

Broads Local Access Forum

Agenda 09 March 2022

10.00am

This is a remote meeting held under the Broads Authority's [Standing Orders on Procedure Rules for Remote Meetings](#).

Participants: You will be sent a link to join the meeting. The room will open at 9.30am and we request that you **log in by 9.45am** to allow us to check connections and other technical details.

Members of the public: Please email BLAF@broads-authority.gov.uk for joining details.

Introduction

1. Apologies for absence and welcome
2. Declarations of interest
3. **To receive and confirm the minutes of the Broads Local Access Forum meeting held on 1 December 2021 (Pages 5-13)**
4. **Summary of actions and outstanding issues following decisions at previous meetings- to note the schedule (Pages 14-15)**

Items for discussion

5. **Water, Mills and Marshes update (Pages 16 -17)**
Report by Project Officer
6. **Unregistered Rights of Way**
Presentation by Norfolk Local Access Forum
7. **Forum membership (Pages 18-20)**
Report by Head of Construction, Maintenance & Ecology

Other matters

8. Any other business
9. To note the date of the next meeting – **Wednesday 8 June 2022** at 10.00am.

Broads Local Access Forum membership

Member	Address	Phone number	Email	Interest
Linda Aspland	Quercus 229 Norwich Road Wroxham NR12 8SL	01603 951814	linda.aspland@icloud.com	Waterborne recreational users / Paddle sports
Richard Atkins	Riverview Cottage Off Church Lane Surlingham NR14 7DF	01508 538083	richard.p.atkins@btinternet.com	Paddle sports/ Walking
Keith Bacon	Woodcroft Wood Street Catfield NR29 5DF	01692 581314	keithbacon@keme.co.uk keithbacon@broadland.net	Archaeology and landscape heritage
Louis Baugh	Neatishead Hall Neatishead NR12 8XX	07785 224589	lbaugh@netcom.co.uk	Landowners and managers
Katie Baxter	18 Keys Drive Wroxham Norwich NR12 8SS	07917 785282	info@gopaddle.co.uk	Paddle Sports/ Tourism and local business
Harry Blathwayt	20 Broad Reaches Ludham NR29 5PD	01692 678644	Harry.blathwayt@north-norfolk.gov.uk	Broads Authority
Christine Cane	The Roundhouse 160 Tuttle Lane West Wymondham NR18 0JJ	01953 606019	bhs.southnorfolk@gmail.com	Equestrian riding and driving
Peter Dixon	The Smea Hickling NR12 0YL	078509 30486	Peterjbdixon@hotmail.com	Waterborne recreational users
Tony Gibbons	19 Blithewood Gardens Sprowston NR7 8PS	01603 400973	tonygibbons.ndaa@gmail.com	Angling

Member	Address	Phone number	Email	Interest
Tim Harris	Catfield Hall Catfield NR29 5DB	01692 580220	tim@catfieldhall.com	Nature conservation / Archaeology and landscape heritage
Peter Mason	7 Brick Kiln Gardens Catfield Gt Yarmouth NR29 5DW	01692 583152	peter.mason51@sky.com	Walking/Tourism and local business
John Murray	33 Prospect Road Lowestoft NR32 3PT	07855 385041	john.campbell.murray@btinternet.com	Walking / People with disabilities / Access for all
Steve Read	The Anchorage Broadview Road Oulton Broad Lowestoft NR32 3PL	07720 808715	stevereadcon@btinternet.com	Walking/water borne recreational users
Martin Rendle	62 South Hill Road Norwich NR7 0NG	01603 339133	adventure@norfolkoutdoor.co.uk	Paddle sports/Tourism and local business
Paul Saunders	8 Heathside Road Norwich NR1 1TH	07557 018954	paulandrewsaunders@outlook.com	Open Water Swimming
Michael Scott	c/o Broads Authority Yare House 62-64 Thorpe Road Norwich NR1 1RY	01603 610734	michaeldorf@hotmail.com	Broads Authority
Richard Webb	9 Bek Close Norwich NR4 7NT	01603 505362	dickwebb@talktalk.net	Walking/sailing
Christopher Yardley	Thorpe Cloud Creake Road Burnham Thorpe PE31 8HW	01328 738705	Cj.yardley@tiscali.co.uk	Waterborne recreational users/ nature conservation

Kylie Moos – Broads Local Access Forum Secretary
Yare House, 62-64 Thorpe Road, Norwich, NR1 1RY

01603 610734

BLAF@broads-authority.gov.uk

Broads Local Access Forum

Minutes of the meeting held on 01 December 2021

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Present

Keith Bacon – in the Chair, Linda Aspland, Richard Atkins, Louis Baugh, Katie Baxter, Harry Blathwayt, Robin Buxton, Christine Cane, Peter Dixon, Tony Gibbons, Tim Harris, John Murray, Steve Read, Martin Rendle, Paul Saunders.

