

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. It does not include matters which are already on the agenda for this meeting. Members are asked to note the report.

1 High Level Review on Flood Risk Management for the Broads and Coast

Contact Officer/Broads Plan Objective: Simon Hooton/CC3.2

- 1.1 Following the special Broads Forum workshop looking at the High Level Review on flood risk a set of notes reflecting the main elements of the discussion and highlighting the main points to take forward has been put on the Broads Authority website and all invitees informed.
- 1.2 Further discussions have been held with some local authority chief executives and leaders and more are planned along with discussions with local MPs. The Broads Climate Partnership met in December to try and establish a draft framework for action. From this it was emphasised that it would be important to create an effective framework to involve stakeholders and put the local democratic bodies at the heart of the decisions to be made. The scope and initial targets for the coming work also need to be consolidated. Ideas from this Forum are welcome and can help build a draft to form a central part of the discussion with local authorities and MPs in the coming quarter.
- 1.3 This framework for action will have a series of strands – from the short term planning needed to retain the necessary permissions for flood management schemes, to the medium term policy convergence and research needs. This will be supported by initiatives to raise awareness and stimulate fresh thought on how to improve our flood risk management response. It will however primarily be about medium term planning and ensuring the approach to flood risk management, and wherever possible all water management, is holistic, resilient and adapting.

2 Tolls Review 2016 and Setting of Navigation Charges for 2017/18

Contact Officer / Broads Plan Objective: John Packman/Bill Housden/ None

- 2.1 Following the Tolls Review Workshop with key stakeholders in June, those present were invited to consult their respective organisations and provide

comments by the end of July. Due to the extended consultation period, changes to the timescales for production of the final report were made in order to give the consultation comments detailed consideration. Therefore, the full report from the Tolls Review Group was provided to the Navigation Committee for its meeting on 27 October 2016. The Committee supported the three main recommendations which were:

- (i) A new set of Guiding Principles for Tolls.
- (ii) A revised structure for the tolls in which for each class of vessel the owner will pay a set amount per square metre. Wherries, rowing boats, canoes and kayaks will pay a flat rate charge.
- (iii) A flexible charging structure, such that the different fleets on the Broads can be levied different rates per square metre.

- 2.2 Members of the Authority gave careful consideration to the Tolls Review Group (TRG) report at the meeting on 18 November 2016 together with the recommendations from the Navigation Committee on the proposed new structure for tolls and the setting of navigation charges for the next year. 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.
- 2.3 This included the proposed charges for the navigation area and adjacent waters for 2017/2018 with the addition that the Chief Executive was given delegated powers to consult with the TRG and set the charges for Passenger Vessels and any redistribution of charges within the commercial fleet. The Authority also agreed that the non-display of toll plaques trial should be extended for a further year. 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. The Collectors of Tolls has since provided a number of options to the Tolls Review Group regarding Passenger Tolls. The Group unanimously agreed to support the charges set out in the report to the Broads Authority and these are being implemented.
- 2.4 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 was published. A full copy of the report to the Authority that includes the report from the Tolls Review Group can be viewed via the Authority's website.
http://www.broads-authority.gov.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0010/818785/Tolls-Review-2016-and-Proposed-Navigation-Charges-for-2016-17-in-the-Navigation-Area-and-Adjacent-Waters-ba181116.pdf

3 Broads Local Plan

Contact Officer/Broads Plan Objective: Natalie Beal/None

- 3.1 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. All Members of the Broads Forum together with your respective organisations have been notified and invited to comment. The Consultation period is from 5 December running for nine weeks until 3 February 2017. The document is 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. <http://broadsdev.nationalparks.gov.uk/planning/planning-policies/development/future-local-plan>
- 3.2 Three drop in sessions were held at Horning Village Hall, Oulton Community Centre and at Loddon and Chedgrave Jubilee Hall Sports & Social Club in December and January.
- 3.3 The Authority also approved the New Flood Risk Supplementary Planning Document for consultation between 21 November and 23 December 2016.
- 3.4 The planning guides on Biodiversity Enhancements and Waterside Chalets and Bungalows were adopted by the Authority at its meeting on 18 November 2016.

Background papers: None

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Broads Plan Objectives: Multiple

Appendices: None