Reculver Country Park

Management Plan

2015 to 2020
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1.0 Introduction

1.1 This management plan sets out management for Reculver Country Park for the next five years from 2015 to 2020. The plan begins with a description of the Country Park, reviews national and local strategies and initiatives, sets out a series of objectives and management prescriptions and finally outlines how the plan will be monitored and reviewed. This plan was prepared by the Transport and Environment section of Canterbury City Council. It is preceded by regular Visitor Surveys, and prepared in consultation with partners in the management of the country park and the local community.
2.0 Description

2.1 Reculver Country Park extends along the North Kent Coast for 2.5 kilometres from Bishopstone to Reculver Towers and Fort. There is a Reculver Centre for visitors and three car parks (Map 1) Canterbury City Council is the landowner of the Country Park. The Reculver Fort and Towers are monitored by Canterbury City Council by contract under the guardianship of English Heritage.
3.0 Facilities

3.1 Reculver Centre
3.1.1 Reculver Centre (for Renewable Energy and Interpretation) is situated to the east of the country park in the settlement of Reculver (see Map 1). The building was extended in 2009 and incorporates an older visitor centre with the addition of a single storey extension to the north of the centre and a multipurpose classroom space, reception area and entrance. The extension was funded by a European grant, Canterbury City Council and the Kentish Flats wind farm development, which can be viewed out to sea from Reculver and which is another example of renewable energy.

3.1.2 Environmental sustainability is a fundamental aim of the building and the incorporation of sustainable construction and renewable technologies play a major part in achieving this objective. Locally sourced sustainable chestnut is used to clad the building whilst a log burner is fuelled with logs from the Blean woodland. These logs are harvested by volunteers under a sustainable woodland coppicing management regime throughout the winter months. A log store has been built adjacent to the toilet block. The centre is powered with photovoltaic panels (which convert sunlight to electricity) and solar panels (which use sunlight to heat water). The additions of two large skylights, which maximise natural light levels inside the building, also help to minimise reliance on electricity.

3.1.3 Phase 2 of the Reculver Centre began in 2010 and includes the installation of interpretation materials and shopfittings. Funding for the improvements was achieved from the HMS (Heritage Maritime) Interreg scheme to inform visitors of the maritime and community heritage at Reculver. The HMS programme was completed in 2012.

3.1.4 The separate BOSCO+ Interreg scheme enabled partnership working with various organisations including the Kent Wildlife Trust, to fund training of staff and volunteers who manage and run activities from the Centre. Kent Wildlife Trust manages the Reculver Centre in partnership
with the city council. The council committed to the partnership in 2012 with a 5-year contract to 2017. The cost associated with this agreement may be viewed in Appendix 6.

3.1.5 In response to the theft of lead from the roof of the Centre, sections were replaced with artificial lead-effect flashing. Bespoke shutters were installed around the Centre in 2011 to enhance security and protect the windows surrounding the multipurpose space. The entrance to the Centre is monitored by CCTV, also installed in 2011. A new alarm system is being fitted in 2015.

3.1.6 The completion of the Centre provided an opportunity to enhance visitor-opening hours with extended opening times introduced from July 2009. In 2012 the Centre began opening on weekends all year round. In 2015 a new opening schedule has been established following the monitoring of seasonal visitor numbers. The Centre will now be closed from December to the end of February in order to facilitate longer opening hours during the more popular visiting season. Opening hours for the Reculver Centre are displayed at the Centre and online at http://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/reserves/reculver-visitor-centre-and-country-park and www.canterbury.co.uk.

3.1.7 Interpretation material includes a guide to ‘The Roman Forts of Reculver and Richborough’, published by English Heritage, ‘The Stones of Reculver Country Park’ and ‘The Geology of Reculver Country Park’, published by GeoConservation Kent (established to protect Regionally Important Geological Sites – Reculver is one of these), an education pack “Slip Sliding Away” produced by the Kent Wildlife Trust and a range of leaflets and guides about local wildlife. Two education packs, “Wildlife” and “Geology” are distributed by Kent Wildlife Trust to school groups visiting the country park.
3.2 Accessibility

3.2.1 The Towers and the Reculver Centre have been audited in connection with the Equality Act 2010 (which replaces the Disability Discrimination Acts) and as part of a wider Herne Bay Coastal Park audit in 2013, following the coastal park’s successful establishment as a Jubilee Park in 2012.

