

**Construction, Maintenance and Environment Work Programme
Progress Update**

Report by Head of Construction, Maintenance & Environment

Summary: This report sets out the progress made in the delivery of the 2014/15 Construction, Maintenance & Environment Section work programme.

Members' questions regarding Construction, Maintenance or Environmental works programme are welcomed.

1 Construction Programme Update 2014/15

- 1.1 The progress of the Construction and Maintenance work programme is described in this report. As previously reported verbally to members, a further detailed breakdown shows that up to the end of January 2015, 36,720m³ of sediment has been removed from the Rivers and Broads, and the details of quantities and costs achieved so far are set out in Appendix 1. This represents 73% of the programmed target of at least 50,000m³.
- 1.2 During November and December 2014 Reedham end and Saint Olaves end of the Haddiscoe Cut were dredged, with over 6,000m³ of accrued sediments being removed. The vast majority of these were deposited into setback areas at Reedham, with some materials going to a small setback on Raveningham Estate land. Also during this period dredging on the River Bure, upstream of the River Ant was completed, with over 16,000m³ being removed and placed into setback at Horning Hall.
- 1.3 In-between dredging projects the dredging crews have also been driving steel tubes into the river bed for pontoons and for channel markers. The de-masting pontoons on the Lower Bure (between Mautby and Runham) have been installed and are operational and new port channel marker on the Bure Loop has also been placed aiding navigation at this location.
- 1.4 Dredging on the river Chet commenced in January 2015, with sections between Pye's Mill and Hardley Flood having sediment removed. This material is being side-cast, with the River Chet being one of a very few locations where 'traditional' side-casting is permitted. This material is being used to strengthen the floodbank in this area.
- 1.5 The Broads Authority mud-pump has been set up and lagoons formed for the start of a mud-pumping project on the Upper Bure. Located between Belaugh and Horstead Mill at Coltishall Lock, the pump is planning to remove approximately 6,000m³ of loose sediments. The removed material will be

naturally dried in the de-watering lagoons, and then ploughed back into the arable fields to aid nutrient and moisture retention of this land.

2 Maintenance Programme Update 2014/15

- 2.1 The improvement projects at Potter Heigham have all been completed. Works were carried out at the Dingy Park, Dingy Dyke and Bridge Green to provide visitor enhancements and improved moorings for workboats (offline and secure when working in the Upper Thurne area). The scheme saw benches, cycle racks and improved footways being installed at Bridge Green. The Dingy Park has been resurfaced, picnic tables and canoe storage has been installed. The Dingy Park site is now open and is available for de-masting. These schemes were paid for out of the Project Development Budget.
- 2.2 Two bridges on the Acle permissive path have been replaced. The old 7.4m bridges were in very poor condition with rotten bearers and supports and replacing both structures was required.
- 2.3 Cantley 24hr mooring is undergoing footpath works with major sections of the surfacing being topped and re-compacted and Aldeby 24hr mooring is also undergoing capping replacement with 40m of timbering being removed and replaced.
- 2.5 How Hill 24hr mooring is having 300m of pathway topped up, repairs to the quay heading and new path edgings laid as existing timbers have rotted, this work will be completed by the end of February.

3 Environment Team Programme Update 2014/15

- 3.1 Two full planning applications have been submitted for 'bank alignment' schemes at Hickling and on the Upper Bure. Hickling, Hill Common application was heard by Planning Committee on Friday 6 February and approval was granted. The works will begin in mid-February. The scheme on the Upper Bure has met with objections from the public and the Environment Agency; the issues included questions about Water Framework Directive and the choice of planting being proposed. These issues are being addressed by the Environment Officers, but this has delayed the scheme on the Upper Bure from starting, pushing it back into the 2015/16 work programme.
- 3.2 One-off Fen management work contracts have increased in 2014/15 and the Fen Team have been busy recently with our Softrak MkII at Oulton Marshes, South Walsham Fen and Barton Fen. The reputation of the Broads Authority as capable Fen and Marsh habitat managers is growing and the speed and reliability of the Softrak MkII is making us a viable option for landowners. We are looking to develop this area of work during the 2015/16 year and try to bring some of these sites into long-term management agreements.
- 3.3 The Environment Officers have been working hard on the impact monitoring and the reporting function we provide, especially with regards to impacts from the fen harvester (tests carried out of the sensitive peat strata and water

quality impacts of cut fen vegetation heaped at the fen edge). The 2014 Water Plant survey report has also been produced and is available on the website as well as the full hydro- acoustic survey of Hickling Broad.

