

## Chief Executive's Report

**Summary:** This report summarises the current position in respect of a number of important projects and events, including any decisions taken during the recent cycle of committee meetings.

### **1 BA Follow up: Tolls Review 2016 and Setting of Navigation Charges for 2017/18**

Contact Officer/Broads Plan Objective: John Packman/Bill Housden/ Nil

- 1.1 At the meeting on 18 November 2016 Members of the Authority gave very thorough consideration to the report from the Tolls Review Group 2016 and the recommendations from this Navigation Committee's meeting on 27 October 2016 on the proposed new structure for Tolls and the setting of navigation charges for the next year. Representatives from the NSBA and BHBF as well as about 20 members of the public attended the meeting as observers. About 44 representations were sent to Members individually and/or received by the Authority in the week before the meeting and where possible were provided with a response from the Chief Executive. A summary of the comments was provided at the meeting. Members specifically thanked those who had written to them to help them understand the concerns.
- 1.2 In giving consideration to the proposals each member was given the opportunity to express their views. In their deliberations, Members were very mindful of the considerable amount of work and scrutiny that the Working group had given to the complex task with which they had been charged, the financial challenges involved and the emotive nature of the impact of the proposals. They also recognised the valuable contribution made to the navigation system, not only by the hire boat fleet but also the private boat owners and the significant interdependency between the two fleets which resulted in sensitivity to change and ultimately the Authority's finances. They took into account the risks of introducing such a new structure and advocated the need for the situation being monitored very closely. The possibility of introducing the new structure in a phased way was aired but rejected on the advice of the TRG and the Navigation Committee and on the basis that it would pose further difficulties over the years particularly for the Authority's budget and would prolong the agony.
- 1.3 In particular Members gave attention to Passenger Vessels which they considered should be looked at again as they played an important role in providing access to a large number of people to the Broads as well as in terms of education, generally with a low impact and therefore help to deliver the Authority's three man purposes.

- 1.4 In conclusion the Authority adopted the recommendations of the Navigation Committee in their entirety on the understanding that the impacts of the new structure would be monitored closely. This included the proposed charges for the navigation area and adjacent waters for 2017/2018 with the addition that the Chief Executive be given delegated powers to consult with the TRG and set the charges for Passenger Vessels and any redistribution of charges within the commercial fleet. Finally Members agreed to undertake an objective evaluation of the impact of the changes in the tolls structure in the Autumn of 2019 as part of a second round of stakeholder research, the first of which had informed the Tolls Review 2015/16.
- 1.5 The Collectors of Tolls has since provided options to the Tolls Review Group regarding Passenger Tolls. The Group has unanimously agreed to support the charges set out in the report to the Broads Authority and these are being implemented.
- 1.6 Members advocated providing all toll payers with a clear explanation of the reasons for introducing a new structure and the implications. Therefore a special edition of the Broadsheet is being published.

## **2 BA Follow Up: Broads Local Plan**

Contact Officer/Broads Plan Objective: Natalie Beal/None

- 2.1 At the Authority's meeting on 18 November 2016, the Broads Local Plan Preferred Options version was approved for public consultation. This also includes the Sustainability Appraisal, Habitats Regulation Assessment and the Viability Assessment as well as various pieces of evidence and topic papers. The Consultation period is from 5 December running for nine weeks until 3 February 2017. The document will be available in a number of formats with hard copies being available at libraries and council offices throughout the Broads area and copies of the documents are also on line. There will also be three drop in sessions as follows:

- Horning Village Hall - Thursday 15 December 2016, 6pm to 8pm
- Oulton Community Centre - Saturday 7 January 2017, 10am to 12.30pm
- Loddon and Chedgrave Jubilee Hall Sports & Social Club - Thursday 19 January 2017, 6pm to 8pm.

- 2.2 The Authority also approved the New Flood Risk Supplementary Planning Document for consultation between 21 November and 23 December 2016.
- 2.3 Members will recall that you have also received draft copies of the planning guides on Biodiversity Enhancements and Waterside Chalets and Bungalows. These were adopted by the Authority at its meeting on 18 November 2016.

## **3 Appointment of Navigation Committee**

Contact Officer/Broads Plan Objective: David Harris/ None

- 3.1 Members will recall from the last meeting that the Authority adopted some minor amendments to the appointment's process to the Navigation Committee

and also agreed that the current vacancy on the Committee be advertised. The advertisement was placed in the Eastern Daily Press on Monday 28 November 2016 with the closing date for applications as 30 December 2016. Notification will also be given in the special edition of the Broadsheet when explaining the new Tolls Structure.

- 3.2 Shortlisting will take place on 1 February 2017 following which the list will be sent out to the consultee bodies. This Committee will be consulted at your meeting on 23 February 2017. Interviews are due to be held between 27 February and 1 March 2017 with the aim of the Authority making an appointment at its meeting on 24 March 2017.