3.2.2 Promotional materials for the visitor are available in French and English (see leaflets appendix 13, see also 3.1.7)

3.2.3 There are public toilets including disabled toilets located in the country park at Reculver.

3.2.4 The Country Park is located on two bus routes; the 7/7A that runs between Herne and Canterbury and the Number 36 bus between Herne Bay, Birchington and Margate.

3.2.5 There are three car parks: at Reculver, Bishopstone Lane and Reculver Drive. The Reculver car park has a tarmac surface and is the responsibility of the council’s Transport and Environment section. The car parks at Bishopstone Lane and Reculver Drive have a compacted aggregate surface. There are tarmac surfaced paths at Reculver and a network of aggregate surfaced pedestrian paths at Bishopstone Glen which have been resurfaced over two phases during 2010 and 2011. Proposals for improved pedestrian access, a new play area, an area of sheep grazing, and a new car park in 2016 are being investigated in the Reculver Lane area. Although subject to design, consultation and planning approvals, these proposals have the potential to provide improved landscape setting, access and quality of experience especially during peak summer visitor seasons when existing arrangements reach capacity.

(Image extracted from the Reculver Masterplan Supplementary Planning Document, 2009)
3.2.6 A new bridge was installed over the stream in the Bishopstone Glen area of the Country Park in 2007.

3.2.7 There is an extensive network of footpaths extending out over the reclaimed marshland of the Wantsum channel (see Appendix 11). The Saxon Shore Way passes through Reculver, and the Viking Coastal Trail cycling route is a popular link to Margate and the Isle of Thanet.

3.2.8 A new cycle route, the Oyster Bay Trail, was completed through the site in 2011, providing a missing link in the Viking Coastal Trail, and linking to national cycle route number 1 in Whitstable (Map 1). The cycle route is sensitively linked into the promenade and clifftop grassland, avoiding disturbance to rare lichens and ground nesting birds. The route continues around the Glen along Manor Road at the end of the clifftop, and rejoins the country park, exiting at Ocean View car park to the promenade. All works were approved by Natural England and surfacing along the clifftop comprised a mesh format to minimise physical and visual impact of the new cycle pathway.

3.2.9 In 2014 a new Sustrans bench was installed to commemorate the completion of the Oyster Bay Trail (paid for by Sustrans, a cycle charity who contributed to the cycle route). The bench is accompanied by metalwork sculptures, chosen by local people via a competition, depicting historically relevant figures. The figures are Pilot Officer Warner (Bill) Ottley, who trained using the Bouncing Bomb off Reculver; an Oyster fisherman representing the local industry at Reculver which produces the Whitstable Native Oyster; and a Roman woman, giving a feminine perspective for Reculver’s Roman history. More information can be found online at https://www.canterbury.gov.uk/parking-travel-roads/walking-cycling/the-portrait-bench/

3.2.10 A successful bid to become a Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee Field was realised in 2013. As part of a creative lottery project linking with the wider Herne Bay coast, a call was made in late 2013 for artists to produce a bespoke bench in the new coastal park, incorporating Herne Bay and Reculver. As part of the series, two artist’s benches were installed at Reculver Country Park. One bench is placed at Reculver Lane (Love seat) and another is situated on Reculver Drive (The Groyne Wood bench). An exhibition was held to mark the opening of the benches in 2014. More information can be found at http://hernebaycoastalpark.org/benches/ As part of the same lottery project, two further accessible picnic benches have been commissioned for installation at Bishopstone Lane in 2015.
3.3 Foreshore
3.3.1 There is a beach either side of the Towers at Reculver, which has the Quality Coast Award for relaxed recreation (rural non-bathing category). The award recognises the engagement of the beach in an environmentally friendly way, adequate provision of litterbins and parking and that public signage and rescue equipment is provided, checked and updated regularly. Water quality meets guidelines set by the EU in 2010.

3.3.2 The Foreshore Department operates the Canterbury Coastal Warden’s Scheme whereby volunteer wardens report any incidents or observations to the council. Their assistance is rewarded by putting them in contact with related interest groups or organising courses on related topics for them to attend.

