

Navigation Committee

12 January 2023

Agenda item number 7

Chief Executive's report and current issues

Report by Chief Executive

Purpose

To provide a briefing on significant matters relating to the maintenance and management of the waterways.

Broads Plan context

C4 - Maintain and improve safety and security standards and user behaviour on the waterways.

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1. Introduction

1.1. At the Broads Authority meeting on 2 December a set of strategic priorities for 2023/24 was adopted. Full details can be found in the [agenda papers](#) and the 7 headings are:

1. Climate Change crisis response
2. Biodiversity crisis response
3. Navigation IT
4. Water Mills and Marshes

5. Local Plan for the Broads
 6. Farming in Protected Landscapes (FiPL)
 7. Budget pressures
- 1.2. A set of climate change mitigation priorities was agreed and it was resolved unanimously to welcome the capital funding from Defra (please see reference in Construction, Maintenance and Environment report).
 - 1.3. The proposal to extend the Boat Hire Registration Scheme to unpowered craft, recommended by this Committee, was approved by the Authority.
 - 1.4. It was resolved unanimously (by those permitted to vote) that the Authority introduces licensing charges for non-powered craft let for hire from 1 April 2023 as follows:
 - the private canoe toll, currently £37.78 per vessel
 - a £5 licensing fee for each craft within the licence and
 - a £25 per operator's licence fee

NB: An additional licence will not be required for operators with an existing Hire Boat Licence (powered or sail).

2. Navigation patrolling and performance targets

- 2.1. The average navigation/countryside splits for the year are 78% and 22% respectively. This is closer to the planned work programme than previous years and due to staff sickness and the need for patrolling over the summer. As the emphasis is now on tree clearance and conservation work over the winter period, the split variance will diminish and achieve the planned percentages.

3. Sunken and abandoned vessel update

- 3.1. The sunken and abandoned update is contained in Appendix 3.

4. Planning enforcement update

- 4.1. There are no further enforcement matters with navigation implications to report.

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Date of report: 23 December 2022

[Broads Plan](#) strategic actions: C4

Appendix 1 – Rangers exercise of powers analysis

Appendix 2 – Ranger duties total time allocated and actual days

Appendix 3 – Sunken and abandoned vessels current position as at 19 December 2019/12/2022

Appendix 4 – Prosecutions dealt with in court for non-payment of tolls since 20/10/2022
October 2022

Appendix 1 – Rangers exercise of powers analysis October – November 2022

Table 1

Verbal warnings	Wroxham launch Wroxham and upper Bure	Irstead launch Ant	Ludham launch Hickling, Potter Heigham, upper Thurne	Ludham launch 2 lower Thurne and lower Bure	Norwich launch Norwich and upper Yare	Hardley Launch Reedham, Chet and middle Yare	Burgh St Peter launch Oulton Broad and upper/middle Waveney	Breydon launch Breydon water, lower Waveney and Yare
Care and caution	4	3	0	16	0	5	0	0
Speed	175	147	46	69	0	20	0	0
Other	29	15	2	4	0	2	0	0

Table 2

Written warnings	Wroxham launch	Irstead launch	Ludham launch	Ludham launch 2	Norwich launch	Hardley Launch	Burgh St Peter launch	Breydon launch
Care and caution	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Speed	4	3	1	0	0	0	0	0
Other	1	10	3	0	3	1	5	0
Special directions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 3

Launch patrols	Wroxham launch	Irstead launch	Ludham launch	Ludham launch 2	Norwich launch	Hardley Launch	Burgh St Peter launch	Breydon launch
Launch staffed by ranger	40	37	35	36	35	34	37	41
Volunteer patrols	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
IRIS reports	0	4	0	1	8	1	2	5

Table 4

Broads Control total calls

Contact method	Number of calls
Telephone	4047
VHF	491
Total	4538

Appendix 2 – Ranger duties: total time allocated and actual days

Table 1

Broads Authority corporate duties

Work area	Annual allocation (days)	Actual days to date
Training	134	107.87
Broads Control	362	278.45
Team meetings, work planning	356	264.68
Partnership working	76	29.32
Assisting other sections	76	35.81
Billets and boatsheds	25	11.01
Launch – general	0	11.35
Trailers - general	0	0.41
Vehicle maintenance	0	2.64
Other equipment repair	0	8.38
Total	1029	749.92

Table 2

Navigation duties

Work area	Annual allocation (days)	Actual days to date
Patrolling	2136	1658.65
Escorts	49	19.80
Prosecution files	0	6.55
Bankside tree management	53	27.84
Obstruction removal	36	5.27
Channel markers and buoys	25	15.95
Signs and boards maintenance	34	25.78
Adjacent waters	100	73.38
Reactive mooring maintenance	104.5	8.45
Total	2537.5	1841.67

Table 3

Conservation, recreation, countryside maintenance

Work area	Annual allocation (days)	Actual days to date
Fen management	195	70.41
Lake, riverbank restoration	126	71.35
Invasive species control	22.5	13.51
Other conservation work	148	42.77
Pollution response	0	2.09
Visitor site maintenance	209	235.66
Public engagement	301	58.21
Public footpath work	44	13.01
Education work	69	12.97
Total	1114.5	519.98

Team total up to 13 December 2022

Percentage Navigation: 78%

Percentage National Park: 22%

Appendix 3 – Sunken and abandoned vessels current position as at 19 December 2019

Description	Location found	Action	Notice affixed	Result
937T – rowing boat	River Yare	Remove	Y	Auction held – interested party bid but never came forward to pay. Removed and destroyed
883B – Aux Yacht	Geldeston 24hr mooring	Remove	Y	Auction held but no buyer Removed and destroyed
1850Z - aux yacht	River Yare	Remove	Y	Auction held but no buyer Removed and destroyed
618D – unpowered vessel	River Yare	Remove	Y	Auction held but no buyer Removed and destroyed
12Y – Aux Yacht	River Yare	Remove	Y	Auction held but no buyer. Chris M getting quotes for scrap metal

Appendix 4 – Prosecutions dealt with in court for non-payment of tolls since 20 October 2022

No prosecutions to report for this period.