

Broadland Futures Initiative

Minutes of the meeting held on 27 October 2021

Contents

1. Apologies for absence and welcome	2
2. Update on communications and community engagement	2
3. Update on consultant work	2
4. Elected Members Forum	4
5. AOB	4
6. Date of next meeting	4

Attendees

Mark Johnson (Chair) - Environment Agency, Julia Beeden - Water Resources East, Peter Doktor - Environment Agency, Victoria Egan- National Trust, Charlotte Hounsell – Norwich City Council, Alison Old- South Norfolk and Broadland District Council, Gavin Rumsey- Environment Agency, Kylie Moos - Broads Authority (minutes).

1. Apologies for absence and welcome

Apologies received from Giles Bloomfield, Simon Curl, Donna Deane, Kellie Fisher, Rob Goodliffe, Phil Pearson, Marie-Pierre Tighe, Rob Wise.

Mark Johnson (MJ) welcomed attendees to the remote meeting and new Initiative Project Team (IPT) member Victoria Egan from the National Trust.

2. Update on communications and community engagement

Gavin Rumsey (GR) provided an update to the IPT on activities since the last meeting.

- The Elected Members Forum (EMF) was held on 28 September. Draft minutes are currently with EMF members for comment. Once they have been approved they will be published on the BFI website.
- Marie-Pierre Tighe (MPT) and MJ presented on the BFI at Norfolk & Suffolk Coastal Forum on 6 October.
- Upcoming Engagement Activity:
 - Peter Doktor and GR will be attending the Norfolk Coastal Forum on 2 November
 - Upper Thurne Working Group workshop
 - Public Meeting with Somerton, Horsey and Winterton Parish Council(s) on 4th November
- Creating a calendar of future public engagements to be shared with IPT.
- Evaluation of engagement activity so far, including review of engagement plan and objectives to be shared.
- BFI progress newsletter to go out to stakeholders at the end of November.

3. Update on consultant work

PD provided an update for the following outstanding products.

Existing data sources/indicators (Product 8)

Review and collation of existing data sources for the plan area that can be used later in the project and help apply the objectives. A note was sent to the IPT yesterday, comments are required by 17 November.

BFI plan objectives (Product 11)

The objectives were presented to the EMF on 28 September. The objectives were agreed subject to them being made publicly available. A non-technical summary will be made available on the BFI website.

The final version of the technical note has been updated to include the EMF agreement.

SEA scoping (Product 13)

The draft SEA scoping report was sent out to statutory consultees over the summer for consultation. Feedback from the consultation is being reviewed and responses will be circulated. Feedback was varied, from comments specific to the SEA scoping report, whilst others commented on broader reach of BFI.

Salinity investigation (Product 17)

PD met with Julia Beeden (JB) to discuss engagement with various water companies. The study will include a literature review and discussions with key organisations and stakeholders. The feasibility study is due to be completed by early January.

Coastal data analysis (Product 18)

The detailed analysis of existing coastal data will review the sediment budget, defining trends of change, influence of storm events and climate change on trends and triggers. A technical note will be ready for the IPT in February.

Hydraulic modelling

Work on the hydraulic model is on schedule and is due to be completed by mid-2023.

Appraisal methodology (Product 12)

Sets out the process and approach for identifying and appraising different possible management actions and describes the next stage of the BFI technical work. The first draft will be shared with the IPT in late November and with the EMF at the next meeting.

Our overall approach for developing and implementing the BFI plan is shown as a circular diagram. Within this the next steps in the appraisal methodology Sections 5 and 6 have been broken down into sub sections to explain what will be done.

- 5a - Long list of flood risk management actions
- 5b - Short list of actions and management units
- 5c - List of possible action combinations and adaptation rules
- 6a - Evaluation of action combinations
- 6b - Preferred sequence of action combinations

Comments

- JB reported that there are 3 different types of modelling being carried out as part of the Water for Tomorrow (WfT) programme. WfT have gone out to tender and are deciding on the consultants. JB agreed to send a copy of the modelling briefs to PD.

- JB also reported that modelling of chalk streams in the Broads catchment has been agreed with the Environment Agency’s Natural Flood Management team (Mark Whiteman). The aim is to get quantitative data and look at delivery of nature-based solutions at scale. Outputs are due by next summer and will be looking at the River Wensum and Bure.
- The appraisal methodology will generate a large number of options and become a technical process. The engagement team will review how the document can be made more accessible to all audiences whilst retaining the detailed information for those who require it. The level of detail required will vary between stakeholders, elected members and the public.
- With the hydrological modelling not due to be completed until mid-2023 it is important that meaningful stakeholder engagement continues whilst the modelling is running.

4. Elected Members Forum

The second meeting took place on 28 September and contained good representation from local authorities. The following outcomes were noted:

- Terms of Reference was adopted subject to a review in 6 months
- BFI plan objectives were approved
- IPT members are permitted to observe future EMF meetings
- EMF meetings are not open to the public, but the minutes will be made publicly available on the BFI website.

5. AOB

Interviews for the short term replacement for Kellie Fisher have taken place and the new appointment will be announced in the next two weeks.

6. Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the Broadland Future Initiative is 13 December via video conference.

Summary of progress

Outstanding actions	Meeting date	Assigned to
Send a copy of the WfT modelling briefs to PD	27/10/2021	JB