In attendance

Ken Hawkins – Norfolk Local Access Forum, Matt Hayward- Norfolk County Council, Dan Hoare – Head of Construction, Maintenance and Ecology, Harry Mach – Carbon Reduction Officer, Kylie Moos – Administrative Officer, Lewis Treloar – Waterways and Recreation Officer.

1. Apologies for absence and welcome

Today is the last meeting for Waterways and Recreation Officer, Lewis Treloar who will shortly be leaving the Broads Authority. The Chair thanked Lewis for all of their hard work and dedication to the Forum and wished him well in his new role. An advert for the Waterways and Recreation Officer role will be published in the new year.

Apologies received from Dawn Hatton, Peter Mason.

2. Declarations of interest

Members indicated they had no further declarations of interest other than those already registered and set out in Appendix 1 to these minutes.

3. Minutes of the Broads Local Access Forum meeting held on 1 September 2021

The minutes of the meeting held on 1 September 2021 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

4. Summary of actions and outstanding issues following decisions at previous meetings

Open water swimming

Safety advice signs are due to be installed at a trail site within the Broads. The signs will offer advice for those entering the water and to inform boaters that there may be people swimming in the water. The Broads Authority's message on open water swimming has not changed, however the signs will be in place to help reduce the number of accidents taking place. An internal meeting will be taking place tomorrow and a risk assessment will be conducted before the signs are installed.

The open water sub group will consider both the safety management of open water swimming and the broader managed access, facilitating people's enjoyment of the area.

A member of the Broads Authority open water swimming sub group will be invited to provide an update at a future Broads Local Access Forum meeting.

Lost Paths in the Broads

Lost paths in the Broads is still to be discussed at the Norfolk Local Access Forum. Ken Hawkins agreed to raise this item at the next meeting in January 2022.

The Chair agreed to contact Norfolk County Council and Suffolk Council and request a list of all of the paths that have been lost to the river.

Remote meetings

The capacity for Yare House remains at 15 due to the Covid-19 restrictions in place. Alternative venues such as Hickling Barn, Ludham Village Hall and Acle Recreation Centre were suggested for future meetings. A decision on the format going forward will be reviewed at the end of each meeting. It was agreed that no further action was needed

5. MONUMENT project

Matt Hayward, Lead Projects Managers for Norfolk County Council (NCC) Environment team presented the MONUMENT project to the Forum. The MONUMENT project aim is to support informal carers of people living with dementia by providing professional and structural support to these carers and tailor-made technological solutions. NCC Environment Service wants to understand barriers and provide bespoke support to improve access to green space for informal carers and people living with dementia.

Objectives

- Implement five pilots offering support to informal carers of people living with dementia based on the Odense concept.
- Test and co-create technological solutions tailored to the needs of informal carers of people living with dementia.
- Set up a multilingual digital platform by and for informal carers, consolidating information on dementia friendly services, and enhancing exchange with peers. Linked to Active Norfolk Activity Finder & mapping work.
- Conduct a socio-economic feasibility study on the MONUMENT model for policy makers and provide guidance for solution actors. Including evaluations of the project impact.

What's happening in Norfolk?

- Training sessions in Norfolk for carers and volunteers and leisure activity providers from November 2021 to June 2022.
- Demonstration of technology.
- Carers Peer Support at Bridewell museum and Hellesdon Library.
- Outdoor Leisure Activities at Nancy Oldfield Trust (Barton Broad), Pensthorpe, Blickling Hall, Marlpit Community Allotments, Ranworth Broads, Green Light Trust, Shallow Brook Lakes.

- Family Day on 11 June 2022.

Comments

- BLAF members offered to share details of the project with their interested groups outside of the meeting.
- The MONUMNET project team are able to provide outdoor leisure activities at additional locations such as Wroxham if requested.
- Waveney Sailability offers sailing opportunities for those with impaired health or disabilities and may benefit from further information on MONUMENT.

