

20170310

## Meeting at Rose and Bob's House, Friday 10th March 2017

Present: Alison Bell, Alison Jackson, Alison Spittles, Biff, Bob, Cécile, James, Jean, Jenny, Jon, Kenny, Len, Maggie, Mark, Peter, Pete M., Peter Gingold, Roger, Rose Bowe, Rose Williams, Roxanne, Steve, Yvonne.

Apologies: Bev, Chris, Garin Nel, Janice, Karen, Martin, Pauline.

Thanks very much to Rose and Bob for hosting the meeting, with perhaps slightly more people than expected!

Peter Gingold, who had come to the meeting from London, was introduced. He is helping Marcus Vergette in promoting the Time and Tide Bell project nation-wide.

A brief history of the project and where we are now at was given.

Marcus is working on the assumption that the Bell will be installed in the autumn of 2017 and the wave-catcher added in the spring of 2018 for proper inauguration.

The physical work is divided into:

1. Creating the base of helical piles
2. Building the frame

Creating the base of helical piles to anchor the Bell's frame to the sand will be done by a company expert in this field. Negotiations and consultations with such a company are being conducted by Marcus and it is hoped that the cost of this work will be paid out of funds held by the Time and Tide Bell Trust.

Building the frame is the responsibility of the Friends of the Lincolnshire Time and Tide Bell. It comprises making oak posts and having stainless steel nodes manufactured to connect the timbers together and connect them to the pile base and the Bell. A manufacturer willing and able to work in SAE 316 stainless steel at the least cost needs to be found. Suggestions so far include ConocoPhillips at Theddlethorpe (the Bell's nearest neighbour), Karen's brother-in-law and a firm that Peter has used in Hull, W. Campbell & Son Ltd (<http://wcampbellengineering.co.uk/> take a look at their work portfolio – they've done some wonderful stuff!). Once we get the technical drawings from Marcus we can approach these or others for quotes.

The less physical work comprises:

1. Raising money to pay for the physical work
2. Raising money to pay for other work
3. Other work

Under the third heading of 'other' lies much of the purpose of the Time and Tide Bell. Marcus Vergette has created a piece of public art in the form of a bell, but beyond its physical presence on the beach it is essentially a piece of conceptual art. It may be helpful to consider this:

"Conceptual art is art for which the idea (or concept) behind the work is more important than the finished art object." Tate Gallery website. More at [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Conceptual\\_art](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Conceptual_art)

The Time and Tide Bell is a community-based project that addresses the issues of climate change and associated environmental and human issues. It seeks to engage local communities with the history of the coastline in their locality, people's relationships with the sea in the past, now and into the future. The location of the Lincolnshire Time and Tide Bell, in a National Nature Reserve, puts marine ecosystems on the agenda and the continent-facing coastal aspect may raise the issue of future migration under the pressure of rising sea level and climate change.

To pursue this conceptual aspect it has been suggested that interpretive signage, perhaps in bronze, be created. The Bell could become a focus for tourism; there coastal path will pass the site and we could attach a geocache (see <https://www.geocaching.com/play> and <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geocaching> ). Educational material might be produced for use by children visiting the Rimac classroom and in local schools. Further outreach may occur on the website, Facebook and other social media platforms and through the local press.

An art exhibition with works that relate to the Time and Tide Bell and its conceptual basis has been proposed. A small exhibition might be staged in the autumn to coincide with the setting up of the Bell, perhaps at the Spout Yard Gallery in Louth or, better, a venue closer by in Mablethorpe, if one can be found. A more ambitious exhibition including a wider range of works might be staged in 2018 and beyond. It should be possible to borrow Marcus's bell, 'Silence, Beat, Silence' that was created for Monument at the Sainsbury Centre, Norwich (see <http://scva.ac.uk/img/uploads/press/1-Monument-PR.pdf> ).

The Book was introduced. This currently comprises some 17000 words and some pictures. It is envisaged that this becomes greatly enlarged with contributions from the community of The Friends of the Lincolnshire time and Tide Bell. To this end the Book has been placed on Google Docs so that we may all edit and contribute to it. The short link to this editing page is: <http://bit.ly/TimeandTideBellBookEdit> (it may not be necessary to have a Google account but it probably helps). Factual information and creative writing, poetry and graphical work will be welcomed.

It was pointed out that we should make a particular effort to involve the local community of Mablethorpe and, especially, to encourage younger people to become involved.

The Coastal Community Challenge (see <http://coastalcommunitychallenge.co.uk/> and <http://localtrust.org.uk/get-involved/big-local/mablethorpe,-trusthorpe-and-sutton-on-sea> ) may prove useful.

It was decided to form a committee to push the project forward. The following volunteered to form such a committee and it will have its first meeting on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March at 5pm at Mark and Jon's house: Alison J., Biff, Bob, Jackie, Rose W., Steve. The committee should not be seen as exclusive and other people are welcome to join in if they feel they would like to make their contributions.

To raise funds we need a body that can receive funds. Discussion was had as to three options:

1. To remain part of Transition Town Louth, using the existing bank account
2. To form a separate group, The Friends of the Lincolnshire Time and Tide Bell with its own bank account

3. To form a registered charity, The Friends of the Lincolnshire Time and Tide Bell with its own bank account.

In the first instance, before a more permanent arrangement is set up, option 1. Exists and money can be paid into the Transition Town Louth account, but options 2 and 3 were regarded as preferable, particularly as the word 'Louth' would not be involved, the Bell being a more Mablethorpe-centred project. The relative merits of setting up a charity will be looked into by Steve and considered at the first committee meeting.

The matter of ultimate ownership of the Bell is yet to be settled. Other Time and Tide Bells have become the property of the public body responsible for land management of their sites and our favoured solution is that Natural England accepts ownership. If this proves impossible then the Mablethorpe Town Council, East Lindsey District Council or Lincolnshire County Council are possibilities. If no public body is willing then it may be possible to set up a registered charity to undertake this task. Our first move on this issue will be to discuss with Natural England.

A Marine Structures Licence needs to be obtained.

Here follows a reminder as to our presence in the social media:

Website: <http://bit.ly/TimeandTideBell>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/TimeandTideBellLincolnshire/>

Finally, what can everybody do? Here are some ideas:

Give the Time and Tide Bell for Lincolnshire project some money!

Find other people and institutions that might give some money.

Publicise the project by talking to people.

Come up with ideas to promote the project.

Contribute to The Book in any way that takes your fancy, however loosely related to the Time and Tide Bell, be it information, creative writing, stories, poems or pictures.

Prepare for the Art Exhibition by, drawing, painting, printing, sculpting, sowing, weaving, creating sound and video installations or by doing whatever else your creative talents allow.

