

Broads Forum

AGENDA

Thursday 27 July 2017

2.00pm

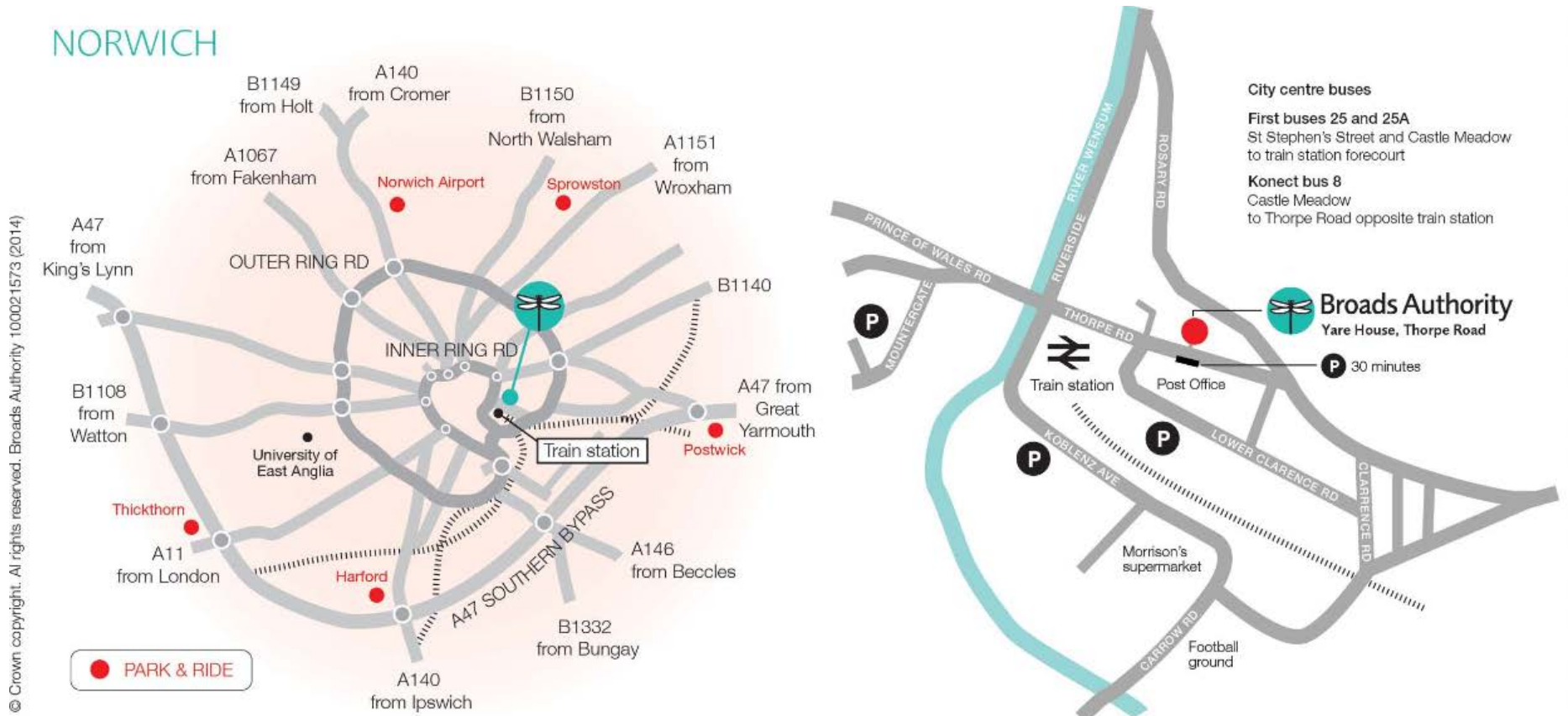
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1. To receive apologies for absence	
2. To receive and confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 27 April (herewith)	6 – 12
3. Public Question Time To note whether any questions have been raised by members of the public	
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5. Upper Thurne Working Group – Hickling Broad Issues Presentation by Brian Wilkins	
6. Riverside Tree & Scrub Management Report and Presentation by Environment Officer (herewith)	15 – 19
7. Publication Version Local Plan Report by Planning Policy Officer (herewith)	20 – 21
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9. Parish Issues Standing item for local community members to report	
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11. To note whether any items have been proposed as items of urgent business	
12. Matters for Chairman to raise at next Broads Authority meeting	

13. **Matters to be discussed at the next meeting**
14. **To note the date of the next meeting – Thursday 2 November 2017 at 2.00pm at Yare House, 62-64 Thorpe Road, Norwich**

Parking at Yare House is very limited and is therefore only available for a short period of time for guests and occasional off site staff when they are required at head office for a restricted period.

