



# Morecambe Bay Partnership

Registered Charity No. 1089559

## Annual Report and Financial Statement Year ended 31 March 2009

### Trustees

June Ashworth  
Alan Chester (Treasurer)  
Vic Crumley  
Richard Greenwood  
Phil Hurst  
Dennis Laird  
Joyce Lynch  
Captain Graham MacLean (Chair)  
Ged McAllister  
Geoff Paul  
Richard Scott  
Jane Wright

The Morecambe Bay Partnership aims to

- improve the co-ordination and communication around the coast
- encourage more people to enjoy the coast
- involve local people and local communities in our activities
- run education and community projects and
- support regional coastal initiatives through the PISCES network.

#### Office Address

32 Market Place, Kendal, LA9 4TN 01539 734888  
office@morecambebay.org.uk www.morecambebay.org.uk

#### Auditor:

**Fiona Parker**

## **Trustees' Report**

We are pleased to report on a strong year of progress and development for the Partnership. Our thanks, as ever, to the tremendous support of all our volunteers and partners, particularly the BeachCare volunteers who have taken responsibility for running beach cleans and other events. This has allowed us to focus our resources to pursue the bigger goal of developing the Bay Programme – previously referred to as the Regional Park concept. This work has been led by the Partnership, and largely funded by the North West Regional Development Agency (NWDA).

## **Communities and Events**

### **BeachCare**

BeachCare has continued with a strong programme of events, and engaged many new volunteers. Between April 2008 and the end of March 2009, 640 volunteers took part in 23 events, and cleared 7 tonnes of rubbish from our coast.

Since September 2007 there has not been a dedicated BeachCare Officer and most events have been run by volunteer leaders. Our thanks go to all of them and all the volunteers for their time, commitment and support.

Matt Sanderson in Barrow has been particularly active, forging new partnerships and adding walks into the programme to explore and celebrate the coast and add a new social dimension for the volunteers.

### **Piel Island Walk and clean up, Walney – 31 May 2008**

Working in partnership with the Barrow Streetsafe team, supported by the Coastguard and Steve Chattaway, the King of Piel, we organised a guided walk to Piel Island, a litter pick on the Island and social event for the volunteers. Over 120 people joined us and helped to ensure the Island looked its best for the summer visitors.

### **Cross Bay Walk - Saturday 14 June 2008**

Around 200 friends and supporters of the Partnership joined our Cross Bay Walk.

### **Grange Expo “Changing Channels” – 7-13 August 2008**

Working with over 20 individuals and local community groups we staged an exhibition about the changing channels and our changing relationship to Morecambe Bay. This ran for a week in August in Grange. Although it was a new endeavour for the Partnership we were delighted that over 400 people attended, with more coming in each day. Grange Expo would not have been possible without the tremendous enthusiasm and commitment from Denys Vaughan who was largely responsible for compiling and co-ordinating the exhibition.

### **Explore the Coast walk, Barrow docks and seafront – 7 February 2009**

Another new event was the Explore the Coast walk lead by Matt Sanderson one of our most active volunteers. Happily this February day was bright and sunny as over 20 people joined this fascinating walk experiencing the juxtaposition of the industrial and the natural along Barrow's shore.

### **Keith Budden – Mayor of Lancaster District**

Councillor Keith Budden, one of our longstanding beachcare volunteers, was elected as Mayor of Lancaster in May 2008. We were heartened to be recognised by Keith

and named as one of his Mayoral charities. Our thanks to Keith for this endorsement and for his ongoing support.

## **Information and Communication**

### **AGM & Conference – 25 February 2009, Barrow-in-Furness**

In February 2009, the Partnership welcomed over 160 delegates to its AGM and Conference at Forum 28 in Barrow. The speakers included Rebecca Willis, Vice-Chair of the UK Sustainable Development Commission, Dennis Laird, West Lakes Renaissance, Walter Menzies, Regional Parks Exchange and Mersey Basin Campaign, Kate Willard, independent consultant, Maddi Nicholson, Artist Director, Art Gene and Susannah Bleakley, Morecambe Bay Partnership.

Walter Menzies spoke of the Regional Parks in the North West and Kate Willard outlined the opportunity presented by the Bay Programme. This was further explored by the afternoon workshops.

### **Sport & Recreation Group**

The Sport and Recreation Group held a meeting on 20 November 2008 with a presentation from Jenny Wain, Cumbria County Council looking at the range of offshore developments around the Bay area.