3.3.3 New RNLI safety signage was installed at Reculver in 2012, and this has been used as a template for implementation of the same sign design all along the coast forming the Herne Bay Coastal Park, with the latest signs due for installation in 2015 as part of the Jubilee Field coastal park lottery project. The signs act as an educational tool, raising awareness of the hazards and safety facilities present and also act as a reference point for coastguards. Information relating to facilities within the country park is displayed, and a notice board incorporated into one of the signs allows up-to-date coastal information such as tide-tables to be displayed.

3.4 Events
3.4.1 The council has organised a variety of events that compliment the historical and ecological themes of the Country Park: Heritage Open Days as part of a series of events each September are an opportunity for hundreds of people to climb the Reculver Towers Ancient Scheduled Monument (ASM). Re-enactment events recreate a battle between Romans and Saxons, and attract large crowds. The British Heart Foundation cycle ride has started from Reculver in October for the past six years. As well as holding a variety of different exhibitions at the Centre, from historic galleries, and marine events to an interactive recycling display, Reculver has featured in the Herne Bay Projects exhibition for the past four years. Kent Wildlife Trust hold regular Beach Cleans, popular Seashore Safaris and other small coastal events.
4.0 Visitors

4.1 Based on figures collected based on tickets purchased in the Reculver Lane car park and cycle counts, the country park receives over 200,000 visitors a year.

4.2 The Kent Wildlife Trust provides an active education service from the Reculver Centre for up to 3,500 students per year, providing experienced teachers to take school parties, international groups and university students around the country park.

4.3 The most recent visitor survey was undertaken between 2013 and 2014. Results indicate that 77% travel by car, 22% by bicycle and 13% on foot. This indicates a steady improvement in sustainable methods of travel - In 2004, 81% travelled by car, with 11% preferring to walk to the Country Park and 6% cycling, and, in 2011 76% travelled by car, with 8% walking and 12% cycling. The cycle route improvements appear to be encouraging greater numbers of visitors to access the site by bike.

4.4 A third of visitors in the latest survey were new to the site compared with a quarter of visitors in 2011. This indicates there may be improvements in promotion of the coast and country park, drawing more new people to visit.

4.5 Over 60% of visitors to Reculver Country Park came from east Kent and a third have travelled from within the District boundary. Around 3% of visitors are overseas tourists.

4.6 At the last survey, of those that replied to the question, the following percentages rated the site satisfactory against these criteria: safety (98%); layout (97%); maintenance (97%); cleanliness (97%); facilities (95%); access (100%); signage (98%); events (96%). This shows a high level of visitor satisfaction across criteria relating to the site.

4.7 Five education events were held at Reculver during 2014, with 364 attendees. The events included rock pooling, coastal walks and a spooky Halloween event. 46 volunteer days were recorded for education and events, consistent with recent years and a steady increase since 2011 (29 volunteer days).
5.0 Community

5.1 Canterbury City Council adopted a Reculver Masterplan as a supplementary planning document in 2009, which provides a coordinated approach to regeneration of Reculver by working with local businesses, landowners, and widening the potential of Reculver as a strategic visitor destination in East Kent.

5.2 The country park is at the centre of a small group of businesses clustered around the historic fort. Businesses include the King Ethelbert Public House, and Blue Dolphin and Waterways caravan parks. City Council members and officers work closely with local businesses regarding proposals that may affect the future of the site.

5.3 Local people, from Reculver village and the surrounding suburban areas of Bishopstone and Beltinge especially birdwatchers and dogwalkers, regularly visit the site, often utilising the clifftop grassland walk from Bishopstone to Reculver Lane.

5.4 Kent Wildlife Trust distributes the “Reculver News” newsletter as part of their agreement with the city council, to local people and volunteers who take an active interest in the site. Kent Wildlife Trust volunteers and local people come together to regularly support centre staff in running events and opening the Centre to the public.