We encourage the use of the five park and ride sites around the city detailed on the map below and with full information [here](#). Members can claim park and ride expenses but must keep their tickets as proof of purchase. Alternatively the nearest paid car park is available on Lower Clarence Road marked on the map below. This is £6 a day and cannot be claimed.

For short meetings there are on road two hour parking bays three minutes' walk from the office on Stracey Road marked on the map. However these can fill up and you must ensure you have parked in the correct areas as some stretches of the road are permit only. Please also ensure you don't go over the time limit as wardens in the area are vigilant.



BROADS FORUM MEMBERSHIP

CHAIRMAN

Keith Bacon

ORGANISATIONS	MEMBER	SUBSTITUTE
<p>Boating/Water Based Recreational Interest Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Royal Yachting Association • Norfolk and Suffolk Boating Association • Inland Waterways Association • East Anglian Waterways Association • Oulton Broad Users Enterprise • Yare Users Association • British Rowing • Canoe England • Oulton Broad Sports Centre • Eastern Region Rowing Council • Sport England • British Water Ski Federation • Eastern Rivers Ski Club 	<p>4 members</p> <p>John Tibbenham</p> <p>Peter Wall</p> <p>Ashley Cato</p> <p>Julian Barnwell</p>	<p>Philip Ollier</p> <p>Paul Gurbutt</p> <p>John Carr</p>
<p>Commercial Interest Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broads Tourism • Where to go in North Norfolk • Broads Hire Boat Federation • Visit Norfolk • Visit East Anglia • Visit Norwich 	<p>3 members</p> <p>Barbara Greasley</p> <p>Matthew Thwaites</p> <p>Pete Waters</p>	<p>Katie Lawrence</p> <p>Colin Dye</p> <p>Nick Bond</p>
<p>Land Based Recreation Interest Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ramblers Association • Sustrans • Broads Local Access Forum 	<p>3 members</p> <p>Keith Bacon</p> <p>Anthony Wright</p> <p>(1 vacancy)</p>	<p>Ray Walpole</p>
<p>Fishing/Angling/Shooting Interest Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broads Angling Strategy Group • British Association for Shooting and Conservation 	<p>2 members</p> <p>Tony Gibbons</p> <p>To be advised</p>	<p>Mike Hoyland</p>

<p>Wildlife and Conservation Interest Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Norfolk Wildlife Trust Suffolk Wildlife Trust RSPB Friends of the Earth The Conservation Volunteers 	<p>3 members</p> <p>John Hiskett</p> <p>Philip Pearson</p> <p>Jennifer Parkhouse</p>	<p>Ian Robinson</p>
<p>Farming/Landowning and Drainage Interest Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Country Landowners Association National Farmers Union Broads Reed and Sedge Cutters Association Association of Inland Drainage Authorities 	<p>3 members</p> <p>Andrew Alston</p> <p>Henry Cator</p> <p>Richard Starling</p>	<p>Simon Daniels</p>
<p>Education Interest Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How Hill Trust Easton College Norfolk Schools Sailing Association Barton Turf Adventure Centre Horstead Centre Nancy Oldfield Trust Museum of the Broads 	<p>2 members</p> <p>Martyn Davey</p> <p>Simon Partridge</p>	<p>Stephen Bradnock</p>
<p>Cultural Heritage/Landscape Interest Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Trust Norfolk Archaeological Trust Norfolk Windmills Trust Wherry Yacht Charter Charitable Trust Norfolk Wherry Trust Norfolk Heritage Fleet Trust 	<p>2 members</p> <p>Peter Jermy</p> <p>Bryan Read</p>	<p>Michael Sparkes</p>
<p>Local Charities Interest Group</p> <p>Broads Society</p> <p>Broads Society</p>	<p>2 members</p> <p>Robin Godber</p> <p>Paul Savage</p>	<p>Peter Horsefield</p>
<p>Local Communities Interest Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Northern Broads Norfolk Association of Local Councils Southern Broads Suffolk Association of Local Councils 	<p>5 members</p> <p>Michael Flett (Vice-Chair)</p> <p>John Lurkins</p> <p>Brian Barker</p> <p>Charles Swan</p> <p>Hugh Taylor</p>	

