hut installed by RNLI for second season at St Gothians Sands LNR.
- Liaison with Property Dept re CC/RNLI's agreement for Lifeguard huts at Gwithian at St Gothian Sands.
- Liaison with Dog wardens re dog waste dumping at Red River mouth & Peters Point steps.
- Attended meetings with Beach Owners Group & Hayle Beach Access Group about access, car parking, roads, beach zoning, events, beach cleaning, rubbish collection & landownership on the Towans. CC Officers Towans Working Group now formed.
- Liaison with Reading University carrying out core sampling & geophysical radar surveys in a line from Godrevy SE to Red River.
- Liaison with Natural England about Higher Level Stewardship Schemes for future grants for countryside management on the Towans.

- Led well attended evening Sand Dune Safari guided walk at Gwithian Towans with Nick Taylor (Duchy College lecturer) May 31st. Cornwall Moth Group also carried out light trapping & a list of species was recorded including cream spot tigers 2 types of elephant hawkmoths.
- Liaison with Cornwall Wildlife Trust re litter at Upton Towans.
- Provided countryside information for 'Gwithian Beach' website. (RNLI & Sunset Surf).
- Other works - provided Countryside information & leaflets at the Countryside Area at Royal Cornwall Show.
& works at Tehidy Country Park include: day to day site management, including Outdoor Education Campsite, historic & ecological survey - HLS grant application, events – Dawn Chorus Walk, Bat & Moth Nights & History Walk, volunteer tasks – Rose Garden, AONB hedge planting, Rhododendron ponticum eradication (Phytophthora control) & advice on other sites & Public right of way works & Cornwall Knotweed Forum work.

2011 Work Programme

- Guided walk at St Gothian Sands LNR July 28th 2pm.
- Duchy College students to carry out annual maintenance work at Peter's Point steps in September.
- Strimming close to car parks, dragons teeth & main paths to the Towans to be carried out.
- Ragwort removal to be carried at Gwithian Towans where ponies graze.
- Discussions with Natural England about the provision of vandal-proof noticeboards at the Top Car parks at Gwithian Towans.
- Dragon's teeth repairs & replacement works planned along lane to Gwithian Towans when funding allows.
- Control of Crocosmia (montbretia) at Gwithian Towans in late summer.
- Signs on order for entrances & wildlife areas at St Gothian Sands LNR.