

## Newsletter 8 – 26 February 2021



### Newsletter to Supporters of [savethedonkeyfield.co.uk](http://savethedonkeyfield.co.uk)

A number of you have asked how you can help save the Donkey Field in a more tangible way, in particular, by donating money. We now have a donation page on our website and would encourage you to use it. You can donate using PayPal, or a debit or credit card. The address to the website page is <http://savethedonkeyfield.co.uk/donate>.

Since 2008 when this campaign actually began, over £7,500 has been spent on professional fees, searches and incidental costs; two thirds of that figure has been incurred since 2020. Further costs will need to be incurred as the Donkey field remains under threat. By way of reminder, last year, the owners of the Donkey Field referred to:

***“ ..... a planning application which the College hopes to submit in the coming months...”***

#### ***Eton College 25 September 2020***

Access to the Donkey Field will, we believe, be the biggest on-the-ground issue in pure planning terms that a developer will have to overcome. We have already marshalled powerful arguments on the access issue based on Chancery Counsel’s opinion, and restrictive covenants affecting access will be enforced. Further work is being done in relation to other issues concerning access and professional costs will need to be incurred in that regard.

There are of course other objections and planning issues which militate against planning permission being granted. These points are also being addressed in advance of the planning application we know is coming. This is an ongoing project which the Committee have substantially funded to date from their own pockets. Any financial support you can give would therefore be welcome. We only have one chance to protect the character of beauty of our coastal landscape from developers.

As you will be aware, the landscape was irremediably altered when Eton College felled a beautiful, healthy, hundred and fifty year-old oak tree that has stood for generations. That matter is being pursued. However, the critical issue now is to prepare for the planning applications that we know are coming (up to 25 houses according to the Council’s SHLAA determination). Whilst we recognise that new housing is required to meet the island’s needs, we believe those needs can be met from brown-field sites (as does Bob Seeley MP whom we support).

Please donate.