5.5 The council works with the council’s Community Safety Unit to tackle antisocial behaviour issues in accordance with the byelaws that apply to Reculver Country Park, although in recent years these have been minimal. Historically the Reculver Centre used to suffer break-ins before its refurbishment, but there have been no further incidences since installation of CCTV and security shutters. Sporadic incidents of unauthorised motorbike/quad bike access are reported to the police.
6.0 Historical context

6.1 Reculver Towers and Fort is a Scheduled Monument. The monument has undergone several phases of development and reuse with the earliest settlement being the Early Iron Age farmstead, which dates back to around 500 BC. Following the Roman invasion of Britain in AD 43, a temporary military Roman camp was set up, utilising the higher ground of the site to provide a strategic vantage point over the Wantsum Channel and the coastline to the north. The fort was extended sometime between AD 185-210 to include a gatehouse and rampart banks and also the walls, which are still visible today. By the late third century military activity at the fort was in decline and in response, parts of the fort were demolished or blocked up. Following the collapse of the Roman Empire, activity at the site remained low and in AD 669, land at Reculver was granted for the foundation of a Minster by Egbert, the King of Kent.

6.2 The church was erected in the late seventh century with most of the material sourced from the ruined Roman Structures. In AD 949, the estate was granted to the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Minster functioned as a parish church. Alterations to the church were made during the twelfth and thirteenth century. In 1530 the sea cliffs and foreshore were a quarter of a mile north of the Roman fort but by 1685, plans show the sea cliffs considerably closer but with the fort walls still intact. By the late eighteenth century however, there had been considerable erosion of the sea cliffs, and the north-west corner of the fort had been lost. By 1802 Chapel House had fallen down and the remaining parishioners were persuaded to demolish the church in 1805 and erect a replacement at Hillborough although intervention from Trinity House meant that the twin towers were retained as a navigational aid.

6.3 A series of interpretation boards, designed with English Heritage, were installed in 2011 both within and directly adjacent to the Roman fort describing the rich and varied history of Reculver, giving visitors greater access to the history of the scheduled monument.
7.0 Habitats and Biodiversity

7.1 The North Kent Coast supports internationally important numbers of sanderling and turnstone and nationally important populations of bird species. At Reculver the key habitats of conservation importance include: unimproved grassland occurring on neutral soils, showing influence of salt spray of county importance; naturally eroding cliffs and slopes comprising the largest area of unprotected coastline in North Kent and of national geological importance; and feeding and roosting sites for wintering birds which are of international importance for wading birds.

The principal habitats of Reculver Country Park are amenity grassland, clifftop grassland, woodland, cliff, inter-tidal areas and small areas of beach. (see Map 2).

7.2 Amenity Grassland is maintained through regular mowing around the car parks and Reculver centre (see Appendix 2).

7.3 Clifftop Grassland is the most extensive habitat, covering approximately 7.5 hectares. It is mown for hay and contains a wide range of species including early hair grass Aira praecox, barren fescue Vulpia bromoides, meadow vetchling Lathyrus pratensis, bulbous buttercup Ranunculus bulbosus and thrift Armeria maritime.
7.4 Bishopstone Glen is a short steepsided valley cut through the clays and sands of Bishopstone and is the only feature of its kind on the North Kent Coast. The sheltered head of the Glen is dominated by ash and field maple woodland which is replaced further down the valley by hawthorn and blackthorn. Smooth-leaved elm is abundant throughout.
7.5 The coast between Bishopstone and Reculver exposes the Thanet Formation, the Woolwich and Reading Beds Formation, the Oldhaven Formation and the London Clay Formation. It is the key onland Palaeocene site in the London basin, and is one of Britain’s most important palaeobotanical sites. The cliffs are not defended from the sea and are therefore constantly eroding. This creates a rich and unusual environment, valuable for wildlife, and nationally and internationally recognised as a Site of Special Scientific Interest, Special Protection Area and Ramsar site. (Appendix 8 shows the SSSI designation). Natural England has divided the SSSI at Reculver into 3 units, and assesses these units to be in favourable condition. The city council also designated the cliff top between Bishopstone and Reculver as a Local Nature Reserve in 1992.

7.6 The cliffs also provide nesting sites for the largest sand martin colony in Kent and recently Fulmar have also bred on the cliff. Education packs providing more information about the environment at Reculver, can be found in Appendix 13.
8.0 Strategy and policy

8.1 A wide variety of policies have been developed at county and local level, which help to protect, conserve and enhance the Reculver area and its ecological and heritage importance.