Broads Forum Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 27 April 2017

Present:

Dr Keith Bacon (Chairman)

Andrew Alston
Ashley Cato
Michael Flett
Tony Gibbons

Barbara Greasley
John Lurkins
Jennifer Parkhouse
Paul Savage

John Tibbenham
Peter Wall
Anthony Wright

In Attendance:

Ms Esmeralda Guds – Administrative Officer (Governance)
Mr Simon Hooton – Head of Strategy & Projects
Miss Sarah Mullarney – Administrative Officer (Governance)
Dr John Packman – Chief Executive
Mr Rob Rogers – Director of Operations

Also In attendance:

Mr Kelvin Allen – BSG and Member of the Authority
Prof Jacquie Burgess – Chair of the Authority
Mr Steve Lane – Environment Agency
Mr Paul Mace – Norfolk County Council

3/1 To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Henry Cator, Martyn Davey, John Hiskett, Philip Pearson, Charles Swan, Richard Starling, Hugh Taylor, Robin Godber and Bryan Read

Members were reminded to contact Substitutes if they knew they would be absent to attend instead.

The Chairman welcome Jacquie Burgess the Chair of the Authority to the meeting.

The Forum was reminded that they would be entitled to make their own recordings and that this meeting was being recorded.

3/2 To receive and confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 2 February 2017

The minutes of the meeting held on 2 February 2017 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

3/3 Public Question Time

No questions were raised by members of the public.

3/4 Summary of Progress/Actions/Response taken following discussions at previous meetings

The Members of the Forum had received a report summarising the progress of current issues and were informed there were no further updates.

The Chairman informed the Members that he wasn't able to provide any feedback on the last Broads Authority meeting on 27 March as he had sent his apologies, however updates on the Broads Authority meeting were provided in the Chief Executives report later on the Agenda.

Members noted the report.

3/5 Rural Development Leader Programme

Members received a presentation from Paul Mace (PM) about grant funding opportunities provided by the Leader Programme also known as the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD).

Members were informed that there were five Local Action Groups (LAG) across Norfolk and North Suffolk, for which Norfolk County Council was the Accountable Body. These LAGs represented public, private and social organisations and created local development strategies defining local priorities and actions they wished to fund in their respective area.

It was noted that the Leader Programme was a varied programme which could deliver on six different Defra priorities and that the key aspect was to generate jobs and growth. Members were informed of the funding guidelines which defined who could apply and which criteria needed to be met. Projects were welcomed from anybody that could meet the relevant criteria and were primarily directed at job creation.

Members were further informed that up to a maximum of 40% of total budget could be funded if it could not be found elsewhere, but that all match funding would need to be in place and funding would be paid in arrears. In light of Brexit the Chancellor's Statement stated that funding would be guaranteed until the UK leaves the European Union.

Tony Gibbons (TB) raised concerns about the risk of an application being unsuccessful, especially as the project needed to be funded in full by the applicant in advance. It was explained this risk was relatively small because that as part of the application process the applicant would need to demonstrate how they would access/secure other funds before claiming the money back. Also, funding up to 40% was considered to be a high intervention rate, so applicants perceived the programme as an attractive opportunity.

When the Chair enquired whether a Parish Council would be eligible to apply, it was explained that it wasn't so much an issue whether they were eligible but, depending on the project, they were unlikely to meet the criteria of creating new jobs and growth.

Andrew Alston (AA) commented that the Broads LAG was looking to appoint someone who understood training and mentoring due to new funding coming on stream.

Members welcomed the presentation.

3/6 Prevention of Saline Incursion

Members received a presentation from the Broads Angling Strategy Group (BASG) and the Environment Agency on the prevention of saline incursion.

On behalf of the BASG Tony Gibbons stressed the importance of protecting the Broads from saline intrusion and highlighted the detrimental consequences which could occur if nothing was done to prevent this.

