

Chairman: Joan Foster
Project Leaders: Joan Foster, Jane Cunningham, Carolyn Cobbold, Paul Bedford.

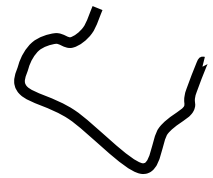
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THE MANHOOD



PENINSULA
PARTNERSHIP

Manhood Peninsula Partnership Terms of Reference (ToR)

Introduction

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

The Partnership consists of representatives from Parish Councils, local community groups and organisations with statutory responsibilities on the Manhood Peninsula. Membership and attendance at meetings is restricted to representatives of these bodies and is not open to individual members of the public.

The Partnership has forged a new way of working together for the benefit of the peninsula and its communities. It has helped create a wider understanding of local issues, encouraged collaborative working and promoted forward thinking. As a community-led initiative, it provides a representative local forum, bringing together key organisations, local groups, local and national government agencies, and other relevant bodies.

Sustainable transport, surface water management and a sustainable coast are essential to maintaining thriving communities on the peninsula. Complementing these priorities is a sustainable economy, of which the visitor economy is a major contributor.

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 streams, including access to funding that may not otherwise be available to local councils or smaller organisations. The achievements of the MPP are recognised locally, nationally and internationally.

Objectives of the MPP

The MPP seeks to reflect the aspirations identified through community consultation, which describe the Manhood Peninsula as:

"Low key, tranquil, relatively unspoilt and undeveloped, isolated, semi-rural, sustainable (in its widest sense: economic, social and environmental), and, whilst maintaining its unique qualities, providing economic security and an important link between the South Downs and the sea."

The following principle was identified as a key element of a sustainable future for the peninsula:
"Safety from flooding, economic security and maintenance of the unique qualities of the area."

The Partnership will seek meaningful and practical outcomes under the following objectives:

Environmental Management

Enhancing the peninsula's strong sense of place through:

- Conservation and renewal of local historic and landscape character.
- Sustainable water quality management.
- A well-managed coast, including the marine environment and coastal risk management.
- Protection and enhancement of biodiversity.
- Facilitating adaptation and resilience to climate change.

Social Wellbeing

Promoting:

- Community engagement, trust, cooperation and participation in local governance.
- Inspiration, enjoyment and understanding of the local environment.
- Improved access to, interpretation of and appreciation for the peninsula's natural and cultural heritage.

Economic Regeneration

Supporting:

- Sustainable economic development and regeneration.
- Business growth and innovation.
- Successful business sectors and new business opportunities.
- High-quality employment opportunities.
- A resilient and sustainable local economy.

Aims and Working Practices

The Partnership seeks to achieve consensus through open discussion and collaborative working. It meets quarterly and aims to:

- Ensure the sustainable development of the peninsula for the benefit of future generations, taking account of long-term challenges, including climate change.
- Improve communication, coordination and understanding between organisations active on the peninsula.
- Promote wider community participation and engagement.
- Adopt a proactive approach to climate change adaptation and resilience.
- Support the development and implementation of relevant strategies, action plans and guidance.
- Encourage research, innovation and the sharing of best practice from other areas.
- Recognise and celebrate the contribution of volunteers to Partnership projects.

The work delivered through the Partnership has helped to:

- Raise awareness of climate change throughout the community.
- Help residents understand some of the pressures facing local authorities.
- Encourage greater dialogue and cohesion between agencies and stakeholders.
- Increase understanding of the issues affecting the peninsula.
- Put the Manhood Peninsula "on the map" through its positive and innovative approach to climate change.

The Partnership establishes Working Groups as required and may invite individuals or organisations outside its membership to contribute specialist knowledge or expertise where appropriate. Current Working Groups are:

- Green Links across the Manhood (GLaM)
- Surface Water Issues and Solutions (SWISh)
- Crustaceans, Habitat and Sediment Movement (CHASM)

Meetings are normally held online to reduce travel requirements and minimise the Partnership's carbon footprint. In-person meetings may be arranged where appropriate.

The MPP will not comment on individual planning applications. However, the Partnership may consider and submit responses on planning policy matters, strategic developments and consultations that have significant implications for the Manhood Peninsula, subject to agreement by Partners.

Membership

Membership is restricted to representatives of Parish Councils, recognised local groups and organisations with statutory responsibilities on the Manhood Peninsula. The following organisations are currently represented within the Partnership:

- Chichester Canal Trust
- Chichester District Council (MPP Secretariat)
- Chichester Harbour Conservancy
- Environment Agency
- Manhood Wildlife & Heritage Group (MWHG)
- Marine Management Organisation (MMO)
- National Trust
- Natural England
- Parish Councils on the Manhood Peninsula: Apuldram, Birdham, Donnington, Earnley, East Wittering and Bracklesham, Hunston, North Mundham, Sidlesham, Selsey, West Itchenor, West Wittering.
- Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)
- Selsey Town Council
- Sussex Association of Local Councils
- The Great Sussex Way
- Walk, Wheel Cycle Trust
- West Sussex County Council
- Wittering Estate

Resources

The MPP Project Officer, Jane Cunningham, is hosted by Chichester District Council.

The Partnership is currently chaired by Joan Foster and supported by Project Leaders Jane Cunningham, Carolyn Cobbold, and Paul Bedford.

The Chair is elected annually, normally at the June meeting. A Vice-Chair is also elected annually.

Review of Terms of Reference

These Terms of Reference will be reviewed annually by the Partnership and amended as necessary to ensure they remain relevant and effective in supporting the objectives of the Manhood Peninsula Partnership.

Further Information**Website**

<https://peninsulapartnership.org.uk>

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Last reviewed: September 2026

Next review: September 2027