8.2 The Canterbury District Local Plan promotes general restraint on adverse development in the countryside – policy R13 relates directly to enhancement of Reculver:

**Policy R13**

‘Proposals to further enhance the attraction of Reculver, as a destination for visitors, in particular leisure and open air recreational proposals, will be permitted by the City Council subject to design, visual and environmental impacts, and suitable access arrangements’

8.3 The council’s corporate plan promises to make our district cleaner and greener and lead by example on environmental issues. Reculver is included in a list of local sites where conservation management is implemented. The corporate plan also seeks to ensure that our plans and activities give sufficient protection to heritage sites and the built and natural environment and that we work with partners to identify and improve local biodiversity and habitats.

8.4 The council’s Community Strategy supports working with residents and volunteers to enhance the local area. The separate Bishopstone Glen management plan (see appendix 12) was developed as a response to demand from the local community for a plan for this specific area, and was approved by Natural England. This is a more detailed plan for work in this part of the Reculver Country Park.

8.5 The council’s Environment Strategy (2013 – 2016) commits the council to enhancement at Reculver and across the district. (The strategy can be found at [www.canterbury.gov.uk/your-council/policy-and-plans/environment-and-climate-change](http://www.canterbury.gov.uk/your-council/policy-and-plans/environment-and-climate-change)) This strategy is key to supporting the council’s Corporate Plan pledge to ‘make our district cleaner and greener and lead by example on environmental issues’. Activity ranges from looking after our built and natural environment, reducing waste and increasing recycling, to projects that tackle our environmental footprint.

8.6 The council works closely with Natural England to ensure compliance with national legislation and guidelines with regards protecting and enhancing the internationally ecologically important Thanet Coast Site of Special Scientific Interest, Special Protection Area and RAMSAR site, which incorporates Reculver along the east Kent coastline.

8.7 The East Kent Partnership developed the Natural East Kent vision that recognised the role that a connected series of tourism hotspots could play in regenerating economic development in East Kent. Reculver is seen as a key site for green tourism in east Kent. The Reculver Masterplan is a development of the East Kent Vision at Reculver.

8.8 The Masterplan (available at [www.canterbury.gov.uk/3451.aspx](http://www.canterbury.gov.uk/3451.aspx)) identified a series of projects which will help to meet this objective, which include working more closely with the local community;
upgrading the visitor experience in and adjacent to the country park; and encouraging private businesses to make sustainable accommodation and business improvements along Reculver Lane.

Four different zones have been identified both inside and outside of the boundaries of the country park to give clarity to the proposals outlined in the Masterplan:

- **Zone A – Country Park**, comprises the majority of the Reculver Country Park together with adjacent farmland to the south and contains proposals relating to the cycle link and improvements to car parks, interpretation and existing facilities. It also explores the possible purchase of farmland to the south of the site to counteract the loss of land through coastal erosion.

- **Zone B – Reculver Hub**, focuses on the main settlement area of Reculver including the Towers and Oyster Hatchery. Numerous proposals in this central area form the core of the Masterplan.

- **Zone C – West Wantsum**, comprises the land to the west of the Towers with the proposals in this area being a major aspiration for the long-term future.

- The proposals contained within Zone D, which covers the Hinterland area, look at issues such as addressing transport issues outside of the site, developing cycling and walking networks and establishing links with other destinations in the region.

8.9 Strategic regeneration based on the local maritime industry and landscape has been developed by working with around 30 European partners for the HMS Maritime Project, enhancing cycle links, and investing in the Reculver Centre to engage wider communities in delivery and promoting maritime regeneration in a wider area, recognising local industry and landscape.
9.0 Management and maintenance

9.1 Managing partners
Reculver Country Park is managed by the city council in partnership with a range of different organisations. Management is delivered through four formal partnerships:

9.1.1 English Heritage
English Heritage (EH) have delegated authority from the Secretary of State to manage the Reculver Towers Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM), and EH retain responsibility for maintaining the historic fabric of the buildings and structures of the scheduled monument property. The city council maintains the grounds around the Towers and promotes the site for education and visitor experience under an agreed contractual arrangement.