TG referred to an incident in October 2013 when thousands of fish were found dead on the surface of the river Thurne and stressed the danger if a salt surge went as far as Wroxham as they would be unable to replace the fish stocks that would be lost.

TG continued that although a barrier would protect from flooding, it wouldn't protect against salt incursion. He explained that as salt water is heavier it enters the system underneath fresh water and therefore fish would stay near the top of the rivers. Salt incursion had proved to be an issue particularly in dykes where fish had nowhere to go.

Steve Lane (SL) from the Environment Agency (EA) gave a presentation to Members about how the EA was managing fisheries in the Broads. He highlighted the social economic importance of fish as a tourist attraction. He further mentioned that there was a strategic framework for fishing in place in partnership with the Broads Authority, the Angling Trust and the Broads Angling Strategy Group and that the three core objectives were Access to Angling in the Broads, Communication & Education and Environment for Fish.

SL mentioned how salt surges and prymnesium were unique threats to the Broads. He explained that fish could maintain in brackish conditions if they had time to acclimatise, however fish couldn't react to the rapid change of surges. Therefore, apart from causing flooding, surges also had a serious impact on fish stocks.

SL continued that these risks could be managed by means of understanding fish stocks and their distribution. He described that through hydro acoustic surveys the EA was able to provide fish density distribution and that hydro survey boats were fitted out with water quality sensors to check dissolved oxygen, salinity, and ph levels within the rivers. Sonar survey would help tracking fish and monitor seasonal and daily movement and the reaction of fish to salt incursion.

A skimmer wall, which is a partial barrier, was described as a solution to push fresh water to the top, providing more time for a solution.

Andrew Alston (AA) asked that if the proposed directive on fish was brought in who would be responsible for fish in privately owned waterways and it was clarified that if the issue was significant enough the EA would work closely with the landowner or business towards resolving the issue.

AA informed Members that he was building a reservoir at Catfield and that it would be possible to pump water from there into Hickling Broad which might alleviate brackish conditions.

The Head of Strategy and Projects discussed the need to be confident enough to look at new potential solutions for flood surges which may affect people in different ways but overall would bring the best result to society.

Following on from that the Chairman raised the issue that in a situation of a seawater flood, whether it would be the EA's or the Internal Drainage Board's decision to protect either the farmlands and pump flood water into the rivers, or to safeguard the rivers and keep floodwater on the land.

Members recognised that this scenario illustrated the many different requirements which needed to be balanced within the Broads and although it was appreciated that there was no easy solution, Members agreed it would be better to be prepared.

Kelvin Allen (KA) requested that in future angling bodies and fisheries would continue to be included in the flooding debate.

The Chairman queried about the decrease in younger people involved in fishing and the impact of this on angling in the Broads. SL stated that the Agency was working with the Angling Trust to coach and mentor younger people to encourage them to the sport.

KA presented to the Forum a forward view of the BASG, its achievements and the challenges ahead. He informed Members that the Angling Trust had managed to increase the EA budget by 81% to £386,000 over two years.

Whilst there had been an increase in funding this had not been enough to solve the funding issue in the Broads and so the EA had recently funded a National Grants Officer to look at sourcing additional grants.

As the BASG wasn't set up to manage substantial grants it had recently been proposed to disband the BASG and set up a new community investment company called the Broads Angling Community Group.

The Broads Angling Strategy relates to the Broads Plan and the new company aims to refresh the Plan in stages.

Members welcomed the presentations.

3/7 Mooring Strategy Update 2017

Members received a report which provided them with an update on the Authority's mooring strategy and the action plan to maintain the Authority's moorings that was adopted by the Broads Authority in November 2014.

When Barbara Greasley (BG) requested whether details of the length of the moorings could be made available in Appendix 2 the Director of Operations informed members that at the recent Navigation Committee (20/04/17) it was agreed to update the table in appendix 2 to include details on the length of moorings as well as colour coding highlighting the popularity of each mooring.

Barbara Greasley (BG) stressed the usefulness for information of moorings for hire boat industries as currently customers were struggling to find places to moor.

Paul Savage (PS) questioned the accuracy of the total length of the moorings presented in the report and therefore whether the objectives mentioned in paragraph 1.2 were being met. He said the report gave the impression of an increase of total available short term moorings, and he commented that the increase in Broads Authority owned moorings didn't necessarily mean an increase in the overall mooring lengths available for visitors' use.

