## WHITBY LOBSTER HATCHERY

**Report on Progress** 

Year 1 (2021-2022)





Registered charity: 1193944



### INTRODUCTION

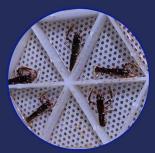
What a year it has been to attempt to start a new conservation project in the heart of Whitby, North Yorkshire. Despite the challenges we at the Whitby Lobster Hatchery project have made some fantastic progress. In this report we will detail our achievements throughout the year, showcase our progress and explain our next steps.

Driven by our three core aims of conservation, education and research we are working to make sure reality meets our ambitions for the project.











CONSERVATION - We aim to release 100,000 juvenile lobsters to protect and conserve the marine ecological balance.

**EDUCATION** 

- We alongside the Discovery Centre Whitby we aim to provide fun, interactive and educational workshops for all.

RESEARCH

- Our facility is well suited to provide excellent opportunities for world class research.

## CONSERVE EDUCATE R

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## WHITBY LOBSTER HATCHERY

#### YEAR ONE REPORT



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#### 1. PROGRESS

Our project kick-started in March 2021 with the completion of our crowd funding campaign plus the successful registration of our charity (North Sea Conservation 1193933). Here will be recap our key progress over the past 12 months.

### SITE SURVEYS

Ensuring our site inside Whitby's Fish Market building on Pier Road was suitable, safe and in condition to meet our requirements was a vital element in early planning. With help from our crowd funder we were able to get our project design and planning phase underway, which included the following vital surveys...



#### STRUCTURAL SURVEY

Expert structural engineers Mason Clark Ltd conducted a thorough and complete survey of the site and building. Including reviewing the concrete supports holding the quayside and fish market building. In conclusion, while some minor works are recommended, Mason Clark saw nothing of concern which would be an issue for our project.





## 1. PROGRESS SITE SURVEYS



### MEASURED SURVEY

Any building works or development require a clear understand of the pre-exsisting structure. A measured survey was essential in providing information for our design team. Two men from Metron Surveyers with two huge laser collected over 1 billion data points of the Whitby's fish market.

## 4METRON

#### ASBESTOS SURVEY

Another important step was to confirm any presence of asbestos over the site. Any presence would require professional (and expensive) removal before further works could continue. Thankfully the full survey reported no presence of asbestos.

In conclusion all the vital surveys reported positive news allowing us to progress with design work in the knowledge the site was suitable for our ambitions.



## WHITBY LOBSTER HATCHERY

#### YEAR ONE REPORT



#### 1. PROGRESS

### WATER QUALITY TEST

Our research indicated that juvenile lobsters are vulnerable to poor water quality. Therefore, it was vital to ensure the water we plan to use within the hatchery is high quality. Fortunately, the Environment Agency conduct routine water quality tests in Whitby harbour. Our aquaculture specialist were able to analyse the data and concluded there was no major issues with the water. However, due to the input of fresh water and potential for agricultural/ industrial run off within the area of the harbour, we are designing a water processing system to ensure our water quality remains excellent.





# FITZPATRICK

### **GRAPHICS & WEBSITE**

successful application to Coventry Universities Digital Advantage Grant provided a fantastic opportunity to professionally build our digital brand, social media presence and website. Our original logo created by Young (cargocollective.com/91young) was reworked to create our visually strong logo. The charities brand, colours and digital presence was developed to create a strong identity.

In March 2022, exactly one year after our inception, the new website was launched. Including information about lobster, our project and our team plus many opportunities to support, donate and get involved.

www.whitbylobsterhatchery.co.uk



#### 1. PROGRESS

DESIGN When all relevant surveys had been concluded more detailed design work could be conducted. Cohesive, considerate and sustainable were key features of our design process.

### ARCHITECT

lan Hazard a local architect has been involved in the project since the beginning. lan's keen eye for design, style and function has been key to steering the design to meet the high standards of the project. The original conceptual design (right) has been further developed.







### HERITAGE CONSULTANCY

The site sits at the heart of Whitby's town centre and conservation area. Celebrating Whitby's rich history and heritage has been imperative to our development process.



### DESIGN TEAM

To ensure our design proposal was cohesive with Whitby's community, heritage and aesthetic a design team was assembled. Stakeholders including Historic England, SBC, SBC Planning Officer, Harbour Authority and Heritage consultants met monthly to discuss the direction of the design and integration of of local heritage.

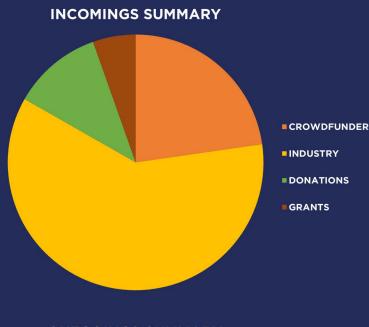
After many discussions it was agreed by the design team that the reworked original concept would add to Whitby's heritage assets by incorporating recognised local forms and providing a regeneration to Whitby's harbour.

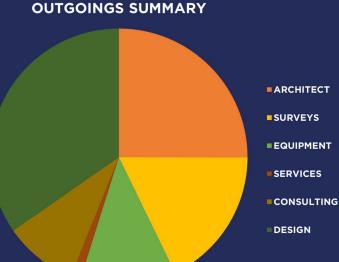




### 2. FUNDING

The year began with a huge boost with the success of the crowd funder. By raising over £20,000 it meant our project could start progressing. Since then we have raised funding from other sources.





### INCOMINGS

Huge thanks to our supporters large and small. We appreciate every bit of support we receive. The funding has allow us to go from strength to strength.