4 Fitters

- 4.1 Motor launches continued to have their yearly out-fit with the contract being split between Broads Authority's Fitters and Cox's Boatyard. So far two launches have been serviced and re-fitted at the Dockyard, with the Spirit of Breydon due in by the middle of March. ML Martin Broom has a new anti-foul system placed when the existing system was found to be faulty during the routine service. This was paid for by the manufacturer as laboratory tests on the anti-fouling product found it to be faulty.
- 4.2 The crane in the dredging barge known as 'Grab 7' has now been decommissioned and removed from service. The crane was uneconomical to maintain and she needed major spare parts in order to pass the required safety certification. In anticipation of this item of plant being withdrawn we purchased a new Long Reach 360 Doosan excavator which has been installed onto linkflotes and is ready for service on the River Ant.
- 4.3 Following the vessel assessment and subsequent decision to scrap three old wherries, On-Ward, Senior & Go-Forward have all been cut-up for scrap. The newest wherry, Gleaner, is being made ready for delivery and we are expecting her to arrive on Thursday 12 February. A third new wherry is currently out for tender, with the closing date for bids on 27 March 2015.

5 Turn Tide Jetty Update

- 5.1 The design work, carried out by Canhams has been finalised and the appointed contractor, G.T Rochesters have sourced sustainable timber to be used as the structures kingpiles. Greenheart oak posts recycled from the Port of Southampton have been approved for use and are being trimmed to size. With this material being sustainably sourced and reasonably local, a start date of late February 2015 is now possible. This development allows the project to revert back to its original budget and maintains the planned financial spending plan of splitting the cost over two financial years, with £153,000 contribution from 2014/15 budget covering mobilization and the major material costs

Background papers: Nil

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Appendices: APPENDIX 1 –Dredging Progress Table 2014/15

Dredging Progress 2014/15 (April 2014 to end January 2015)

APPENDIX 1

Project Title	Project Element	Active dredging weeks Completed (Apr-Jan)/Planned	Volume Removed m ³		Annual project cost	Actual project cost ¹ (Apr-Jan)
			Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual
Mid Bure	Thurne Mouth to Horning Hall	27/28	19,000	16,610	£165,000	£132,370
<i>River Thurne rond and setback area near Ant mouth all utilized to plan</i>						
Waveney	Burgh St Peter bends	20/16	12,000	12,050	£112,500	£120,900
<i>Arisings to setback area at Black Mill on the lower Waveney now full as planned.</i>						
Haddiscoe Cut	Reedham end and St Olaves end	9/4	2,000	6,240	£22,700	£44,820
<i>Work was extended whilst waiting for hire of EA wherries and to allow for additional material to be removed.</i>						
River Ant	How Hill to Barton Broad	0/12	6,000	0	£99,500	£6,110
<i>Start date delayed to first week of February</i>						
Upper Bure	Belaugh to Horstead Mill	0/12	6,000	0	£91,000	£11,460
<i>Mud-pump set-up complete. Pumping starting in second week of February. Second bank re-alignment scheme incorporating 3,000m³ awaiting planning consent;</i>						
River Chet	Pye's Mill to Hardley Flood	3/10	5,000	1,500	£53,800	£18,020
<i>Side casting of sediment progressing well. Sediment being used to strengthen floodbank</i>						
Heigham Sound	Restoration of lagoon area	0/0	0	-	£17,500	£17,120
<i>Replanting of lagoon baskets and on-going maintenance. Part PRISMA funded in 2014/15</i>						
Postwick Tip	Restoration of disposal cells & on-going management	0/0	0	-	£16,000	£4,460
<i>Movement of dry sediment from the wet cell is to be deferred to after dredging in 2015/16</i>						
TOTAL			50,000m³	36,720	£578,000	£355,260