The Director of Operations commented that the Broads Authority didn't have an influence over moorings outside their remit and that once the figures of the length of moorings were available a more accurate view would be provided.

BG suggested carrying out another, more in depth survey, asking members of the public about mooring, to obtain more statistics she could bring back to a future Forum meeting.

When discussing the mooring strategy and increasing of moorings PS commented that more effort should be made in exploring the solutions of wild moorings.

The Chief Executive informed the Forum that discussions had taken place between the Authority and the NSBA and Hire Boat Association investigating sites where there might be opportunities for additional moorings. PS suggested widening those discussions to include invitations to other stakeholders and further requested whether more detailed information about the locations of moorings could be made available.

John Tibbenham (JT) queried why Reedham Quay was not featured on the list of mooring sites. The Director of Operations explained that no lease had been agreed with the council due to the repairs required at the site and that Officers were chasing the issue daily.

Further the Forum was updated that the Authority was still negotiating pontoons moorings at Boundary Farm and was trying to reach an agreement with the landowner in regards to waste collection issues.

Members noted the report.

3/8 Chief Executive's Report

The Members received a report summarising the current position in respect of a number of important projects and events such as:

- the follow up from the Broads Authority meeting 24 March
- Appointment to the Navigation Committee.
- Broads Plan 2017 Adoption
- Education and Volunteer Strategies
- Landscape Partnership Scheme
- New Flood Risk Supplementary Planning Document
- Peer Review

When PS enquired about the criteria of the Peer Review it was explained that unlike previous peer reviews this review wouldn't be reviewing the whole of the Authority (NPAPA) but a review around governance and relationships, in particular with the Local Authorities. Details could be found in the report on the website which went to the Broads Authority meeting on 24 March.

Members noted the report.

3/9 Parish Issues

Mike Flett updated the Forum that an agreement had been reached in which Ludham Parish Council had signed a lease for the land of £1 per annum allowing North Norfolk District Council to continue to collect the waste at Womack Staith as domestic waste.

The Parish Council was trying to reach a similar arrangement with the Environment Agency for Ludham Bridge Staith, which was looking promising.

JT queried about the delay on weed cutting in Hickling Broad and it was explained that currently NE had only consented for weed cutting to be carried out within the navigation channel and that the Authority was currently going through a process whereby scientific data is gathered to accurately calculate the weed growth and density across the whole broad. Once this information is known the Broads Authority will progress the appropriate assessment required to gain consent from NE for any cutting trials within the Chara beds. A meeting had been arranged on 15 May to inform Stakeholders at Hickling of the processes and procedures required to progress this situation

3/10 Current Issues

No items were proposed as current issues.

3/11 To note whether any items have been proposed as items of urgent business

No items were proposed as items of urgent business.

3/12 Matters for Chairman to raise at next Broads Authority Meeting

The Chairman would report to the Broads Authority meeting on the various issues discussed by the Forum.

3/13 Matters to be discussed at the next meeting

Members were asked to forward any suggestions for matters they wished to be discussed at the next meeting to the Chairman or the officers at the Authority.

Peter Wall suggested a report on tree preservation orders and riverbank clearance in particular at Womack Water and the River Ant.

Barbara Greasley highlighted that the Outdoors Festival starts on Sunday 1 May and that the launch that morning was very well received.

Jacquie Burgess reminded Members of the Forum of the Annual Open Morning on Saturday 13 May at Whitlingham Barn and the opening ceremony of the Ludham – St Benets permissive footpath on Tuesday 2 May 17.

3/14 To note the date of the next meeting

The next meeting of the Committee would be held on Thursday 27 July 2017 at Yare House, 62-64 Thorpe Road, Norwich commencing at 2pm.

The meeting concluded at 415 pm.