6. Carbon reduction in the Broads

Harry Mach, Carbon Reduction Officer at the Broads Authority presented an overview of carbon reduction measures taking place within the Broads, and to update the Forum on key data that has been gathered. There is various public data available which has been used to map CO2 sources in the Broads. The mapping shows Norwich, Great Yarmouth, Lowestoft and Cantley Sugar Factory to be the biggest sources of CO2, which is to be expected and highlighted the need for more in depth research.

The Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research has produced a calculator for all Local Authority areas to reach Net Zero by 2050. The calculator shows that the reduction in emissions need to be front loaded, with a much steeper trend in the early years, to ensure reaching the target doesn't become more difficult later on. Once past 2035 the focus will be on the hard to reach emissions.

The Broads Authority, working the National Parks family have commissioned Smallworld to analyse the consumption based footprint of the Broads. The final data is yet to be released but a draft footprint for; residents in the Broads, visitors in the Broads and visitor travel to the Broads was presented to the Forum.

Another ongoing study is on the carbon already stored in the Broads. It is estimated that between 40 to 50 million tonnes of CO2 is locked up in peat soils; how these soils are managed in the future will be key for keeping the carbon in the ground. Wet farming, also known as paludiculture is currently being trailed at Horsey, if successful the crop will be grown with a higher water table which will ensure the carbon remains locked up.

The Broads Authority are working towards Carbon Neutral by 2030 through a mixture of offsetting and emissions reductions. For example, switching to Green Electricity, the use of biofuel in operations equipment and the use of electric vehicles.

Key actions for the Broads

- Improving understanding of emissions and sources of emissions
- Reducing Transport Emissions
- Reducing Boating Emissions

- Preserving the carbon store

To begin to reduce transport emissions, both visitors and residents would need to be encouraged to travel to the Broads without a car. There are 15 train stations within the Broads, with many of the trains now bike friendly. Additional car charging points would need to be installed to encourage the use of electric cars and for those that are unable to access public transport.

Comments and answers to questions

A change in food production in the Broads does not necessarily mean that the production will take place elsewhere in the UK. Instead, the aim would be to use current available land more efficiently and encourage sustainable food production from farm to fork. Looking at nationwide issues such as reducing food waste would also free up land for other purposes.

Sustainable food choices could be cutting back on meat and selecting meat which has good welfare standards and environmental credentials. A member responded that the measuring of greenhouse gases associated with UK beef needs to be more balanced and look at the effects of global warming instead of just emissions alone.

Public transport across the Broads does not appear to run frequently enough, nor would there be enough space on trains to encourage everyone to bring their bikes. Harry Mach responded, it is unfortunate that trains can only facilitate 4-6 bikes, these are the kind of concerns that need to be challenged with current and new transport companies. A map or mobile app was suggested to show the links between bus and train stations in the Broads for both cyclists and pedestrians. Taking your bike on the train can also be marketed as part of the day out.

A case for additional stops to the current bus timetable, for example a link from Wroxham station and Great Yarmouth would require subsidising and support from a local bus company before presenting to the Transport Department at Norfolk County Council.

The use of the waterways as a mode of transport was also suggested similar to the Thames. Harry Mach noted that the lower speed limits in the Broads would be more suited to tourists rather than everyday transport.

A member suggested that the preservation of existing peat layers and storage of carbon should be given the top priority. Creating new peat marshes could take up to 500 years to replicate the peat which is already stored elsewhere in the Broads. There was also concern as to what would happen to the peat in the event of a severe drought and how can this be mitigated. Another member reported that Defra have formed a Lowland Agricultural Peatland Task Force to look at limiting greenhouse gas emissions from peat. One of the major concerns is in the Fens where peat soils are cultivated for crop productions, but they are also looking at lowland grazing marshes. The group recently visited Horsey and looked at grazing in practice whilst raising water tables.

The Broads Authority through CANAPE (Creating a New Approach to Peatland Ecosystems) have commissioned a study by Queen Mary University of London to look at the depth of peat within the Broads. The Broads Authority placed a bid for the Nature for Climate Peatland

Grant Scheme (NCPGS) Discovery Grant and will find out shortly if it has been successful. The purpose of the project is to address the risks and barriers for rewetting land to create peat forming habitats with carbon and nature benefits. It also provides the opportunity to work with farmers and land managers to prepare the feasibility stages of potential future projects that would deliver multiple ecosystem services.

A member queried if the existing cable infrastructure would be able to cope with the increasing needs for electricity to charge cars. Harry Mach responded, as part of the Electrifying the Broads project the Authority are working with Net Zero East who will provide mapping which will show where there are already constraints on the network.