9.1.2 Kent Wildlife Trust
The council manages the Reculver Centre in partnership with Kent Wildlife Trust. The contractual agreement with KWT was renewed for five years in 2007 and again in 2012. Kent Wildlife Trust has responsibility for managing the centre during opening hours, providing the education service and maintaining the area around the Reculver centre. Responsibility for fire safety at the Reculver Centre is set out within the contract allocating necessary responsibilities to either KWT or the Council. The Kent Wildlife Trust Agreement also includes a set of 15 KPIs, which establishes a baseline standard from which they operate (see Appendix 3).

9.1.3 Grounds maintenance contractors – Serco and Ocean
Grounds maintenance including grass cutting is provided by Serco under the city council’s grounds maintenance contract. Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 shows the areas and specifications for this work as well as an indication of targets failed or achieved. Litter bins and dog waste bins are provided and regularly emptied.

Cleaning and management of public toilets is provided by Ocean under the council’s cleansing contract.

Each of these contracts are monitored for performance. Each feature within the contracts has been set a standard, which Serco/Ocean must maintain. Two main methods are used to monitor these standards: Performance Inspections and Customer Enquiries. Both are logged and monitored using the Confirm system against key performance indicators (KPI) which affect contractor payments.

Serco and Ocean also have their own Quality Assurance and internal Key Performance Indicators for Customer Service. As an open-booked accountancy partnership we are able to commission additional works at competitive prices in line with rates set out in the contract (Appendix 2 shows how well contractors have met their targets).
9.1.4 Council departments
The council’s building maintenance section is responsible for maintenance of the building and fire safety checks including:

- an annual inspection of all fire extinguishers
- the testing of any fixed electrical wiring on a five-year basis
- the front door to be tested twice annually
- any portable appliances to be tested annually
- the fire alarm system and emergency lights to be tested quarterly

The council community safety unit deals with encampments and vandalism and other antisocial behaviour.

The Transport and Environment section liaises with Natural England and the Environment Agency to manage the site strategically for both visitors and as an SSSI.

9.2 Sustainability
Sustainable management is at the heart of public sector delivery and supported by policies within the council’s Community Strategy, Corporate Plan and Environment Strategy. Key components of sustainability at Reculver are sustainable management practices, the conservation of biodiversity, the promotion of alternatives to motor transport, and protection of the historic heritage. These elements are taken forward in specific targets: heritage conservation, biodiversity, sustainable management and visitor management.

Long-term sustainable aspirations for sea defence management are set out in the council’s Shoreline Management Plan and reflected in the Reculver Masterplan (Phase 4). This includes the proposed managed coastal retreat of the West Wantsum area. This will result in the creation of extended habitat for wetland birds with the added benefit of reducing costs involved in the ongoing
maintenance of sea defences. Enhancement of this area will provide a significant focus for the growth of a new ‘green tourism’ market.

Responsibilities are set out in the agreement between the city council and English Heritage. The agreement with English Heritage specifically prohibits the use of pesticides on the ancient monument, and their use in SSSI requires the consent of Natural England. English Heritage and city council staff inspect the condition of the monument regularly to ensure it is sustainably managed for the future. £50,000 was spent to restore the fabric of the Towers in 2013.

The cliff top grassland, the woodland in Bishopstone Glen and inter-tidal areas are managed sustainably for waterfowl. Conservation interest is maintained by an annual hay cut in late July of the cliff-top grassland, and the sensitive management of small areas of woodland (as funds allow) to maintain access and diversify the woodland structure. As part of their contract, Kent Wildlife Trust record and monitor cliff top bird species and sandmartins, which nest in the cliff-face. More information can be found in Appendix 8 Biodiversity report Kent Wildlife Trust.

Council contractors have been instructed not to use any pesticides in the maintenance of the Country Park. No peat or bedding plants are used in the country park. Our contractors have adapted their entire fleet of vehicles to use bio-diesel fuel. The council implements an annual hay cut mowing regime for the SSSI cliff-top grassland, which is carried out by our contractors in late August so as to fall outside of the ground-nesting bird season.