#### **4 Navigation Patrolling and Performance Targets**

Contact Officer/Broads Plan Objective: Lucy Burchnall/NA4.3

- 4.1 The report of the significant use of powers by the rangers is displayed in Appendix 1. The ranger of duties undertaken by the Ranger Team is set out in Appendix 2. Average navigation/countryside splits are still higher on the navigation side however with the planned work now starting on the countryside sites this figure is now moving in line with the target of 60:40.
- 4.2 The report detailing the cases dealt with at Magistrates Court are shown in Appendix 3. In addition, three navigation offences folders are currently being complied.

#### **5 Sunken and Abandoned Vessel Update**

Contact Officer/Broads Plan Objective: Lucy Burchnall/NA4

- 5.1 The sunken and abandoned update is contained in Appendix 4. Two longstanding vessels from this list have now been removed from the system since the last report bringing the total vessels dealt with for this year to nine. As at the last report a further vessel is at the dockyard while investigations into ownership continue.

#### **6 Planning Enforcement Update**

Contact Officer/Broads Plan Objective: Cally Smith/None

- 6.1 Following queries raised by a member, it was agreed to provide regular updates on the position regarding relevant planning enforcement actions. There are no outstanding enforcement actions with navigation implications to report to this meeting.

Background papers: None

Author: Sandra Becket / Esmeralda Guds

Date of report: November 2016

Broads Plan Objectives: Multiple

Appendices: APPENDIX 1 – Exercise of Powers by the Rangers Oct 2016

APPENDIX 2 – Duties undertaken by Rangers Team as at 23  
Nov 2016  
APPENDIX 3 – Prosecutions during Sept – Oct 2016  
APPENDIX 4 – Report of Sunken and Abandoned vessels

Rangers Exercise of Powers Analysis (Bracketed figures are running totals, April 2016 to March 2017)							Date: <b>October 2016</b>	
	Wroxham Launch	Irstead Launch	Ludham Launch	Ludham 2 Launch	Norwich Launch	Hardley Launch	B.St.Peter Launch	Breydon Launch
Launch Patrol Areas	Wroxham and Upper Bure	Ant	Hickling, P.Heigham, Upper Thurne & Womack	Lower Thurne, Lower Bure & South Walsham	Norwich and Upper Yare	Reedham, Chet & Middle Yare	Oulton Broad and Upper/Middle Waveney	Breydon Water, Lower Waveney and Yare
<b>Verbal Warnings</b>								
Care & Caution	56 ( 72 )	9 ( 29 )	33 ( 34 )	31 ( 124 )	120 ( 128 )		8 ( 9 )	16 ( 23 )
Speed	1693 ( 3340 )	1050 ( 1840 )	358 ( 675 )	190 ( 654 )	18 ( 148 )	47 ( 135 )	89 ( 211 )	49 ( 148 )
Tolls offences	4 ( 9 )	12 ( 44 )	6 ( 14 )	14 ( 88 )	101 ( 112 )		( 4 )	2 ( 3 )
Other	43 ( 57 )	12 ( 39 )	23 ( 37 )	15 ( 83 )	7 ( 15 )	3 ( 5 )	10 ( 24 )	3 ( 7 )
<b>Blue Book Warnings</b>								
Care & Caution	3 ( 18 )	2 ( 6 )	2 ( 2 )	( 1 )	( 1 )			1 ( 1 )
Speed	44 ( 83 )	15 ( 32 )	5 ( 8 )	4 ( 9 )	13 ( 17 )	( 4 )	( 7 )	( 5 )
Other	6 ( 18 )	8 ( 17 )	4 ( 9 )	( 2 )	3 ( 4 )	8 ( 10 )	1 ( 11 )	4 ( 13 )
Reports for Prosecutions		( 1 )						( 1 )
Special Directions	( 2 )	3 ( 143 )				11 ( 68 )	26 ( 155 )	14 ( 18 )
<b>Toll Compliance Reports</b>								
Non Payment	37 ( 129 )	24 ( 128 )	7 ( 76 )	2 ( 26 )	26 ( 105 )		16 ( 123 )	11 ( 52 )
Non Display	13 ( 22 )	1 ( 5 )	6 ( 9 )	( 2 )	1 ( 1 )		7 ( 7 )	2 ( 3 )
28 Day request for information							2 ( 7 )	
BSS Hazardous Boat Inspections		1 ( 1 )			( 1 )			( 1 )
Enter Vessels Under BSS					( 1 )			
Launch Staffed (by Ranger)	91 ( 205 )	71 ( 146 )	70 ( 152 )	37 ( 121 )	61 ( 137 )	53 ( 130 )	69 ( 135 )	92 ( 214 )
Country Site Inspection Reports Percentage Compliance	100% ( 88% )	100% ( 86% )	(Combined figure)	100% ( 86% )	(Combined figure)	100% ( 86% )	100% ( 86% )	n/a
Best Value Patrol Targets Percentage Compliance	100% ( 100% )	100% ( 100% )	100% ( 100% )	77% ( 97% )	96% ( 97% )	100% ( 100% )	100% ( 92% )	91% ( 92% )
Volunteer Patrols	1 ( 3 )	5 ( 15 )	1 ( 2 )	2 ( 2 )		2 ( 8 )		
IRIS Reports	36 ( 115 )	25 ( 66 )	18 ( 34 )	12 ( 24 )	29 ( 48 )	11 ( 30 )	21 ( 62 )	23 ( 73 )
Broads Control Total Calls	TOTAL 11,558 ( 27,280 )			Telephone 9,511 ( 22,414 ) VHF 2,047 ( 4,866 )				

