

Committee Membership and Member Appointments
Report by Chair and Chief Executive

Summary: This report seeks approval for the Broads Authority member appointments to committees and outside bodies until the Annual Meeting in July 2017.

Recommendations:

- (i) That the Broads Authority member appointments to the Planning, Financial Scrutiny and Audit, Navigation and Local Access Committees, as set out in paragraph 1.2 of this report, be confirmed for the period until the Annual Meeting in July 2017.
- (ii) That the appointments to outside bodies be confirmed for the period until the Annual Meeting in July 2017.

1 Committee Membership

1.1 The membership of committees and external appointments for the forthcoming year, are formally reviewed at the Authority's Annual Meeting. This year the Authority has four new members: three new Secretary of State appointees, Bill Dickson, Greg Munford, Sarah Mukherjee; one new local authority appointments, Hayden Thirtle.

1.2 The recent appointment of Mr Dickson by the Secretary of State creates a vacancy in the co-opted Members of the Navigation Committee which will need to be advertised in due course.

1.3 This report has been prepared by the Chief Executive after taking advice from the Chair of the Authority.

1.4 Planning Committee

In considering the appointments to the Committees it is advantageous that local authority members sit on the Planning Committee to enhance the link with local residents. Mr Dickson has also indicated a willingness to sit on the Committee and will take up the vacancy left by the departure of Sholeh Blane. It is therefore recommended that Mr Dickson and Mr Thirtle be invited to join the Committee.

1.5 Financial Scrutiny and Audit Committee

The Authority resolved to appoint Mr Baugh to the FSAC in place of Mr Durrant so no changes are proposed to its membership.

1.6 Navigation Committee

It is proposed that Mr Munford be invited to join the Committee to replace Mr Durrant.

Table 1 Recommended Appointments

Planning Committee	
Mr M Barnard Professor J A Burgess Mr W A Dickson Mr N Dixon Sir P Dixon Ms G Harris	Mrs L H Hemsall Mr P Rice Mr J Timewell Mr H Thirtle Mr V Thomson
Financial Scrutiny and Audit Committee	
Six Broads Authority members:	
Chairman of the Authority Vice Chairman of the Authority Chairman of the Navigation Committee Mr L Baugh Mr N Dixon Mr G McGregor	
Navigation Committee	
Five Broads Authority members: Mr K Allen Mr J Ash Mr M Bradbury Sir P Dixon Mr G Munford	Plus eight co-opted members: Mrs L Aspland Mr A Goodchild Mr M Heron Mr J Knight Mrs N Talbot Mr B E Wilkins Mr M Whitaker + 1 vacancy
Local Access Forum	
Two Broads Authority members: Mrs L H Hemsall Mr P Warner	

2 Appointments to Outside Bodies

- 2.1 The Authority is invited by various organisations, groups and bodies to appoint a member to represent its interests on that body. At a national level, the Chairman of the Authority serves on the Chairs' Group for *National Parks UK and National Parks England*. The Vice-Chairman has been appointed a Director of *National Parks Partnerships, Ltd*. The *Campaign for National Parks* (CNP) - formerly the Council for National Parks - is a UK registered charity promoting the National Parks of England and Wales. A member of each National Park Authority in England and Wales is co-opted onto the CNP Council which helps to ensure good communication and strong links.
- 2.2 At a regional/local level, the organisations requesting BA member appointments are as follows:

Broads Tourism

This is an important partnership with local tourism businesses. Jacquie Burgess and John Timewell currently represent the Authority at their meetings and it is proposed this should continue.

Greater Norwich Development Partnership Board

This Group used to operate some years ago principally brought about by the need for strategic guidance for the production of the Greater Norwich Joint Core Strategy. A review of the Joint Core Strategy is about to begin and the Local Authorities have recently agreed to re-establish it. This group is made up of three Member representatives from Broadland District Council, Norwich City Council, South Norfolk Council and Norfolk County Council and one Member from the Broads Authority. The Board advises the decision making of the individual partner authorities and exercise political leadership for the planning activities carried out jointly by the Greater Norwich Local Planning authorities. This is an important grouping for the Authority, allowing us to input into the wider debate on the future growth and development of the wider Norwich area which has implications for the Broads. It is proposed that the Chair of the Planning Committee represent the Authority on this Board with the Vice-Chair deputising.