Promotional material emphasises sustainable public transport and cycle routes to the Country Park. The newly installed cycle way further compliments the opportunities that Reculver Country Park offers for sustainable recreation. Phase 2 of the Masterplan incorporates plans for the creation of circular walking and cycling routes. The intention is to link these to public transport connections wherever possible. These plans are augmented by the provision of high quality cycle racks alongside the potential for inclusion of a bike hire outlet within the frontage development of the Reculver Hub.

9.3 Health and safety
The Council reviews risk assessment annually. Different sections of the council work together to manage the risk on the shoreline and inspect the presence of any hazards on the land in various functions. Kent Wildlife Trust also undertake their own risk assessments. Events are subject to individual assessment (Appendix 4).

9.4 Funding and resources
Details of budgets are set out in Appendix 6. External funding has and continues to be key to larger capital development. Partnership working is essential to achieving a good value experience for visitors with limited public funds, whilst enabling social interaction and skills development by volunteers.
### 9.5 Management Prescription

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<th>Timing</th>
<th>Monitoring</th>
<th>Review</th>
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<td>To attain recognition for meeting high standards at Reculver Country Park</td>
<td>Maintain beach award</td>
<td>Annual</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>CCC Foreshore Services</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Maintain Green Flag Award</td>
<td>Annual</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>CCC Transport and Environment</td>
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<td>Maintain In Bloom Award</td>
<td>Annual</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>CCC Transport and Environment with Herne Bay in Bloom</td>
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<td>To promote biodiversity and obtain records of diversity</td>
<td>Hay cut off cliff grassland</td>
<td>Annual, Summer</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>CCC Transport and Environment</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Zero use of pesticides and peat</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
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<td>Recording numbers of cliff-top birds and cliff-face sandmartins</td>
<td>Seasonal</td>
<td>Annual</td>
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<td><em>Phased improvements at Bishopstone Glen:</em></td>
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<td></td>
<td>In accordance with 2013 Management Plan and associated consultation</td>
<td>2013 - 2016</td>
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<td>CCC Transport and Environment and Contracts</td>
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<td>To improve coordination of design and layout in the Country Park</td>
<td>Maintain amenity grass cutting regime</td>
<td>Ongoing, seasonal</td>
<td></td>
<td>CCC Countryside</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Business meeting to work towards regeneration objectives in accordance with masterplan</td>
<td>3 annually/ as appropriate</td>
<td></td>
<td>CCC Transport and Environment</td>
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<tr>
<td>To encourage sustainability and healthy lifestyles by creating an environment suitable for walking and cycling; promoting access</td>
<td>British Heart Foundation Cycle Ride</td>
<td>Annual event (October)</td>
<td>Participant numbers at event</td>
<td>CCC Transport and Environment and Festivals and Events</td>
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<td>Task Description</td>
<td>Frequency/Duration</td>
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<td>Re-enactment event</td>
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<td>CCC Transport and Environment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Heritage Open Days</td>
<td>Annual (September)</td>
<td>CCC Transport and Environment and Kent Wildlife Trust</td>
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<tr>
<td>Distribute newsletters</td>
<td>Twice yearly</td>
<td>Kent Wildlife Trust</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promote Reculver Supporters Registration</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Kent Wildlife Trust</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Produce educational resource packs for up to 3500 students</td>
<td>September to July</td>
<td>Kent Wildlife Trust</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Record visitor and student numbers</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Kent Wildlife Trust</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Print English and French version of site leaflet</td>
<td>Annually as required</td>
<td>CCC Transport and Environment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New garden Lottery project</td>
<td>2015-16</td>
<td>CCC and Herne Bay in Bloom</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attend Herne Bay Exhibition event</td>
<td>Annual March/April</td>
<td>CCC and Kent Wildlife Trust</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
This management plan was adopted in February 2003 and revised in February 2004, January 2007, December 2008, January 2013 and January 2015.

If you have any observations or suggestions about this management plan or the Reculver Country Park please contact:

Countryside,
Planning and Regeneration,
Canterbury City Council,
Military Road,
Canterbury
Kent
CT1 1YW

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You can get this information in other formats, including Braille, large print, audiotape and other languages. Please phone the Countryside section on 01227 862 187, or email: countryside@canterbury.gov.uk