

**Acle Bridge Site**  
Report by Chief Executive

<b>Summary:</b>	The site at Acle Bridge purchased by the Authority in August 2017 has potential for the provision of a range of services for the public. This report suggests the establishment of a small working group of members to work with officers to develop plans for the site.
<b>Recommendation:</b>	A small group of 3-4 Members is identified to work with officers to work up plans for the development of the Acle Bridge site and bring back proposals to a future meeting.

## **1 Background**

- 1.1 In August 2017 the Broads Authority purchased the moorings on the North West side of Acle Bridge for £180,000. The initial purpose of securing this important long length of moorings for public use has been achieved. Basic repairs were undertaken shortly after the purchase was complete and the moorings were well used for the rest of the season.
- 1.2 The site is in a key location being on the Weavers Way long-distance footpath as well as at a critical point on the River Bure where many hire boat visitors turn round rather than heading downstream where the tidal conditions are more challenging for novice boaters. It also has wonderful views up the river and across the marshes. There is an adjacent public toilet, owned by Great Yarmouth Borough Council which is currently closed.
- 1.3 Attention can now turn to both the short-term and long-term opportunities presented by the site. The support and advice of members from the beginning of the process would be appreciated and it is therefore proposed that 3-4 members be invited to join a working group. It is suggested that the following areas of experience and knowledge would be helpful:
  - (i) A café is likely to be a core facility and therefore direct experience of running such a facility or similar would be helpful (Our new Great Yarmouth member could be valuable here).
  - (ii) Hire Boat visitor needs – an operator who understands the likely demands of this group.
  - (iii) Walker/Private boat owner who understands the needs of these potential customers.
  - (iv) The Authority will expect to see a robust business case and therefore a member with a wealth of private and public sector business experience would be useful.

## **2. Financial and Other Considerations**

- 2.1 There is a vast array of matters to consider in the project, the opportunity to deliver some of the ambitions in the Broads Plan, the available budget, planning constraints and opportunities, the needs of individuals – for example those with limited mobility etc. It is not proposed to rehearse these here but rather include them in a future report to the Authority.

Background papers:	None
Author:	John Packman
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Broads Plan Objectives:	Many of the objectives in the Plan will be relevant to opportunities presented by the site.
Appendices:	None