

Navigation Committee

02 September 2021

Agenda item number 7

Chief Executive's report and current issues

Report by Chief Executive

Purpose

To give a briefing on significant matters relating to the maintenance and management of the waterways, and allow members to raise any such issues.

Contents

1.	Broads Authority – 23 July 2021	1
2.	Farming in Protected Landscapes (FiPL)	2
3.	Navigation patrolling and performance targets	2
4.	Sunken and abandoned vessel update	2
5.	Planning enforcement update	2
	Appendix 1 – Rangers exercise of powers analysis June – July 2021	3
	Appendix 2 – Ranger duties: total time allocated and actual days	5
	Appendix 3 – Sunken and abandoned vessels current position as at 18 August 2021	7
	Appendix 4 – Prosecutions dealt with in court for non-payment of tolls since 02 June 2021	7

1. Broads Authority – 23 July 2021

- 1.1. Members adopted the Residential Moorings Guide at the annual meeting on 23 July.
- 1.2. Members also adopted a revised Member Code of Conduct, based on the Local Government Association's new National Model Councillor Code of Conduct. The revised code is similar in principle to the previous code adopted by the Authority, but the terminology has been updated to better reflect the Localism Act, particularly in terms of the categories of interest. The Declaration of Interests form has also been updated.
- 1.3. The revised Code also includes the previously existing provision regarding the setting of tolls by boat owners. This enables a member who owns a boat and pays a toll (outside of a business) to attend and vote on matters concerning the setting of tolls. The

Monitoring Officer can grant a dispensation for members with a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest to participate in discussions at Navigation Committee, as it is a non-decision-making body. The annual tolls briefing also provides an opportunity for all members to contribute to discussions.

2. Farming in Protected Landscapes (FiPL)

- 2.1. This new grant scheme for farmers and landowners has got off to a good start and 5 grant applications will be considered at the Land Management Board on 24th August. The Authority is working in partnership with the Norfolk Coast AONB on the delivery of the programme.

3. Navigation patrolling and performance targets

- 3.1. The report of the significant use of powers by the Rangers is at Appendix 1 and reflects the busy period. Appendix 2 shows the average navigation/countryside splits; these are higher on the navigation side, as expected during the summer when patrolling is a priority.

4. Sunken and abandoned vessel update

- 4.1. The sunken and abandoned vessel update is at Appendix 3. Two vessels have recently been issued abandoned vessel notices.

5. Planning enforcement update

- 5.1. There are no further enforcement matters with navigation implications to report.

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Date of report: 20 August 2021

Appendix 1 – Rangers exercise of powers analysis June – July 2021

Appendix 2 – Ranger duties total time allocated and actual days

Appendix 3 – Sunken and abandoned vessels current position as at 18 August 2021

Appendix 4 – Prosecutions dealt with in court for non-payment of tolls since 02 June 2021

Appendix 1 – Rangers exercise of powers analysis June – July 2021

Table 1

Verbal warnings	Wroxham launch Wroxham and upper Bure	Irstead launch Ant	Ludham launch Hickling, Potter Heigham, upper Thurne	Ludham launch 2 lower Thurne and lower Bure	Norwich launch Norwich and upper Yare	Hardley Launch Reedham, Chet and middle Yare	Burgh St Peter launch Oulton Broad and upper/ middle Waveney	Breydon launch Breydon water, lower Waveney and Yare
Care and caution	40	31	21	27	9			6
Speed	1554	731	313	247	65	90	56	34
Other	110	49	7	14	16	32	1	14

Table 2

Written warnings	Wroxham launch	Irstead launch	Ludham launch	Ludham launch 2	Norwich launch	Hardley Launch	Burgh St Peter launch	Breydon launch
Care and caution	4	1		1	1	1		1
Speed	24	7	4	6		1		2
Other	11	18	6		1	6	1	
Special directions	19	3						

Table 3

Launch patrols	Wroxham launch	Irstead launch	Ludham launch	Ludham launch 2	Norwich launch	Hardley Launch	Burgh St Peter launch	Breydon launch
Launch staffed by ranger	61	59	55	56	54	51	57	60
Volunteer patrols	1		2	1			1	
IRIS reports	9	14	11	8	18	13	6	9

Table 4

Broads Control total calls

Contact method	Number of calls
Telephone	6018
VHF	1327
Total	7345

Appendix 2 – Ranger duties: total time allocated and actual days

Table 1

Broads Authority corporate duties

Work area	Annual allocation (days)	Actual days to date
Training	134	34.12
Broads Control	362	147.20
Team meetings, work planning	356	139.66
Partnership working	76	10.10
Assisting other sections	76	29.86
Billets and boatsheds	25	10.95
Launch – general		5.81
Trailers - general		0.27
Vehicle maintenance		2.16
Other equipment repair		4.05
Total	1029	384.18

Table 2

Navigation duties

Work area	Annual allocation (days)	Actual days to date
Patrolling	2136	975.17
Escorts	49	21.08
Prosecution files		5.14
Bankside tree management	53	0.20
Obstruction removal	36	10.27
Channel markers and buoys	25	2.03
Signs and boards maintenance	34	20.61
Adjacent waters	100	42.09
Reactive mooring maintenance	104.5	5.81
Total	2537.5	1082.40

Table 3

Conservation, recreation, countryside maintenance

Work area	Annual allocation (days)	Actual days to date
Fen management	195	5.34
Lake, riverbank restoration	126	4.32
Invasive species control	22.5	12.56
Other conservation work	148	26.82
Pollution response		1.62
Visitor site maintenance	209	164.80
Public engagement	301	38.89
Public footpath work	44	7.30
Education work	69	11.69
Total	1114.5	273.34

Team total up to 14 August 2021

Percentage Navigation: 80%

Percentage National Park: 20%

Appendix 3 – Sunken and abandoned vessels current position as at 18 August 2021

Description	Location found	Action	Notice affixed	Result
Motor Cruiser	River Yare, old River Thorpe	Vessel sunk at owners' moorings	No	Not affecting navigation
Motor Cruiser	Sutton/Stalham Cut	Remaining concrete hull marked. An assessment will be made if this can be raised by the dredging rig when it is next in the area.	No	Not affecting navigation
Workboat	River Yare, old River Thorpe	Vessel sunk at owner's moorings	No	Working with owner to raise
Aux Yacht	Whitlingham	Owner unknown	Yes	Deadline 25/8
Motor Vessel	Drifting on Yare	Taken to Dockyard, owner unknown	Yes	Deadline 24/8

Appendix 4 – Prosecutions dealt with in court for non-payment of tolls since 02 June 2021

Type of vessel	Vessel name	Fined	Costs awarded	Victim surcharge	Compensation
Motor Boat	Pearly	£250.00	£175.00	£34.00	£69.90
Motor Boat	Rum Runner	£335.00	£190.00	£34.00	£335.52
Houseboat	Buttercup	£250.00	£175.00	£34.00	£71.50
Motor Boat	Hakuna Matata	£250.00	£175.00	£34.00	£181.74
Motor Boat	Loch Leven	£500.00	£190.00	£50.00	£243.04