RANGER TEAM ACTIVITY									as at 23 November								
October 2016	Navigation Activity								Countryside Activity								
	Nav Patrol Launch	Nav Patrol Foot/Road	Incident Working	Admin - Navigation	Training (Navigation)	Escort	Moorings Maintenance	Bank work	Country Patrol	Country Maintenance	Admin - Country	Training (Countryside)	Equipment Maintenance	Tree/Ground work	Group Activities	Education/School Visit	
	36.34%	1.44%	0.19%	0.66%	0.47%	0.99%	0.32%	0.45%	2.13%	4.22%	0.38%	0.49%	4.94%	0.39%	0.18%	0.36%	
Percentage Total	36.34%	1.44%	0.19%	0.66%	0.47%	0.99%	0.32%	0.45%	2.13%	4.22%	0.38%	0.49%	4.94%	0.39%	0.18%	0.36%	
Wroxham team	20%	21%		14%				45%	25%	20%	9%		17%			49%	
Thurne team	18%	34%	38%	40%	100%	37%	24%	8%	13%	34%	3%		28%	47%		51%	
Yare team	18%	15%	19%	2%		59%	27%	8%	48%	37%	88%	100%	18%	53%	63%		
Waveney team	13%	9%	8%	16%					9%	4%			14%				
Breydon team	22%	16%	35%	24%		4%	39%		1%				16%		37%		
Control Officer																	
	45%								9%								

General Support														Time Off			
	Broads Control	Travel Time	Bank Work - Split	Activity Unknown	Training - Split	Meeting - Staff	Meeting - Public	Admin - Split	Admin - Volunteer	Training - (Volunteers)	Public Relations Event	Site Visit third party	Other Task	Time off in Lieu (not accurate)	Breaks (not including un-notified breaks)	Annual Leave	Sick
Percentage Total	8.05%	3.96%		4.40%	0.22%	2.03%	0.54%	12.55%		0.44%	0.15%	0.31%	1.08%		2.07%	3.92%	0.28%
Wroxham team	9%	20%		30%		25%	48%	22%		52%			3%		25%	41%	
Thurne team	13%	15%		12%		3%	29%	32%				47%	20%		15%	12%	
Yare team	10%	19%		7%		22%	20%	22%		6%	100%	45%	33%		21%	12%	
Waveney team	3%	12%		9%		17%		10%		14%			22%		7%	12%	
Breydon team	4%	30%		4%		11%		11%		28%		8%	22%		2%	24%	
Control Officer	44%	1%			100%										17%		100%
	8%	4%	30%											5%			

Team percentages equal team contribution to activity

## APPENDIX 2

Month Percentages	
Navigation	68%
Country	32%
Total	100%
Time Off not included	

Percentage with apportioned split	
Year to date (Apr - Mar)	
Navigation	72%
Country	28%
Total	100%
Time Off not included	

**APPENDIX 3**

<b>Report of prosecutions dealt with in court during September - October 2016</b>			
<b>Defendant</b>	<b>Offence</b>	<b>Magistrates Court</b>	<b>Result</b>
M Saxelby	Non- payment of tolls	Norwich	Fined £400 Costs awarded £150 Victim surcharge £40 Compensation £462.13
M Trotman	Non- payment of tolls	Norwich	Fined £200 Costs awarded £150 Victim surcharge £30 Compensation £150.42
Mr. Hewitt	Non- payment of tolls	Norwich	Fined £440 Costs awarded £150 Victim surcharge £44 Compensation £191.30
D Briancourt	Non- payment of tolls	Norwich	Fined £440 Costs awarded £150 Victim surcharge £44 Compensation £343.78
K Sams	Non- payment of tolls	Norwich	Fined £440 Costs awarded £44 Victim surcharge £150 Compensation £258.01
Mr. Gordon	Non- payment of tolls	Norwich	Fined £100 Costs awarded £0 Victim surcharge £30 Compensation £257.83

N Winn	Non- payment of tolls	Norwich	Fined £100 Costs awarded £150 Victim surcharge £30 Compensation £200.83
P Read	Non- payment of tolls	Norwich	Costs awarded £96 (toll paid before court date but not before legal fees incurred)

#### APPENDIX 4

##### Sunken and Abandoned Vessels

Description	Location found	Action	Abandoned /Sunken Notice Affixed	Result
Sunken cruiser	River Yare Old River Thorpe.	Vessel sunk at owners moorings	No	Not affecting the navigation owner will raise in due course
Abandoned Cruiser	Hickling	Vessel abandoned on Hickling Broad	Yes	Investigating ownership claims, boat being stored at BA Dockyard