

## **Shingle Street: Summary of Local Activities (April 2025 – April 2026)**

**Prepared for:** Bawdsey Parish Council

**Prepared by:** Tim Green, on behalf of Shingle Street residents

**Date:** April 2026

This note provides a short summary of significant activity at Shingle Street over the last year that may be of interest to Bawdsey Parish Council. We continued to maintain our village vision for Shingle Street to be a wild and natural place where biodiversity is protected and enhanced, and where people can respectfully experience the unique environment. This report covers matters principally happening in 2025/26.

### **1. Land management and environmental stewardship**

During the last year, Shingle Street residents have continued work to protect and enhance the highly sensitive shingle, marsh and grassland environment, consistent with existing designations (including County Wildlife Site and AONB considerations).

The community completed a second year of work to increase the biodiversity on the area we call Shingle Marshes. 23 acres west of the road opposite the houses. This included: rehoming slow worms, work to solar pump ditch water into scrapes, cutting and gathering some areas of annually rotating areas of grass, planting out a few bush/scrub plants. Some of these activities were supported by Hollesley Bay prisoners we are grateful to those involved, including prison management and staff for enabling such a valuable local contribution. Works will continue on an evolutionary basis.

### **2. Visitor access, parking and traffic management**

Shingle Street continues to receive high visitor numbers relative to the fragility of the environment. Residents continue to provide permissive parking to the north and south, enabling safe access while reducing informal and damaging verge and beach parking. Over the last year, Ranger staff from East Suffolk Council have regularly been at Shingle Street to talk to visitors and help provide information to them on minimising the impact of their visit on local sensitive areas. They report many valuable and enjoyable conversations with visitors who typically want to care for the area.

### **3. Planning and enforcement correspondence**

The community raised planning compliance concerns with East Suffolk Council regarding potential unauthorised use of land to the south of the village on the verge of the roadway. The Council have advised us 6 months that they are taking enforcement

action although no change in use has been observed to date. We will continue to monitor this and the support of BCP would be appreciated. This action was taken to protect environmental integrity, public safety, and consistency with planning controls affecting the wider coast.

#### **4. Defibrillator Installed**

The community was pleased that in August 2025 a defibrillator went live, positioned in the old phone box at the southern car park. This was facilitated by BCP taking ownership of the box from BT and also paying for the electrical connection of a British Heart Foundation defibrillator. This is very important to the community with the next nearest device being located in Hollesley, 2.5 miles away! Thanks BCP for your kind help.

#### **5. Reservoir approved**

Planning permission was granted for a new agricultural reservoir on the road into Shingle Street, in the field between Dumb Boy Cottage and Barthorps Creek. Concerns were raised about the risk of increased flooding risk to the single access road into Shingle Street.

#### **6. Community archive project**

Residents are starting to draw together an archive of photos, documents and oral histories of Shingle Street both physically and digitally. If anyone has anything they would not mind sharing then please contact Catherine Lonsday-Davies.

#### **7. Roadside ditch digging**

After Shingle Street was repeatedly cut off from field run off water in 2024 residents have worked to ensure roadside ditches are clear each autumn. This was repeated again in 2025 and no access concerns were experienced.

Any further questions or queries, then please contact: Tim Green