

# Timeline for Thurrock litter pick campaign

October 2014

Became volunteer river warden patrolling stretch of the Thames Estuary Path from Leigh-on-Sea to Tilbury Town

July 2015

Put in touch with Thames21 and began to survey Tilbury riverside

October 2015

First litter pick took place around Tilbury Power Station yielding 91 sacks of litter

October 2016

Seventh litter pick took place prompting e-mail to Thurrock Council

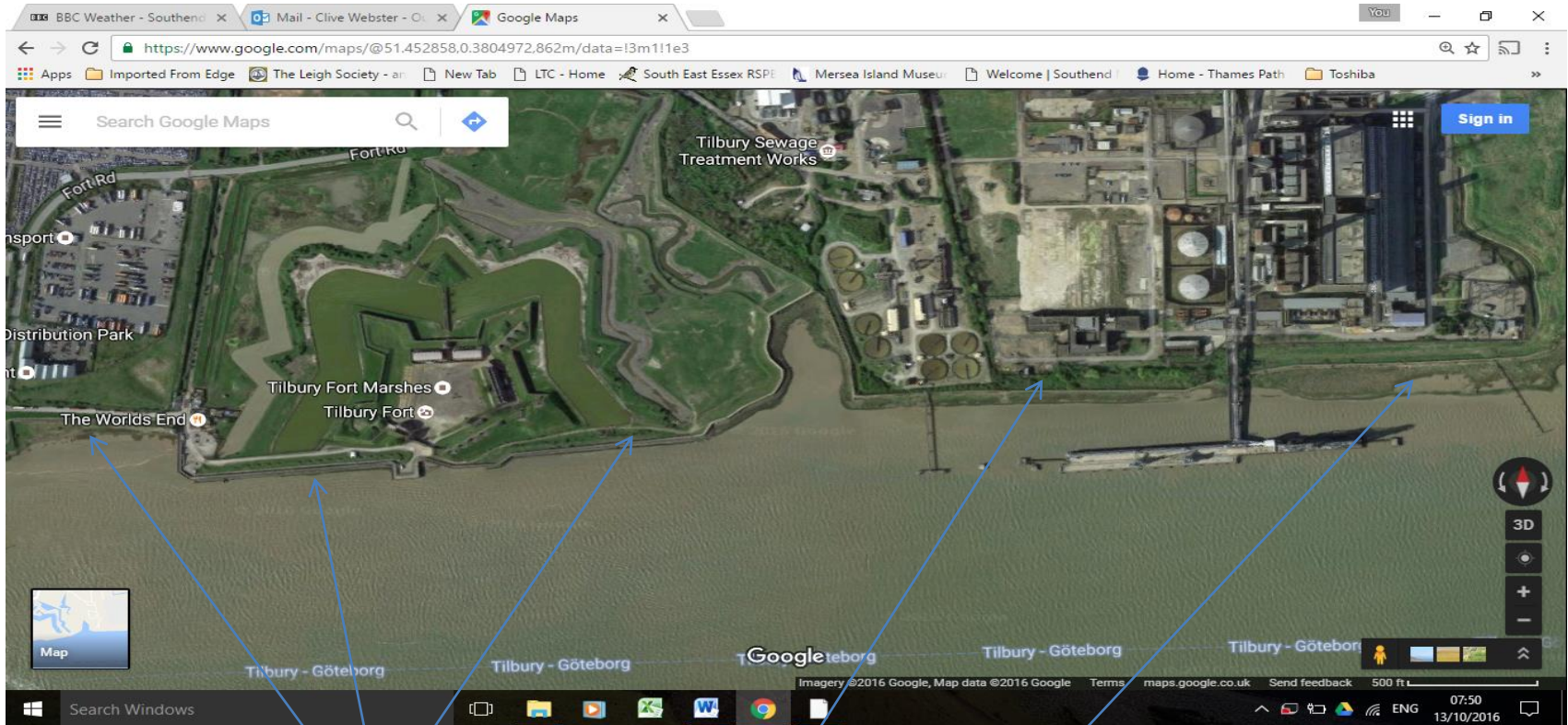
# Checklist for a successful riverside litter pick

- Research the area first on foot
- Don't attempt too much
- Estimate numbers and plan accordingly
- Check the tides and weather forecast
- Take expert advice, talk to locals
- Brief volunteers fully beforehand
- Wear suitable clothing and sturdy footwear

# Summary of events

Event	Date	Volunteers	Total Sacks	Black	Recycle	Trolleys	Comments
1. Tilbury Fort and Power Station -Eastern Shoreline	22/10/15	30	91	91			Also tyres ,car dashboard fascia, hoardings and traffic cones
2. Tilbury Fort and Power Station -Eastern Shoreline	14/11/15	3	20	20			Also nylon fishing line, bait, seaweed, plastic bait, tackle, wrappers, newspapers
3. Grays Beach	27/2/16	60	134	74	60	18	
4. Grays Wharf Hotel	29/5/16	20	68	32	36	10	
5. Grays Graffiti Wall	7/8/16	3	21	21			Paint cans, trays, aerosol sprays
6. Grays Beach	24/9/16	23	72	72			Also bulky items
7. Tilbury Fort and Western Shoreline	1/10/16	8	47	47			Also bulky items
8. Tilbury Fort and Eastern Shoreline	13/11/16	11	62	62			Also bulky items including life belt and TV
<b>Total</b>		158	515	419	96	28	

