

Broadland Futures Initiative

Minutes of the meeting held on 07 February 2022

Contents

1. Apologies for absence and welcome	2
2. Update of technical work	2
3. Update on communications and community engagement	4
4. Elected Members Forum	5
5. AOB	5
6. Date of next meeting	5
Summary of progress	5

Attendees

Marie-Pierre Tighe (Chair)- Broads Authority, Donna Dean- Natural England, Peter Doktor - Environment Agency, Catherine Harris- Environment Agency, Charlotte Hounsell – Norwich City Council, Mark Johnson - Environment Agency, John Jones – Norfolk County Council, Sarah Luff- Norfolk County Council, Philip Pearson- RSPB, Alison Old- South Norfolk and Broadland District Council, Thomas Walker- Coastal Partnership East, Kylie Moos - Broads Authority (minutes)

1. Apologies for absence and welcome

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

Apologies received from Julie Beeden, Simon Curl, Victoria Egan, Rob Goodliffe, Kevin Hart, Andy Millar, Gavin Rumsey, Rob Wise.

2. Update of technical work

Peter Doktor (PD) provided an update of technical work.

SEA scoping (Product 13)

This product is now completed.

Salinity investigation (Product 17)

The second draft is being prepared to be reviewed by the Initiative Project Team (IPT) and other relevant organisations. Jacobs have collated all the data that other organisations have supplied and have over 20 years of continuous EA monitoring data. A recommendation from the investigation is that rather than use the hydrological models to predict salinity changes a statistical approach is used instead. In full form such an approach could be a long-term project as data is required from additional locations in the Broads to build on the existing data set.

Coastal data analysis (Product 18)

The product is progressing however, the 1D modelling of beach profiles to predict how they may change in future has not been possible.

Appraisal methodology (Product 12)

The second draft is with the IPT for review. Any comments should be submitted to PD by this week.

Hydraulic modelling

Following a review of the programme the end of the hydraulic modelling has been delayed by three months, however the useable outputs are still on schedule.

Contract scope

Contract scope for next phase of technical work is in development, subject to Elected Members Forum (EMF) agreement of the appraisal methodology. The narrated presentation to present the appraisal methodology to a non-technical audience has not yet started.

Surface water flooding

PD and Sarah Luff (SL) have met to discuss surface water flooding and the BFI plan area. The BFI plan area was drawn around flood zones and areas of tidal and fluvial flood risk. There are several settlements just outside of the plan area which are at risk of surface water flooding. The plan area was also defined before the 2020/2021 Broadland flood event. The inclusion of surface water flooding within the BFI will raise awareness of the risk and encourage a more integrated approach by Risk Management Authorities. The next stage for the project team is to consider how surface water flooding can be incorporated into the BFI. SL has provided a list of settlements at risk. PD will report back at a future IPT meeting.

FCERM resilience indicators

The project team have responded to the national consultation on FCERM resilience indicators. The research will develop a set of measurements that can be used to understand, monitor, and communicate resilience to flooding and coastal change at a national scale.

Norfolk and Suffolk Coast Transition Programme

The Norfolk & Suffolk Coast Transition Programme developed by Coastal Partnership East is one of 25 projects across England that has been awarded funding by Defra to develop innovative solutions to flood and coastal resilience in their communities. The project will look at how Great Yarmouth can adapt to climate change. The business case for the project is due to be submitted by April 2022. The BFI project team plan to meet with the Norfolk & Suffolk Coast Transition Programme team to discuss possible synergies between the programme and BFI. The IPT were also keen to receive a presentation from the programme.

Catherine Harris (CH) agreed to share the Norfolk and Suffolk Coast Transition Programme flyer with the IPT.

A second project which will benefit from the Innovative Resilience fund is Reclaim the Rain. Reclaim the Rain aims to promote and improve resilience to both flooding and drought in at least six small rural communities across both counties (three in Suffolk and three in Norfolk), with the aim to deliver a partnership approach to holistic water management that reuses surface water runoff by agriculture, industry, communities and the environment with nature-based solutions. The Project Team are in the process of developing the communications messages that will be used to promote the project and engage communities.

