

Report to: **Overview Committee**

Date of Meeting: 27 February 2020

Public Document: Yes

Exemption: None

Review date for release None



Subject: **Seaton Wetlands Link Project**

Purpose of report: The purpose of the report is to update members on progress with the Seaton Wetlands Link Project which was reported for noting at cabinet in January.

The project involves a series of interventions on land between Seaton Jurassic and Seaton Wetlands that will, if delivered, see a circular route for pedestrians, cyclists and tram users, developed between the three attractions.

Recommendation: **That Overview Committee notes the progress with the Seaton Wetlands Link project.**

Reason for recommendation: As the report is simply to provide an update there is no specific decision required.

Officer: Alison Hayward, 01404 571738
Charles Plowden, 01404 515616

Financial implications: This report is to note progress and there no direct financial implications from the recommendations.

Legal implications: There are no specific legal implications requiring comment

Equalities impact: Low Impact

Climate change: Low Impact
The project proposals will boost opportunities for low carbon leisure options that can be linked together as part of a single trip and extend dwell time. The proposals further enhance the outstanding environmental leisure offer and a deeper understanding and appreciation of the local natural environment.

This further builds upon the excellent environmental educational offers from both Seaton Wetlands and Seaton Jurassic which is increasingly focussing upon climate change issues.

Risk: Medium Risk

There are risks associated with delivery of some of the projects, where land acquisition is required or the availability of funding. At this stage, there are no budget issues identified.

As the projects are developed, any budgetary implications (e.g. land purchase or changes in use of land) will be reported on, with necessary mitigation and approvals sought.

Links to background information: • [Cabinet report 8 Jan 2020](#)

Link to Council Plan: Outstanding place and environment

Outstanding level of economic growth, productivity and prosperity

Report in full

- 1.1 Following the cabinet meeting in January, officers met with the Seaton and Coly Valley ward members along with staff from Seaton Jurassic, to provide further detail and background on the project interventions and explain the next tasks that officers will be taking forward. A positive discussion took place regarding the various projects and the tasks required to deliver them.
- 1.2 Such tasks will include:
 - Undertake preliminary work in advance of starting work on Sheep's Marsh to create the new wetland area;
 - Contacting relevant landowners to discuss the acquisition of land to enable a pedestrian route through the Sheep's Marsh site. (interventions 2 and 3);
 - Preparing a bid for feasibility funding by Seaton Jurassic colleagues for some initial design work for the external areas (intervention 6);
 - Liaising with other project owners to receive updates on progress with their projects
- 1.5 An update was received from DCC regarding project intervention no. 8 which would see the delivery of the cycle route to the north of the wetlands up to Colyford. The current DCC view is that development of the Stop Line Way is no longer supported beyond Colyford and this section should now be referred to as the Seaton Colyford shared path. There are no further works planned at the Colyford end.
- 1.6 A quarterly update will be provided to the Portfolio Holder for Assets, the Portfolio Holder for the Environment, the Deputy Portfolio Holder for Environment and the ward members for Seaton and Coly Valley along with Cllr Martin Shaw, county councillor, given the input of DCC regarding the Stop Line Cycle way.
- 1.7 Officers will now meet to progress the tasks required.