

Quinquennial works – The first tranche of category A (urgent) work should be coming to an end soon, there is still a lot of soft capping that needs to be completed throughout the site and this will continue after the Easter Holidays. Christina Newnham and I met on Thursday last week to start planning in the category B works for later in the year.

Weston Farm – Email from Tracey Churcher to all Purbeck Staff

I am delighted to share with you all that we have now completed on the acquisition of Weston Farm at Worth Matravers. This 350-acre mixed arable and previously dairy farm has been owned by the Strange family for over 100 years and I am totally delighted that they have decided to entrust its future to our care.

We will manage the land for nature and will work with existing tenants to provide grazing where it is needed. The farm also includes Winspit Quarry, famous for both bats, filming and climbers! The farm has also had a summer campsite and we hope to be able to get that going to provide some affordable accommodation for people coming to holiday in Purbeck. It isn't clear whether we will be able to get this going this year or next yet.

As it adjoins our existing land holding at East Man – it now means we own the coastal strip from just West of Durlleston through to the point of St Aldelms head – one of the most amazingly beautiful stretches in the country.

Paul Bradley has been successful in applying for the Project Officer position to get the farm up and running and manage the infrastructure. His wealth of local knowledge will be invaluable in getting things sorted and I am delighted that he will be a core part of the team. Paul will be managed by Nick Hughes and will work to a Project Board made up of the Leadership team, Ian Wilson and our various specialist consultants.

This has taken us two years to get to this point and has been a phenomenal team effort to get us this far.

Thank you to each and every one of you whose work has contributed to getting us to this point. The NT have supported us with Neptune Funds and also four private donors made a significant contribution towards the purchase.

This is why we get up and come to work every day – It doesn't matter what your particular role is, we all contribute to great things like this. I thank you all for your hard work and professionalism which gives us credibility when we make a bid for amazing places such as this – couldn't be prouder of you all

Tracey

Easter Holidays – commences this weekend for the Dorset region and we are geared up to welcome families to enjoy the 'Dragon and the castle' Easter trail. We estimate that we will welcome close to 21,000 visitors over the 17 days of Easter holidays.

Village Map – This has now been completed. I have attached a LoRes copy for you to look at and we should be receiving the HiRes copy over the next couple of weeks. I will be emailing the businesses on the map to see if they wish to be included – once we have heard back, we can then get in designed into a proper leaflet.