The Balanced Pathway approach requires a higher up take of electric vehicles combined with a reduction in miles driven. There are still emissions associated with electric vehicles from their construction and maintenance, also the electricity used to run the vehicles is not taken from a 100% green electricity grid.

7. Project update from Norfolk County Council

Matt Hayward provided updates for cycling and walking projects at Norfolk County Council. Regular updates are also provided at the Norfolk Local Access Forum and the papers can be found online.

As part of the Active Travel fund programme, local walking and cycling infrastructure plans are currently under review. The 10 year programme will look at behaviour changes and locations which require further infrastructure, for example linking up public transport as suggested in agenda item six. The programme will also include the development of a Travel North website, which will highlight and promote the existing sustainable travel options across Norfolk. Public engagement will begin in spring 2022.

The E-cycle extension fund has been granted encouraging more people in Norfolk to trial E-bikes. Discussions are currently in place with various operators throughout the county to offer the trial. Both visitors and residents of Norfolk will be able to participate. More information will be provided through the Norfolk County Council website.

A member recently met with a Norfolk County Council Highways engineers to discuss pedestrian access from a National Trust car park at Horsey to a permissive footpath on the other side of the road, the engineer has proposed a 'slow' sign to calm traffic. The member asked if there was anything else that could be done to direct a large number of pedestrians across a busy road. Matt Hayward recommended to continue working with the Highways team at Norfolk County Council who can also work with the network management team and road safety team.

8. Integrated Access Strategy: Update

Lewis Treloar presented a list all of the Integrated Access Strategy (IAS) projects and their current status. It was noted that the outcome of the partnership bid with Norfolk County Council for the Wherryman's Way Hardley Flood project and Wherryman's Way Bramerton to

Surlingham project was due to be announced in December 2021, not December 2022 as written in the report. A member requested that the projects are updated with a grid reference number to help identify the projects.

The Waterways and Recreation Officer agreed to include grid reference numbers to future Integrated Access Strategy updates.

9. Open access restriction at Ludham and Potter Heigham Marshes National Nature Reserve outcome

Lewis Treloar reported that the public consultation has now closed. The continued restriction of dog access on Open Access land at Ludham and Potter Heigham marshes has been approved, and will be in place until 2027.

A member raised the issue that there is gap along the riverbank near Ludham that is not registered as a public right of way. Lewis Treloar has previously contacted the Environment Agency who own the stretch of path, and confirmed that they plan to keep permissive access in place. The next step would be for the Forum to send a request to the Environment Agency for a public path creation order to register the path.

10. Any other business

Agenda items

Forum members are encouraged to suggest agenda items and provide presentations at future meetings.

Membership term of appointment

Several members will be coming to the end of their Broads Local Access Forum membership after today's meeting. The recruitment of new members will be taking place in the new year and members that wish to re-join the Forum are invited to apply. Those members whose term is about to expire will be contacted.

Water Skills Academy

Water Skills Academy is an international organisation providing watersport instructor courses and consultancy across the disciplines of Stand Up Paddleboarding, Beach Lifeguarding, & Surf Instructing. Membership to the organisation includes third party insurance and a Canals and Rivers Trust License. Martin Rendle is the representative in the Broads and reported that there has been an increase in membership from the Broads area. Over the last two years Martin has been trying to contact the Broads Authority to see if an arrangement can be made similar to British Canoeing. Members of British Canoeing can use the Broads navigation area at no extra cost providing that membership is carried at all times. Dan Hoare apologised that the request has not been acknowledged and requested a copy of the email so that the query is followed up.

Linda Aspland requested further information on Water Skills Academy to advertise on the Wroxham Broad noticeboard.

Safety ladders

Richard Atkins commented on the number of safety ladders installed around the Broads and suggested that more would be welcome. Increased ladders at Public Houses would not only benefit anyone who may fall in the river, but those on canoe and paddleboard could use them to access the facilities. The Broads Authority would be able to provide the specification for the Safety Ladders but would not be able to finance the project. Love the Broads, Farming in Protected Landscapes and the Canoe Foundation were suggested as possible funding sources. The project was also suggested as an agenda item for a future meeting.

Next meeting

Meetings cannot take place at the Broads Authority offices due to the reduction in meeting room capacity to remain Covid-19 secure. The Forum agreed to return to face to face meetings and suggested Hickling Barn as the venue however, if Covid-19 cases continue to rise, or restrictions are in place then the meeting will be held online.

11. Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the Broads Local Access Forum would be held on Wednesday 9 March 2022 at 10.00am, location to be confirmed.

The meeting ended at 11.50pm

Signed by

Chairman

Appendix 1 – Declaration of interests Broads Local Access Forum, 01 December 2021

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Broads Local Access Forum

09 March 2022

Agenda item number 4

Summary of progress

Title	Meeting date	Lead officer	Summary of actions	Progress so far	Status
Open water swimming	09/06/2021	Waterways and Recreation Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begin internal discussions at the BA regarding the policy change of open water swimming. • Investigate consistency of 'no swimming' signage in the Broads • Agree on "Wild Swimming" locations 	<p>July 2021 - Initial meeting held with Head of Rangers, Head of Safety management and representatives from BLAF to discuss current guidance and suggest ways to improve how we manage swimming safely in the Broads.</p> <p>October 2021 - All parties agree that swimming is taking place and needs to be done safely. Next steps are to erect safety signage at key sites and along river corridors to alert boaters of potential swimmers in that area.</p> <p>December 2021: A member of the Broads Authority open water swimming sub group will be invited to provide an update at the next Broads Local Access Forum meeting.</p>	In progress

Title	Meeting date	Lead officer	Summary of actions	Progress so far	Status
Lost Paths in the Broads	09/06/2021		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify 'Lost Paths' to the river Contact NCC and SCC to identify 'Lost Paths' 	<p>September 2021 Norfolk LAF representative agreed to raise this item at a future meeting.</p> <p>December 2021: Norfolk LAF representative agreed that 'Lost Paths' will be raised at the January 2022 Norfolk Local Access Forum meeting.</p> <p>The Chair agreed to contact Norfolk County Council and Suffolk Council and request a list of all of the paths that have been lost to the river.</p>	In progress
Staithes Report	04/12/2019		Contact the Environment Agency asking their opinion as a follow-up from the publication of the staithes report.	<p>September 2021 The Chair has written to the Environment Agency but has yet to receive a response. A follow up phone call will take place with David Horsfall.</p>	In progress

Date of report: 25 February 2022

Broads Local Access Forum

09 March 2022

Agenda item number 5

Water, Mills and Marshes update

Report by Ella Meecham – Water Mills and Marshes Project Officer

Summary

This report provides an update on countryside access related projects within Water, Mills and Marshes including the Broads Mills Trail project and the Improving Access Projects; Angles Way Feeder Paths and Waveney Marsh Observatories.

1. Introduction

- 1.1. Water, Mills and Marshes (WMM) is a Broads Authority led and Heritage Lottery funded Landscape Partnership Scheme (LPS) in the Broads National Park, with a focus on connecting people and communities to the heritage in this landscape. One key aim of the project is to document and repair iconic drainage mills. The project also seeks to improve physical access within the area and to increase information and interpretation about the unique landscape and heritage to a wider audience with the creation and improvement of a network of routes using both new and existing rights of way within the national park. This will be delivered through the Broads Mills Trail Project and the improving access projects; Angles Way Feeder Paths and Waveney Marsh Observatories.

2. Broads Mills Trail

2.1. Project Overview:

The Broads Mills Trails project aims to create a network of routes across the Halvergate marshes – where possible at bridleway status – connecting arrival points with features that illustrate the heritage of the drained marshes.

The project aims to deliver:

- Coordinated signage allowing easy use of the routes by a range of people.
- Rationalisation and improvements to route ‘furniture’ to allow safe passage.
- Creation of legal agreements for use of links that facilitate the network.

Project Update:

- Funding obtained through Norfolk County Council Experience project to increase off season tourism. Currently undergoing a baselining phase including public

consultation through social media surveys and data collection through strategically placed people counters on the walk. Preparation for the delivery phase with installation of signage and furniture improvements this summer. Also looking at the possibility of improvements to field gates through FiPL (Farming in Protected Landscapes) funding sources.

- In process to divert Freethorpe BR3 due to recurring incidences with cattle. Safety concerns with increased footfall. Proposal to change crossfield path to a safer route along the edge of the field avoiding cattle.
- Working to correct misalignment issue on Halvergate BR9 working with NCC Highways PROW team and Norfolk Trails to re-establish overgrown footpath.

3. Improving Access projects: Angles Way Feeder Paths and Waveney Marsh Observatories

3.1. Angles Way Feeder Paths

- This project will deliver improved access to and from the Angles Way and the river and marshland between Worlingham and Bungay at specific points. This will enable individuals and small groups to engage visually with the marsh landscape.
- Installation of signage on the Beccles to Geldeston Loop with appropriate repairs to rights of way where needed.

