



**EAST WASH
COASTAL MANAGEMENT
COMMUNITY INTEREST
COMPANY**

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Dear Sir/Madam

The East Wash Coastal Management Community Interest Company (C.I.C) was set up in late 2015 as a fundraising vehicle to ensure the continuity of the Re-cycling process which occurs on the beaches of Snettisham, Heacham and parts of Hunstanton every spring through a mechanism called Partnership Funding.

Central Government withdrew 100% funding of this process effective from mid 2016, so that was the last year the Environment Agency was paid in full, from Central Government for these works. The C.I.C started collecting money from all of the caravan park owners in the Snettisham, Heacham and Hunstanton areas, who would be affected by a flood, and each one of these has paid a levy of £50 per caravan, which generates an annual income of £156,250.00

We also receive an annual contribution from the Heacham South Beach Property Owners Association, as well as a separate North Beach Association, at the rate of £100 per privately owned plot. Together with a local authority contribution of £5,000, some miscellaneous beach hut contributions, a payment of £25,000 per annum from Anglian Water (at present for 4 years only), and approximately £20,000 total from all local landowners whose farms are deemed to be in the flood risk zone.

March of last year (2017) was the first year that the C.I.C contributed to the cost of the annual re-cycling. The money is paid to the Kings Lynn & West Norfolk Borough Council who in turn pay it over to the Environment Agency.

The C.I.C has committed to a 15-year plan with the Environment Agency, and this has enabled us to qualify for a Government top up of 42% of the cost incurred, as opposed to the normal 25%, i.e. because of our long-term commitment.

A C.I.C is a special type of limited company, which is a NOT FOR PROFIT ORGANISATION, and all of the proceeds collected must be spent for the benefit of the community at large. The cost of the project in 2016 came in at approx. £130,000. It was usually quoted as costing anything from £150,000 to £180,000.

As a result of becoming involved in the tendering process, we managed a significant saving last year and brought the job in for about £81,000. This was mainly achieved by reducing

some of the annual admin and monitoring costs of the beachfront by Natural England, which will now only be carried out once every 5 years. The Re-cycling of sand is used to protect the front line, or first line of defense. If this process were not carried out continuously, and the front line were allowed to deteriorate, this would put the second line of defense, the grassbank, under pressure, which, if breached, (as happened on parts of the coast in December 2013) would threaten the villages themselves, i.e. Snettisham, Heacham and Hunstanton.

There is another process, which happens every 10 – 15 years called Re-Charging. This is when sand and shingle is dredged from The Wash and blown back onto the beach. This process was last carried out in 2005 at a cost in excess of £1 million. The exact date when this process will be required again is not certain. It all depends on how severe the winter storms are, and how much sand and shingle is lost.

The aim of the C.I.C is to be able to fund the Re-Charging when it is next required. **The C.I.C needs your help!**

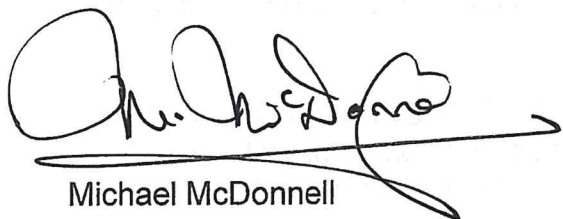
As Snettisham is the most vulnerable part of the coast it is only right and fair that the owners of individual caravans on private plots, of which there are over 100, and the owners of beach front chalets, bungalows, or houses, of which again there are over 100; join in and pay towards the cost of this program. If every caravan was paid at £50, and every property at £100, it would generate an additional £15,000 per annum, towards the cost of the Re-Charge. This burden is currently being paid for by a few, but it is the many who are currently benefitting from it.

Sadly, there is no Snettisham Beach Property Owners Association, but some of your friends/neighbours have agreed to circulate this note, and we would ask you to do the same. £50 or £100 is a small price to pay for peace of mind to help protect your beach property. We cannot guarantee that a flood will never happen, but at least we can and will continue to try and prevent it.

The contributions, because they are voluntary, are free of VAT. If you wish to make a payment then please make your cheque payable to: **The East Wash Coastal Management Community Interest Company** and send to: McDonnell Caravans, Lynn Road, Gayton, King's Lynn, Norfolk PE32 1QJ. Your name, plot number, and home address would be helpful, and we would send a receipt. An annual standing order would be preferable, and help to keep costs down.

Please do your bit to help and encourage all friends, and neighbours to do the same.

Annoyingly Data Protection prevents the Local Authority from revealing the private owners names and addresses, so this is the only means by which I can contact you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael McDonnell', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michael McDonnell

Payment by card is also available, by calling the office number listed on the letterhead above, again with your details and a receipt can be sent.