Over the next few months and years and now we have much of our design and planning phases complete we will be looking to increase incomings from grant funds and to generate our own income streams.

#### **OUTGOINGS**

On the breakdown summary pie chart you can see the investment made on surveys, architect fees and design, amongst other outgoings. Now we have the vast majority of survey and design work complete we aim to move more investment into equipment and training to achieve more of our ambitions and core aims.

















#### 3. COMMUNITY

Whitby's community, history and heritage has always been a central part of our project. Our core values aim to protect and celebrate our historic community and people. We are pleased to say over the past year the support we have received from Whitby's fishing community and wider community has been astounding.



Whitby's Madam Mayor, Linda Wild is a keen supporter of the project. Often she comes to visit the tanks and to see our progress. Linda's passion for Whitby is infectious and we love to have her on-board with our project.

MP Robert Goodwill has also expressed his support for our project. Mr Goodwill has served as the fisheries minister in the past and holds fishing communities as central to our coastal communities. Thanks for your support Mr. Goodwill.

Support from our local fishing community has always been vital to our project. We are grateful for their support and assistance. Whether it is helping out with our Easter Pop Up (image above right), collecting sea water or financial support we are glad to say we have their support. Together we will work to make sure our fishing industry is supported, successful and secured into future.









**GOOD INTENT WY79** 

PRIDE & JOY WY219



## 4. NEXT STEPS CONSERVATION

With lobster hatching season quickly approaching we are working to get our project ready for our first ever hatching season. Each season we will be working towards achieving our key aim of releasing 100,000 juvenile lobsters every year.

We will be working with our hatchery specialist to kit out and install the state of the art hatchery and research system. Which we hope will be up and running for the summer of 2022.



### **EDUCATION**



After the success of the pop-up event over the Easter break we have had multiple interests in our education programs. Over the coming months we aim to progress with the development and implementation of educational and outreach programs.

Delivering keys themes of fishing history, marine ecology, marine conservation and changing climates. The next steps are to further developing these programs and to reach out to schools.

#### RESEARCH

Our final aim has taken a recent positive step forward with an unlikely collaboration with artist Philip Colbert. Philip's latest project (Lobstars) is collaborating with us to deliver some interesting and ground breaking research.

Over the coming months we will be undertaking some unusual and exciting lobster research projects. Watch this space!

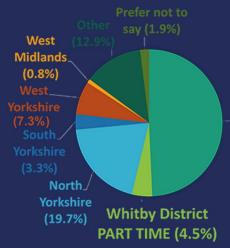


Whitby
District
FULL TIME
(49.3%)



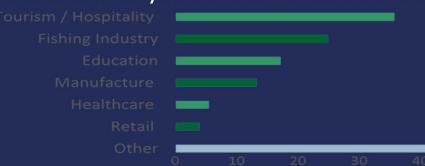
## **SURVEY RESULTS 2021**



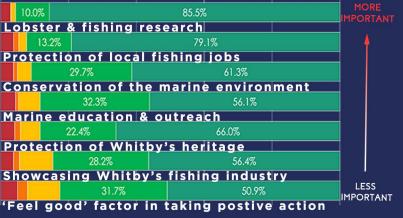


## ABOUT YOU

What sector do you work in? \*% those who answered



## WHAT'S IMPORTANT



90% of those surveyed believe a lobster hatchery and visitors centre should be open in Whitby.

9/10 YES!

### In the visitors centre..

Understanding how the hatchery works

Native marine wildlife

Yorkshire's history & heritage

Today's fishing industry

North East Coastline Information

194

Your ideas...
showcase updates and progress of the hatchery organise talks from offer volunteer opportunites fishing industry members outreach programs low cost admission for local schools

Results based on 355 responses. Invited to respond via email networks, social media, website and various local groups. Conducted March 2021



#### 6. CONCLUSIONS

Without the public support for our project we would never be where we are today, ready to install Whitby's first ever lobster hatchery. We are extremely grateful for the donations, advice and support over the past year.



It has been an unsettled and concerning year for our coastline and fishing community. During which a 'mysterious' bout of crustacean deaths along the coast have caused unknown damage to our marine ecosystems. With possible links to marine pollutants released during dredging activity or perhaps an algal bloom, we may never know. What we do know is that with the lobster hatchery in place we will be better equipped to underpin these important populations.

The events have highlighted the need for effective management and conservation of our environment, an enironment which supports our amazing biodiversity, coastal way of life and communities of people.

By standing by and working tirelessly to achieve our three core values; **conservation**, **education** and **research** we believe we can bring positive change to improve, protect and sustain our environmental and cultural heritage.

Working with the upcoming Marine Discovery Centre Whitby we hope to inspire and reconnect with our native marine biodiversity and coastal environments. With the goal to foster a greater sense of ownership and guardianship for generations to come.

From our project manager, Joe Redfern, Trustees and volunteers thanks again for your support. We look forward to welcoming you to visit soon.





7. GET INVOLVED

## **Sponsor Us**

- commercial sponsors
- corporate open days
- promote your business

Various options available depending on your business and circumstance. For restaurants and seafood suppliers we are offering a 'buy one release one' scheme. Giving your customers a more responsible seafood option by giving some back to our oceans.



Many other sponsorship options. Order your sponsorship pack toady!



## Volunteers required

- look after juvenile lobsters
- help with marine conservation
- support our fishing community
- gain brilliant experience & skills

## Visit our website

Merchandise available all proceeds go directly to help our conservation project



## **CONSERVE EDUCATE**

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WRITTEN & PREPARED BY JOE REDFERN FOR NORTH SEA CONSERVATION (WHITBY LOBSTER HATCHERY) **APRIL 2022** 



## WHITBY LOBSTER HATCHERY

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