3.2. Waveney Marsh Observatories

- To build low level observation platforms to enable individuals and small groups to engage visually with the marsh landscape. This project will enable local residents and visitors to spend time engaging with and understanding the landscape. The project is linked to the proposed Angles Way Feeder Paths Project which will bring people to the observatories.
- All access observation platform to be built at Suffolk Wildlife Trust Carlton Marshes overlooking Peto's Marsh. Delivery in collaboration with Suffolk Wildlife Trust and work due to commence spring/summer 2022 subject to conditions on site (currently delayed due to flooding at the site).

Author: Ella Meecham

Date of report: 23 February 2022

[Broads Plan](#) objectives: 5.1,6.1,8.2,9.1, 9.3

Broads Local Access Forum

09 March 2022

Agenda item number 7

Forum Membership

Report by Head of Construction, Maintenance & Ecology

Summary

A report to update on the current membership of the Broads Local Access Forum (BLAF) and set out the timetable for recruitment and appointments in 2022/23.

Recommendation

That members of the Forum note the membership information and future timetable.

1. Introduction

- 1.1. As per the BLAF constitution, the Forum will comprise at least 10 and not more than 22 representatives, appointed by the Broads Authority in accordance with The Local Access Forums (England) Regulations 2007. Members of the Forum shall be appointed for not less than one and not more than three years. Seven members came to the end of their membership duration in December 2021.

2. Membership from January 2022

- 2.1. Table 1 below shows the current membership and the start and end dates of the current membership period.

	First Name	Surname	From	To
1	Katie	Baxter	10/03/2021	09/03/2022
2	Paul	Saunders	10/03/2021	09/03/2022
3	Harry	Blathwayt*	01/07/2021	15/07/2022
4	Michael	Scott*	01/07/2021	15/07/2022
5	Linda	Aspland	04/09/2019	03/09/2022
6	Tim	Harris	04/09/2019	03/09/2022
7	John	Murray	04/09/2019	03/09/2022
8	Louis	Baugh	10/03/2021	09/03/2023
9	Richard	Atkins	10/03/2021	09/03/2024
10	Christine	Cane	10/03/2021	09/03/2024

	First Name	Surname	From	To
11	Peter	Dixon	10/03/2021	09/03/2024
12	Tony	Gibbons	10/03/2021	09/03/2024
13	Martin	Rendle	10/03/2021	09/03/2024
14	Richard	Webb	06/12/2021	05/12/2024
15	Peter	Mason	06/12/2021	05/12/2024
16	Keith	Bacon	06/12/2021	05/12/2024
17	Chris	Yardley	06/12/2021	05/12/2024
18	Steven	Read	06/12/2021	05/12/2024

*Denotes a Broads Authority member directly appointed on an annual basis to the Forum (maximum of two at any one time)

3. Future membership

3.1. The current membership is 18 members. As up to 22 members are allowable, as per the constitution, a further round of recruitment will be initiated in spring 2022 once the vacant Waterways & Recreation Officer post has been recruited to. The Forum application process is an open invitation with a form for candidates to fill in. The applications are reviewed by the Chair and Broads Authority staff directly engaged in BLAF administration with a face to face meeting with each applicant. Under 3(5) of the 2007 Regulations, membership of the Forum is selected so that there is representation from the following interest groups:

- a) users of local rights of way or the right conferred by section 2(1) (rights of public in relation to access land);
- b) owners and occupiers of access land or land over which local rights of way subsist;
- c) any other interests especially relevant to the Broads Authority's executive area.

3.2. If there are more applications than spaces available on the Forum, then the applicants will be selected to ensure a spread of representation across a-c above. After that, selection will be based on the potential for the applicant to act as an effective representative for their interest group. As for other public sector activities, ensuring representation and engagement with all sectors of the community, particularly those under-represented, or those facing specific access challenges, will be a consideration, in line with the requirements of the Equalities Act 2010.

3.3. Broads Authority members are appointed to the Forum annually (July) at the Authority's AGM. Currently the Forum election of a chair and vice chair is at the September meeting each year.

Author: Dan Hoare

Date of report: 23 February 2022

Background papers: [BLAF constitution 2020 \(endorsed\) \(broads-authority.gov.uk\)](https://broads-authority.gov.uk/broads-authority/constitutions/2020-constitution)

[Broads Plan](#) objectives: 6.1, 6.2, 6.4