

**Broads Local Plan – Issues and Options Representations**  
Report by Planning Policy Officer

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| <b>Summary:</b>        | The consultation on the Issues and Options version of the Local Plan ended on 8 April. This report summarises how the consultation was undertaken and the comments received. |
| <b>Recommendation:</b> | Members are asked to note the contents of the report as well as the views of the public.   |

## **1 Introduction**

- 1.1 This is the first stage of producing a Local Plan. The document identified issues and discusses potential options to address that issue. The purpose of the consultation was to ensure that all potential issues have been covered and to seek views on the appropriate approaches to those issues.
- 1.2 At this stage, there is no policy content. Potential policy content is discussed at a high level. It is for the next stage of the Local Plan (Preferred Options) to come up with potential policy wording.
- 1.3 The consultation ran for eight weeks from 16 February until 8 April 2016.

## **2 About the Consultation**

- 2.1 The Authority undertook the following to advertise and collate views from the public and stakeholders:
  - Wrote/Emailed to specific statutory consultees (for example Natural England and the Environment Agency)
  - Wrote/Emailed to other consultees the Authority considers should be consulted (such as local groups and others who have expressed an interest in the Local Plan – e.g NSBA, BHBF)
  - A formal notice in the newspaper and two news articles on the consultation
  - Placed hard copies in accessible venues around the Broads Executive Area and beyond (such as libraries and District Council Offices)
  - Placed the document on the Authority's website
  - On-line, non-technical questionnaire using Survey Monkey
  - Three drop in sessions held out of core work hours at Stalham, Brundall and Oulton
  - Youth engagement through an art group at Whitlingham and a Stalham youth group
  - Meeting/workshop with River Thurne Tenants Association and Thurne Bungalows Management Committee members.

### **3 What the public and stakeholders said**

- 3.1 The appendices to this report give full detail of the comments received.
- 3.2 It should be noted that two or three organisations or individuals requested an extension to the deadline by up to a week. Any additional responses received after the submission of this report will be reported verbally to the Planning Committee.

### **4 Next Steps**

- 4.1 The Preferred Options is being produced, taking on board evidence as well as views received through the Issues and Options consultation. It is intended that the Preferred Options will be out for consultation at the end of the year/early 2017.
- 4.2 Over the coming months, 'bitesize pieces' of the Local Plan will be presented to the Planning Committee.
- 4.3 Work is ongoing to prepare the necessary evidence base to support the Local Plan.

### **5 Conclusion**

- 5.1 The Issues and Options of the Local Plan has been completed. The consultation resulted in many useful comments being submitted.
- 5.2 The Preferred Options version of the Local Plan is underway.
- 5.3 Planning Committee Members are asked to consider and note the comments received through the Issues and Options consultation.

Background papers: None  
Author: Natalie Beal  
Date of report: 14 April 2016

Appendices: Follow this link <http://www.broads-authority.gov.uk/broads-authority/committees/planning-committee/planning-committee-29-april-2015> to  
Appendix A: analysis of the Survey Monkey questionnaire and  
Appendix B: other representations received  
  
Appendix C: Comments received from the Youth Group at Stalham (attached)

**Comments received from the Youth Group at Stalham**

**30 March 2016**

**Boat Trip**

**With Young People from Stalham MAP Group**

The group consisted of 5 14/15 year olds from Stalham and two Youth Workers.

In the middle of nowhere – Big bog

- Calm
- If more people around, not peaceful
- Can't hear traffic
- Use the Broads for inspiration and being creative
- Broads on door step
- Rich habitats and species – we are there with them but not harming them. We know things are in the bushes and trees.
- More people need to be aware of how to access the Broads and how easy it is
- Schools have trips at primary and infant age groups, but not at high school age groups
- The Broads attracts people from afar but what about locals. So many locals have little or no interest in the Broads.
- Peacefulness enhances the atmosphere
- Chill out and forget the pressures of school and exams
- Could gifted and talented programme at school use the Broads?
- Photography is offered at school, but could there be a programme where young people go out and take photos of the Broads?
- Could use different apps to take photos of the Broads.
- You get a different perspective on water
- Smaller boats are better for the environment

Hunsett Mill

- Black part does not go with brick part – a mismatch
- Like the windows
- Nice place to live
- Canoe to school!
- More for holidays
- Cool place
- Kept older bits
- Not sure if looks right
- Windows plonked on the black building
- View out could be amazing
- Prefer how it looked before
- But now is more environmentally friendly



#### How have the group used the Broads?

- Scouts kayak on the Broads every week over the summer
- Some group have been on the Broads with their family
- Some family members work on boats
- One member's Dad bought a dinghy and plans to repair it and then use it
- Would like to use the Broads more – kayaks etc
- Kayak costs are reasonable
- Love to have a go at activities like fishing
- Opportunities to have a go
- Science orientated use of the Broads. Often an exam question about the levels of algae and water quality. Could see in real life.
- Broads could be more of school curriculum.
- Water activities weekend
- Broads outdoors festival

#### Making money on the Broads

- Saw an ice cream boat!
- Workshop – make bird boxes etc and then place round the Broads. Use materials from the Broads.
- Advertise water sport activities more
- Sailing club – have a go but not too elite
- More public events that do not require a lot of equipment.

#### General comments

- Feel calm and relaxed and do not want to go back
- Waving at other boats brightens up your day
- Lose track of time when sailing on the Broads
- Use wood chopped down for seating areas at schools, not just for habitat
- Ducks and geese and swans do seem to like quieter boats (trip was on electric boat)



*Summary comment from Youth Worker: 'I felt that the really significant thing that came out of the discussions on the way back, was the lack of integration of the Broads with the local schools and how it could be a real asset to the curriculum – art, photography, science. Now that curriculums are more flexible, and designed in-house I wonder if there is more scope for this?'*