

News Letter No 2 – 11th May 2013

PROGRESS ON THE CAMPAIGN TO SAVE THE NEWPORT TO HEMSBY AND HEMSBY TO WINTERTON NORFOLK VALLEYS (AREA OF NATURAL BEAUTY (ANOB)) FROM PROGRESSIVE COASTAL EROSION

On 24th April 2013 a packed meeting at Hermsby (Norfolk) village hall on the severe erosion of Hemsby beach and sand dune this winter was told that the proposed DIY scheme was the only option to save the high tides breaking through next winter.

The recent extreme loss of beach sand (a stepped drop of 10 to 15 feet) and loss of up to 40 feet of the last remaining sand dune, the only protection left for the beach community and the above valleys means that; many homes, holiday properties, the Newport to Hemsby and Hemsby to Winterton (area of natural beauty) valleys, are now in critical danger of being lost.

The DIY scheme is being organised by Lorna Bevan-Thompson at the Lacon Arms Hemsby (see their leaflet below) and they are asking for donations and volunteers to help to build DIY defences. This scheme which is supported by Great Yarmouth Borough Council obtained approval of G Watling Norwich (the beach land owner), the borough engineer and local councillors and obtained unanimous approval at this meeting with no objections and is now being presented for planning approval. The meeting was attended by Pat Gowen and Mike King for MARINET.

The DIY sea defence scheme is to build 1,031 concrete blocks; volunteers would build one or two of the two cubic meters four tonne blocks per day and place them in front of what is left of the remaining marram grass sand dunes from Newport Fishermans Cottages to Long Beach Hemsby. Donations for this DIY save Hemsby scheme can be sent to or further information obtained from: Lorna Bevan –Thompson The Lacon Arms Sea view Road Hemsby Norfolk NR29 4JG Tel 01493 733281. – Cheques made to Save Hemsby Coastline. Information can also be obtained from their web site: www.savehemsbycoastline.co.uk

Further to my previous letter to them I have also sent a follow up letter to Natural England asking for their support for the Hemsby DIY Sea defence scheme as it will also protect the Hemsby to Winterton valley an area of natural beauty – copy of this letter below.

Mike King - MARINET Great Yarmouth.