

**Shotley Open Spaces**  
**Draft Minutes 15th June 2017**  
**Bristol Arms 19.30**

**Apologies:** Roger C, Barrie P (SPC)

**Attendees:** Gary R, Derek G, Heide G, Marian P, Geraint P, Tony LR, Geraint P, Pat S, Jane L, Alex P, Shane R, Ian P, Ian S,

1. **Minutes of last meeting:** To be signed after corrections.
2. **Walkers are Welcome:** GR reported that Merlin Carr from Eye had written a letter of congratulations for the article in the East Anglian regarding our achievement of WAW status. He wants to bring a delegation from his town to participate in one of our walks and pick our brains en route. We will write offering some dates. Any member of our group is welcome to join us. Sudbury and Somersham have also shown an interest. All our recent walks were fully booked with several “returners” from previous walks. GR has put in a report for IN TOUCH. We are also in the Health Watch booklets and will be working in conjunction with the local GPs in future. An updated and expanded set of Explorer Guides is in the process of being produced Kathy Smith has looked at funding through herself, Dave Wood and our Parish Council. The latter is the only one yet to be confirmed. It is on their agenda for tonight. Tracey Brinkley of the TAG has asked us to buy and install outdoor leaflet holders on the eight Information board that we gained funding for throughout the peninsula. They will reimburse our costs.
3. **Tourism Action Group:** 6th June Woolverstone Girls School. GR, GP, MP, AE, DD represented us there. SC also in attendance. AP reported that Hannah Patterson (Peninsula Sports Centre) had enquired about TAG involvement. GR to action. A discussion ensued about raising the profile of Shotley as destination village. (Brown signs, views, walks, etc). it was felt the PC was not promoting the area. They are increasingly Re active, there is no Pro active planning or strategy. There does not seem to be a “will” to advertise us or promote us to the benefit of local businesses. It will need someone on the PC to want to take it on. It will be interesting to see their response to our request for the remaining funding needed for the Explorer Guides. The Outdoor Cinema kit that Stour and Orwell Society is buying looks interesting. Ideas for films that could be shown were requested.

4. **Parish Council:** 3 councillors have been designated to engage with us. BP, RW, BP. Hopefully they will find time to come to some of our meetings.
5. **Heritage Park Maintenance:** A payback team had done a great deal on 28th May. Andrew Thompson had assisted Gary most ably.
6. **Gun Deck Working Group:** There has still been no response from the Parish Clerk. Ben Powell and John Sparkes have been consulted by IS. There could be some further news soon.
7. **Marketing and Promotions:** Photos have to be in by July. "Summer" ones are particularly needed. Colours and sizing of logo embroidery is being finalised. Buy our own garments SOS will pay for the logos.
  
8. **Treasurers Report: Balance today £11,995.78. Outlay for screws, refreshments, postage, laminating and printing.**
  
9. **A.O.B:** Members encouraged to start using our Facebook page.  
**AGM to be held before next meeting which will be on 20/7/17 @ 13.30** Meeting closed 21.05.