# Tilbury: location of picks 1,2,7 and 8



**7 & 8** Fort and western shoreline    **1** Fort and power station

**2** Power station, eastern shoreline

# Challenges of Tilbury shoreline

- *Remoteness of site and over a mile in length*
- *Shoreline flooded at certain times*
- *Dealing with large quantities of rubbish borne on 7m plus spring tides (flotsam)*
- *Needed agreement of Power Station to allow us to leave the sacks inside their perimeter*
- *Large deposits of 'flushables' including cotton buds and bottle tops*

# Tilbury shoreline before the pick

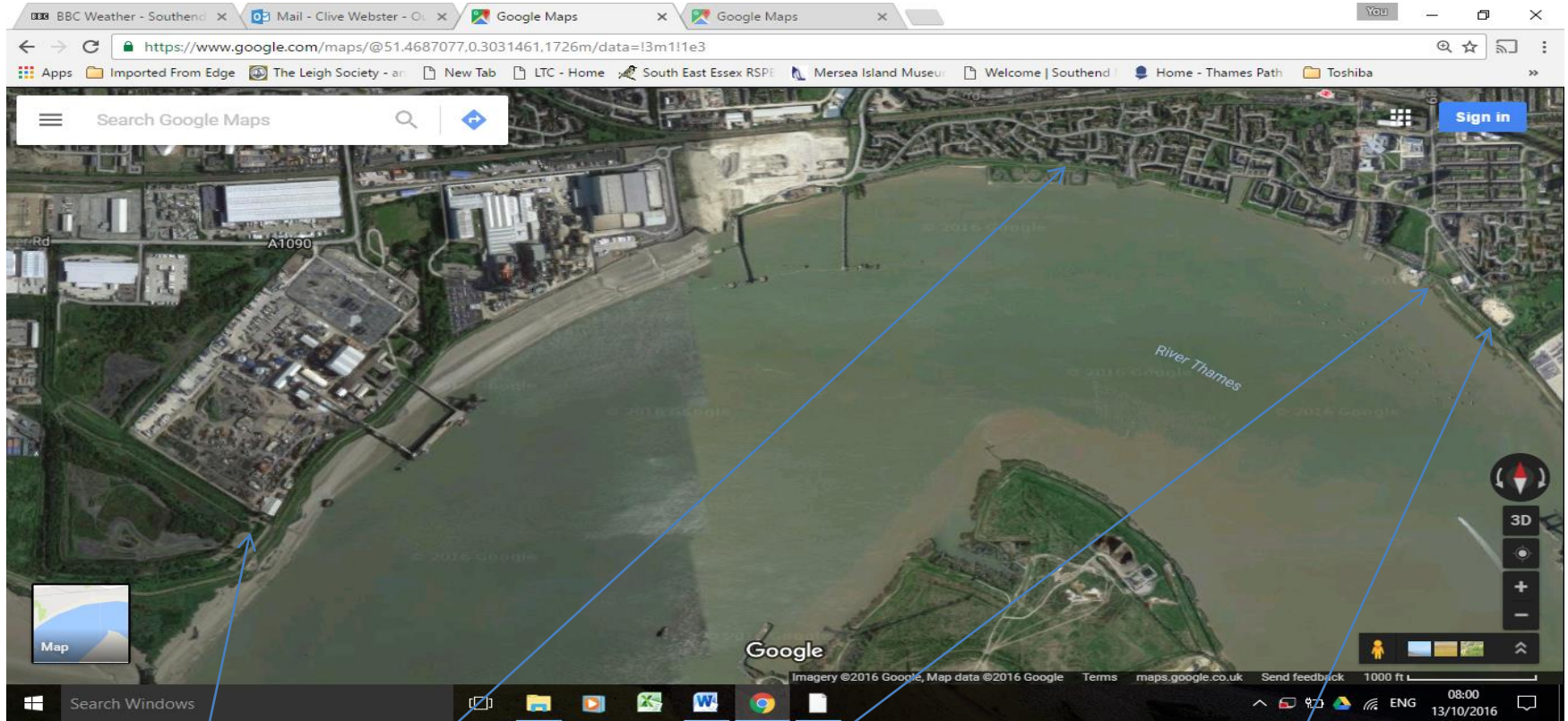


# Tilbury shoreline after the pick



# Grays

## location of picks 3,4,5 and 6



5 Graffiti Wall

4 Wharf Hotel

3 Grays beach

6 Grays Beach



# Challenges of Grays beach

- *Coping with large number of attendees*
- *Sheer volume of litter and tidal deposits*
- *Needed grappling irons to recover trollies*
- *Needed assistance of yacht club to act as a holding depot*

Coping with volunteers : Attendees included councillors, Grays Phoenix, Tilbury Riverside Big Local, Thurrock Yacht Club, River Thames Society, scout group and a local artist with Thames21 managing it all!



# Grays beach before pick



# Grays beach after pick



# Enjoying a well-deserved cuppa at the yacht club



Making a difference: pick no 3  
...134 sacks and 18 trolleys



# Challenges of Graffiti Wall

- *Remoteness of site - wall extends over a mile in length to Purfleet*
- *Access through a nature reserve*
- *Dealing with toxic paint materials including trays, pots and sprays*
- *Limited resources, difficultly recruiting volunteers*
- *Much of the pathway remains untouched*

# Graffiti Wall: shelter before the pick





# Graffiti Wall: shelter after the pick



# How much litter is there along Thurrock riverside?

- In 2016, assuming 50 items per sack, (conservative estimate) we removed over 25,000 items of litter
- Split is roughly 50:50 between tidal deposits and domestic litter
- We expect this to be repeated in 2017