

# Broadland Futures Initiative

## Minutes of the meeting held on 15 June 2020

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## Attendees

Marie-Pierre Tighe (Chair) - Broads Authority, Gavin Rumsey - Environment Agency, Kellie Fisher - Environment Agency, Rob Goodliffe - Coastal Partnership East, Peter Doktor - Environment Agency, Rob Wise - National Farmers Union, Simon Curl - Suffolk County Council, Emma Dixon – IDB, Philip Pearson- RSPB, Mark Johnson – Environment Agency, Kylie Moos - Broads Authority (Minutes).

## 1. Apologies for absence and welcome

Apologies received from Andy Millar –Natural England. John Jones – Norfolk County Council.

Marie-Pierre Tighe (MPT) welcomed attendees to the remote meeting.

## 2. Update on consultant work

Peter Doktor (PD) gave a summary of progress with Jacobs as of the end of May 2020.

Product	Progress
1/1 The origins of the plan area	100%
1/2 The sources and nature of flood risk within the plan area	100%
1/3 Hydraulic models for the plan area (modelling review)	100%
1/3 Hydraulic models for the plan area (Inception report)	70%
1/4 Coastal processes within the plan area	85%
1/5 Current approaches to flood risk management within the plan area	90%
1/5B Partnership funding challenge	80%
1/6 The influence of flood risk management within the plan area	85%
1/6B Natural capital assessment	60%
1/7 Strategic plans and documents relating to the plan area	100%
1/8 Existing key data sources and indicators for the plan area	10%
1/9 The impact of climate change within the plan area	60%
1/11 Objectives for the plan (potential objectives for EMF)	0%
1/12 The methodology for options appraisal and preferred option selection	0%
1/13 SEA scoping report	0%

Product 3 is a key document to scope new modelling. The first draft is due imminently for the initial review and looking to start modelling work itself at the end of August 2020.

Product 4 has already been circulated to the IPT as a public facing document, the additional work is for a technical report covering the same topic.

Comments for Product 5 have been fed back following the review. PD to circulate the final version to IPT. Product 5b will need to consider the mechanism of funding and how to create the partnerships required.

The first reports are back from Jacobs for Product 6, with a large amount of detail and links to other reports that need to be captured. This brings an opportunity to bring together Products 6 and 9 into one public facing document.

For Product 6b Jacobs have been unable to make contact with UEA to compare similar work already being completed for Norfolk and Suffolk County Council.

Jacobs will continue to commence work on products 11 and 12 despite the postponement of face to face engagement.

### **Product issue dates**

Covid-19 has in part meant further delays to some of the immediate deliverables and the overall contract completion date has been moved from May 2021 to October 2021. Products 11, 12 and 13 have also seen delays due to the postponement of face to face engagement.

Product 6b was due to have a follow up workshop, this will now be completed as a webinar on 4<sup>th</sup> August. Invites will be sent out in due course.

### **Proposed additional products**

Due to the delay in face to face engagement the following Products and opportunities have been brought forward:

- Storymaps for products 6 and 9.
- Short videos looking at hydraulic modelling and dredging.
- Virtual space for online stakeholder engagement. Jacobs have provided further costs for this autumn/winter, details are currently being confirmed, but no commitments have been made.
- Long list of strategic flood risk management techniques. Looking at both structural and non-structural techniques and further afield than the UK.

### **Comments and answers to questions**

- MPT agreed to contact John Jones (JJ) regarding UEA research and Product 6b.
- There are links to be made between water resource and level management and flood risk management. Flood risk cannot be looked at in isolation to wider water management, but BFI cannot address all climate change impacts. The strategic flood risk management techniques considered will include multi-use wetlands.

### 3. Update on Communications and Community Engagement

At the last IPT meeting the group decided to progress with virtual engagement for the autumn of 2020. The virtual engagement will precede the face to face meetings of spring 2021. Gavin Rumsey (GR) presented updates on Communications and Community Engagement since the last IPT meeting.

The BFI newsletter has been circulated explaining the changes. An update was also circulated via Norfolk Biodiversity Information Centre monthly bulletin.

A report has been generated from the revised engagement plan, including the history of engagement for BFI, communication and risks associated. GR agreed to circulate with IPT.

Social media content has been scheduled for July to September 2020 to ensure a steady supply of information and awareness. Webpage content will be introduced once available including infographics, study reports, story maps and video animation.

GR contacted Guides and Scouts leaders who are keen for their older members to engage. Virtual engagement may attract a younger audience, with city colleges and Youth Parliament due to be contacted next.

FAQs and online survey questions are still in development. Through the online survey there is the opportunity to establish what is on people's minds and to frame the face to face events around this.

GR noted that the proposed timeline is provisional, and is subject to Covid-19 related changes.

#### Comments and answers to questions

- Public facing reports will be circulated as and when they are completed and signed off.
- Consideration needs to be given for stakeholder fatigue, and content of frequent newsletters. Once further public facing documents are available, it will be easier to engage with stakeholders.

### 4. Next steps for the Elected Members Forum

Following feedback from the last IPT, Mark Johnson (MJ) and Kellie Fisher (KF) have drafted a package of communication ready to start engaging with potential elected members in autumn 2020. The package includes:

- Briefing pack- to provide the background of BFI.
- Cover letter- targeted at potential elected members.
- Terms of Reference (ToR) – shaped around Essex Members Forum, to engage with members and set out the purpose of the Forum.

#### Comments and answers to questions

- The decision making process and RFCC’s role needs to be clear to manage members expectations.
- Not all elected members will come from the same political parties and their MP’s. Purpose of Forum members briefing MP’s to be reviewed.
- Cover letter indicates each local authority has an option to provide a member, stronger wording can be used to ensure each local authority will provide a member.
- Rob Goodliffe (RG) agreed to send further feedback to MJ and KF.
- Once feedback from this meeting has been applied, the documents will be ready to circulate with potential elected members. The group agreed to circulate before the next IPT meeting.
- MPT to contact JJ to discuss the nomination of elected forum members for Norfolk County Council.
- IDB board are able to assist with contacting relevant local authority officers. Notably Norwich City Council and Broadland District Council

## 5. Any other business

KF noted the IPT board benefits from a diverse set of members with varying expertise. Any feedback is always welcome when products are being sent out for comment, particularly regarding the joining up of themes that are linked to flood risk management. GR pointed out support from partner organisations comms team to aid raising awareness of virtual exhibition is important.

## 6. Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the Broadland Future Initiative is 17<sup>th</sup> August 10.30am via video conference or Yare House, 62 – 64 Thorpe Road, Norwich. Location to be confirmed.

## Summary of progress

Outstanding actions	Meeting date	Assigned to
PD to circulate final version of product 5 to IPT.	15/06/2020	PD
MPT to contact JJ regarding Product 6b (UEA contact) and nomination procedure for NCC for EFM.	15/06/2020	MPT
GR to circulate revised engagement plan report.	15/06/2020	GR