## **Regeneration, Recreation and Tourism**

### **Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary Regional Park Programme**

The NWDA, through the Regional Parks Exchange, have been supporting our work on developing the Regional Park concept. The term 'Regional Park' can be misleading, but is used both by the Regional Spatial Strategy and Regional Economic Strategy. There is no fixed model, but it may be seen as a programme of projects that contribute to regeneration, environment, recreation, and tourism. Developing the regional park concept for Morecambe Bay is in line with the Regional Economic Strategy.

Following the two short studies reported on last year further development work has included the 'Expert Group' held in Morecambe in September 2008 and work on developing a prospectus which was launched at the Conference in February 2009. Further detail is available from our website: [www.morecambebay.org.uk](http://www.morecambebay.org.uk)

### **Partnership staff**

Donna Gough (nee Lewis) continued as part-time Office Manager and provided excellent support in handling the details of our finances efficiently and smoothly.

Susannah Bleakley, the Partnership Officer, delivered and managed projects, core activities and fundraising.

### **Trustees**

Jane Wright joined the Trustees in January 2009. Margaret Martindale stood down as a Trustee. There were no other changes to the Trustees. Alan Chester is especially thanked for his support to the organisation.

**Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf:**



Graham MacLean, Chair of Trustees, Morecambe Bay Partnership, Sept 2009

## Financial Statement for the year ended 31 March 2009

Income	Restricted							Unrestricted		TOTAL
	Beach Care	Mermaid's Purse	Conferences & Seminars	Regional Parks	Training & Dvpt.	Other projects	General	Other Projects		
Partners			1,000				1,450	39,795		42,245
Grants				29,000						29,000
Members	800		975				312	952		3,039
Other Donations								52	1,969	2,021
Sales		80								80
Investments								3,967		3,967
Gifts in Kind	22,550							3,400		25,950
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>23,350</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>1,975</b>	<b>29,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,762</b>	<b>48,166</b>	<b>1,969</b>	<b>1,969</b>	<b>106,302</b>

Expenditure	Restricted							Unrestricted		TOTAL
	Beach Care	Mermaid's Purse	Conferences & Seminars	Regional Parks	Training & Dvpt.	Other projects	General	Other Projects		
Staff Costs	12,286		6,818	13,766	931		2,921	4,601		41,322
Travel & Subsistence	927		124	927	124		62	927		3,090
Office Costs	1,467		814	1,644	111		349	549		4,935
Gifts in Kind	22,550						3,400			25,950
Publications/Publicity										0
Conference/Seminars/Events			1,681							1,681
One-off Costs	145			15,234	40		226			15,645
General	292									292
Subtotal	37,667	0	9,437	31,571	1,206	0	6,957	6,077		92,915
Allocation of overhead	3,049	0	764	2,555	98	0	-6,957	492		0
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>£40,716</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£10,201</b>	<b>£34,126</b>	<b>£1,303</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£6,569</b>	<b>£92,915</b>	<b>£92,915</b>
Net Income/Expenditure	-£17,366	£80	-£8,226	-£5,126	-£1,303	£1,762	£48,166	-£4,600		£13,387
Tfr to restricted funds	£17,366	-£80	£8,226	£5,126	£1,303	-£1,762	-£34,779	£4,600		£0

Surplus for the Year **£13,387**  
 Brought Forward '07/'08 **£81,072**  
 Carried Forward '08/'09 **£94,459**

Approved by independent examiner:

*F Parker*

Fiona Parker, January 2010

### Financial Comment

Despite the economic downturn, the finances of the Partnership remain stable and relatively healthy. This is due more to economies, than growth, but has not resulted in delays in delivery of key projects. Our flexible approach to staffing and the dedication of volunteers has been of significant value in maintaining our position from which we hope to build an ongoing and secure future, although we expect the funding environment to remain challenging. Alan Chester, Partnership Treasurer



### We thank all our funding partners for their continued support

Associated British Ports  
 British Energy  
 Environment Agency  
 Lancashire County Council  
 Natural England  
 Regional Parks Exchange  
 Wyre Borough Council

Barrow Borough Council  
 Centrica Energy HRL  
 Heysham Port Ltd  
 Lancaster City Council  
 NWDA  
 South Lakeland District Council

Boughton Estates  
 Cumbria County Council  
 Holker Estates  
 Parish Councils  
 O2  
 Volker Stevin