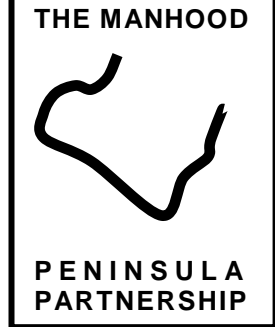


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## **The Manhood Peninsula Partnership (MPP) Terms of Reference**

The Manhood Peninsula Partnership (MPP) is a Standing Conference for the Manhood Peninsula. Its aim is to promote, develop and support initiatives that deliver economic, social and environmental benefits.

The Partnership has forged a new way of working together for the benefit of the peninsula and its people; it has helped create a wider understanding of local issues; it has promoted forward thinking. As a community led initiative, it provides a representative local forum and brings together key organisations: local groups, local and national government agencies, and other bodies.

The Partnership has a proven track record of project delivery. Its success relies on its ability to promote a multi-agency approach that fosters trust and cooperation and brings together different funding schemes, including giving access to funding denied to local councils or small organisations. The achievements of the MPP are recognised locally, nationally and internationally.

### **Objectives of the MPP:**

The MPP wishes to reflect what community consultation says the Manhood Peninsula should continue to be: low key, tranquil, relatively unspoilt and undeveloped, isolated, semi-rural, sustainable and - while maintaining its unique qualities – providing economic security and an important link between the South Downs and the sea.

The Partnership will seek meaningful and practical results for these key objectives:

**Economic regeneration** - sustainable economic development and regeneration - enabling businesses to grow, promoting successful business sectors and new business opportunities and providing high quality employment opportunities

**Social wellbeing** – community engagement, trust, co-operation and participation in local governance; and promotion of inspiration and enjoyment of the area through enhancing access, interpretation and understanding of the local environment

**Environmental management** - enhancing the strong sense of place through the renewal of local historic and landscape character, sustainable water and coastal risk management, biodiversity, and facilitating adaptation to climate change

### **Achievements and Future Direction**

The Partnership has a proven track record of project delivery. It has itself implemented projects worth over £500k. Major achievements include:

- The ESPACE programme in 2004-07 and adoption of the “Climate for Change on the Manhood Peninsula – Adaptation Action Plan” in 2006.
- The “Going Dutch 2” workshop in 2008 and the MPP’s role in gaining understanding and acceptance of the Coastal Defence Strategy and the Medmerry proposals
- The Coastal Change Pathfinder project 2009-11; adoption of the integrated coastal zone management plan “Towards ICZM on the Manhood Peninsula”.
- Prompting inclusion of an ICZM policy in the District Council’s Local Plan.
- Creation of a Destination Management Plan (DMP) aimed at furthering the prospects for green tourism and economic regeneration.
- Physical projects that engaged local communities.

### **Action programme**

The MPP aims to continue its work through opinion forming and pursuing projects. Of immediate interest is to secure the full potential of the Medmerry Managed Realignment scheme for improvements to the natural environment and for economic regeneration. A number of Key Statements on issues and opportunities for the peninsula have been produced, with the initial statement on Green Links across the Manhood Peninsula (GLaM) published in July 2014 and followed by statements on Drainage across the Manhood Peninsula and The Economy of The Manhood Peninsula.

The rolling work plan for the Partnership is being reviewed and will be available shortly.

### **Membership**

The Peninsula area includes the following parishes: Appledram, Birdham, Donnington, Earnley, East Wittering and Bracklesham, Hunston, North Mundham, Selsey, Sidlesham, West Itchenor and West Wittering. The Partnership consists of representatives from Parish Councils and local groups and from organisations with statutory responsibilities in the Manhood Peninsula. The following organisations are currently members of the Partnership:

- Chichester District Council
- West Sussex County Council
- Environment Agency
- Natural England
- Chichester Harbour Conservancy
- Sussex Association of Local Councils
- Selsey Town Council
- Peninsula Community Forum
- National Trust
- Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)

### **Resources**

The Partnership has been supported financially from the outset by Chichester District Council; West Sussex County Council and the Environment Agency. Other organisations have also contributed. Opportunities for external funding have been and will continue to be sought, particularly for project implementation.

The Partnership is supported by two Project Leaders, Carolyn Cobbold and Keith Morgan; both were instrumental in its establishment in 2001, and is chaired by Cllr Carol Purnell. The Partnership has a Project Officer, Jane Cunningham, whose post is “hosted” by the District Council. Her role includes:

- Providing a first point of contact for the public and the media
- Developing and initiating project work
- Seeking and administering funding
- Overseeing and implementing the MPP Action Plan
- Co-ordinating, publicising and promoting events to all interested parties.

### **Working practices and aims**

The Partnership seeks to obtain consensus on issues between all organisations through open discussion. It meets quarterly and aims to:

- improve and promote inter-sectoral integration, co-ordination, communication and understanding between those involved in the Manhood Peninsula
- provide opportunities for wider community participation and interaction
- develop and implement key statements of policy, guidelines, strategies and action plans
- develop and implement projects
- explore and develop best practice

The Partnership forms ad hoc working groups as required and invites persons outside its membership to contribute as appropriate. At present there are two working groups – the Green Links across the Manhood (**GLaM**) group, and the Surface Water Issues and Solutions (**SWISH**) group.

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### **Origins of the MPP**

The Peninsula lies south of Chichester, West Sussex. It has significant open coast, beaches and two important harbours. In common with many areas in south east England and north-west Europe, it faces significant land-use pressures likely to be increased by climate change. In March 2001, an intensive five-day workshop – “Going Dutch on the Manhood Peninsula” - brought together local people and specialists from the Netherlands and the UK to look at future options. Participants examined conflicting problems including water management; coastal defence; pressure for development; ecological, environmental and infrastructure issues; agriculture, industry and leisure/ tourism issues; maintaining sustainable communities and increasing community awareness and participation.

The desired outcomes - safety from flooding, economic security and maintenance of the unique qualities of the area - led participants to establish the Manhood Peninsula Partnership. The MPP is funded primarily by Chichester District Council, West Sussex County Council and the Environment Agency and by contributions from parish councils. It aims:

- To improve and promote inter-sectoral integration, co-ordination, communication and understanding between those involved in the Manhood Peninsula.
- To provide opportunities for wider community participation and interaction.
- To secure a proactive approach to identify, manage, increase awareness, and mitigate the impacts of climate change.
- To identify, develop and implement projects, strategies and action plans.
- To bring together different skills, knowledge and resources to maximise delivery.

Further information about the **Manhood Peninsula Partnership** can be found at:

<http://peninsulapartnership.org.uk/>

Or by contacting the MPP Project Officer, Jane Cunningham 01243 521091

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