How Hill Trust

The How Hill Trust is an important partner in delivering education to young people and has, in the past, worked closely with the Authority. It is proposed that the Authority appoints two members, John Ash and Sarah Mukherjee.

Norfolk Mills and Pumps Trust

In the context of the Landscape Partnership Bid this is an important charity with specific responsibilities for a number of mills in Norfolk. The Authority has two places on the Trust. It is proposed to retain Jacquie Burgess on the Trust but not to fill the vacant position until the outcome of the application for Transition Funding from the HLF is known.

Norfolk and Suffolk Broads Charitable Trust

The Authority has two places on this important local initiative to raise money for the Broads. It was incorporated as a Registered Charity in 2008 with the aim of working with other organisations to stimulate and support sustainable and high quality projects. It is recommended that John Ash and Louis Baugh continue to represent the Authority on the Trust.

Upper Thurne Working Group (UTWG)

Although the Authority is not required to identify a member for this Group, the continuing importance of the enhancement of Hickling Broad as a strategic priorities means it would be helpful to offer a Member to the UTWG. It is recommended that Kelvin Allen continues to represent the Authority at the meetings.

Whitlingham Charitable Trust (WCT)

The WCT is a partnership between the Broads Authority and the Trustees of the Arminghall Settlement (the Colman family). The Country Park is a key location for the Authority delivering its second national park purpose. The Authority has four places and has in recent years made two of the places available to councillors from South Norfolk and Norwich City Council. It is recommended that the current four Members, Louis Baugh, Matthew Bradbury, Gail Harris and Vic Thomson represent the Authority on the Trust.

Table 2 Recommended External Appointments

External appointments	Appointee(s)
Broads Tourism	Prof J Burgess Mr J Timewell
Campaign for National Parks	Mr P Warner
How Hill Trust	Ms S Mukherjee
National Parks UK National Parks England	BA Chair
Norfolk and Suffolk Broads Charitable Trust	Mr J Ash Mr L Baugh
Norfolk Mills and Pumps Trust	Prof J Burgess
Upper Thurne Working Group	Mr K Allen
Whitlingham Charitable Trust	Mr L Baugh Mr M Bradbury Ms G Harris Mr V Thomson

- 2.3 Last year the Authority resolved to hold a series of specialist workshops for members, officers and, where appropriate, stakeholders to replace the previous model of appointing Lead Members to take the initiative in representing specialist areas /interests to the rest of the Authority. Just two lead roles were retained, Sholeh Blane was the 'Heritage Champion' and Michael Whitaker the lead on Safety Management. Historic England asks

Local Planning Authorities to have a Heritage Champion and given the significance of the Authority application to the Heritage Lottery Fund under the Landscape Partnership Scheme it is recommended that the role be retained. It is recommended that Mr Thirtle fill the role and Mr Whitaker continue Member oversight of safety management.

- 2.4 It is also worth noting that the Chair of the Planning Committee has specific responsibilities on three external bodies, with the Vice-Chairman of Planning standing in when necessary.

Greater Norwich Development Partnership Board (described above)
Strategic Planning Members Forum
Water Management Partnership

- 2.5 The Climate Change Adaptation Working Group is a collaborative arrangement with the Environment Agency, Natural England, the NFU and local authorities. Jacquie Burgess and John Ash attend the meetings and it is proposed that Sarah Mukherjee joins them.

4 Financial Implications

- 4.1 Provision has been included in the budget to cover the costs of Members' allowances and other costs incurred whilst on approved duties. Members of the Planning Committee and Lead Members are currently eligible to receive a Special Responsibility Allowance of £523 per annum (a member may only claim one such allowance at any one time). If the proposals in this report are adopted there will be a small saving on the budget.

Background papers: Nil
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Broads Plan Objectives: None
Appendices: None