Once communities and their catchments have been selected, the scheme would seek to:

- Reduce flood risk to the community using catchment based Natural Flood Management and retrofitting sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) or other similar appropriate measures;
- Reuse surface water runoff through the installation of water capture and reuse measures for use by agriculture, industry, or the local community facilities to improve water security;
- Engage closely with local communities to benefit from their local knowledge, rebuild trust in Risk Management Authorities and to initiate changing a communities' perspective to flood risk management;
- Maximise additional multi-purpose benefits for the environment and society, and;
- Provide evidence of the effectiveness and cost of holistic water management projects in rural towns and villages through ongoing monitoring.

The website will be launched w/c 14 February and communities have until April confirm if they want to participate in the project. Anyone in Norfolk who is interested can contact the Norfolk Reclaim the Rain team by email reclaimtherain@norfolk.gov.uk.

SL agreed to share the Reclaim the Rain website with the IPT.

3. Update on communications and community engagement

PD provided an update to the IPT on activities since the last meeting.

Engagement update & forward look:

- ‘Frequently Asked Questions’ has been refreshed and shared with IPT members.
- Upcoming engagement opportunities:
 - Upper Thurne Working group - 27th April
 - Public event in Ormesby St Margaret – March(?)
 - Norfolk Strategic Flooding Alliance - 24th March
 - Broadland Catchment Partnership -14 March
 - Norfolk Coastal Forum- 2nd March

Gavin Rumsey (GR) has been reviewing the lessons learnt from engagement activity for phase 1; Define the problem and set objectives. Success is measured against engagement objectives by looking at three criteria: awareness, acceptance, and action.

- Awareness- presentations to working groups, virtual village hall events, interviews, newspaper articles, BFI website, social media.
- Acceptance - linked to requests for information, expression of interest and support of the BFI:
 - [Survey analysis](#)
 - Sentiment and trend analysis of social media response, general communications as well as public event feedback
- Action- This a measurement of results, i.e. what actions have come about from the engagement activity - therefore evaluation would be linked to:
 - Limited or no objections to the proposed preferred objectives following engagement activity.
 - Local endorsement of proposals put forward.
 - Level of continued involvement of members of key steering groups.

Comments and answers to questions

The Frequently Asked Questions notes that the Broadland Environmental Services Ltd (BESL) and the Broadland Flood Alleviation Project (BFAP) came to an end in 2021. The answer does not explain what is in place before the BFI strategy comes into effect. Mark Johnson (MJ) confirmed that there is a structure in place and a Broadland team has been set up for the transition period.

PD agreed to review the FAQ with GR and include details of the transition period.

4. Elected Members Forum

Local elections are taking place on the 5 May and the pre-election period will start on the 28 March. MJ proposed setting the date of the next meeting for the end of May to ensure members are given enough notice, and any new nominations to the Forum have taken place. Holding the meeting in May will also allow plenty of time to complete the narrated presentation to present the appraisal methodology to members.

MPT agreed to draft an email proposing the next meeting and what the meeting will cover. John Jones (JJ) agreed to forward the email to the Chair.

5. AOB

The damage to railway tracks along Haddiscoe Cut is being assessed by the Environment Agency and Network Rail. This is an example of infrastructure which is covered by BFI and is significant to the delivery of the hydrological model. The gauge data confirmed that the recent tidal surge event was an example of tide locking in the system. The data can also be used to demonstrate the impact of higher sea levels for relatively prolonged periods of time. MJ suggested adding a FAQ, explaining what happens to the strategy when an event such as the one at Haddiscoe takes place.

6. Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the Broadland Future Initiative is 25 April 2022 via video conference.

Summary of progress

Outstanding actions	Meeting date	Assigned to
Share the Norfolk and Suffolk Coast Transition Programme flyer with the IPT	07/02/2022	CH
Share the Reclaim the Rain website with the IPT	07/02/2022	SL
Include details of the transition period in the FAQs	07/02/2022	PD/GR
Draft an email to JJ for the next EMF meeting	07/02/2022	MPT

Outstanding actions	Meeting date	Assigned to
Forward email from MPT re EMF meeting to the Chair	07/02/2022	JJ