Chairman

Summary of Progress/Actions/Response Taken Following Discussions at Previous Meetings
Report by Administrative Officer

Date of Meeting and Minute No	Discussion	Responsible Person	Summary of Progress
6 November 2014 Minute 2/5 Summary of Progress	Outcome of future plans for the Ludham Bridge area which have been discussed with the Environment Agency	Asset Officer	Officers have had discussions and correspondence with the Environment Agency. The intention is for the Agency to dispose of all the area by the end of the year. June 2017: Negotiations are continuing.
5 February 2015 Minute 3/10 Parish Issues	Any progress made with the Harbour Revision Order (HRO) in regards to Mutford Lock.	Director of Operations	The Land transfer here requires a Harbour Revision Order (HRO) before it can proceed and the agreement of the Marine Management Organisation (MMO). In December 2016, the MMO made recommendations on the draft HRO. In accordance with the MMO recommendations solicitors acting on behalf of the Broads Authority and ABP Lowestoft have now split the single HRO into two separate HROs. One is the 'Port of Lowestoft Order' where ABP are applying to transfer the Lock and reduce their jurisdiction; the other is the 'Broads Authority Order' where the BA is applying to increase their jurisdiction to include Mutford Lock. The two draft HROs were submitted to the MMO in May

Date of Meeting and Minute No	Discussion	Responsible Person	Summary of Progress
			2017 and their response is awaited.
28 July 2016 Minute 1/8 The Staithes of the Broads: A History and Assessment	It was confirmed that Prof Williamson's report would be made public.	Senior Waterways & Recreation Officer	Final text of staithes report received from UEA. Photographs expected from UEA before end of July. Staithes report sent to all parish councils in Broads for comment prior to publication.

Riverside Tree & Scrub Management

Report by Environment Officer

Summary: Management of riverside trees and scrub is required to maintain navigation safety and wind quality whilst retaining environmental features and interests. A five year plan, prioritising the location of riverside management has been produced, incorporating the permissions required, consultation and agreed methodology.

1 Background

- 1.1 The river corridors of the Broads contain a variety of habitats, with trees and scrub occupying a significant proportion, particularly in the upper reaches. This wooded environment provides valuable habitat for birds, fish, bats and otter; forms an important landscape resource; and contributes to ecosystem services in the form of carbon storage. However, encroachment by trees and scrub over and into the water causes safety issues for navigation through the narrowing of the navigation channel and obstruction to sight lines, particularly on river bends. Dense growth of trees and scrub also has the effect of reducing the quality and strength of wind available for sailing vessels.
- 1.2 Some management of riverside trees and scrub is required in order to maintain navigation safety and wind quality, however, the needs of navigation need to be balanced with the other values and interests as noted above. This balance can be achieved through effective prioritisation, consultation and sensitive working practices. It is important to note that tree management in this context refers to a reduction in density of woody species and lowering average height over the medium term, and not the removal of all such growth.

2. Legal Framework

- 2.1 Much of the Broads area is designated for its nature conservation interest to national and European level. As such, any works within these protected areas requires assent from Natural England before work can commence. Consultation is required with the Environment Agency as riverbank tree management falls within the scope of the Water Framework Directive (WFD). An Environmental Permit is also a legal requirement for the use of herbicides near waterbodies, which includes the treatment of cut tree stumps. In addition, the Forestry Commission must be consulted on large scale felling of trees through the felling licence process, although the Broads Authority is exempt where works are required to maintain navigation safety.

- 2.2 The management of riverside trees and scrub is the responsibility of the landowner or tenant. However, as the Broads Authority is responsible for maintaining safe and navigable waterways, the condition of trees along the margins of the rivers and broads is monitored by the Ranger Team. Where remedial work is required, landowners are advised and are expected to make safe any significant hazards to navigation.

3 Prioritising Management

- 3.1 In 2015, an approach to categorising and prioritising riverside tree and scrub management was produced by the Broads Authority. Each river valley was surveyed by a Ranger and Environment Officer to determine the types of habitat present and the work required to meet safety and water quality targets. For each stretch of the river a priority class was assigned to reflect when the work should be undertaken. Notes were also taken regarding ecological features such as trees with bat potential and other points of conservation interest.
- 3.2 This survey information was recorded electronically and prioritised maps produced for each river valley. Permissions were then obtained for works to proceed during the winter months.
- 3.3 This initial prioritisation work enabled 4100 m of riverside trees to be managed during the winter of 2016/17, utilising Broads Authority staff, volunteers and contractors.

4. Additional Prioritisation

- 4.1 To improve efficiency and streamline the consenting process, agreement was reached with Natural England for the Broads Authority to request assent for a five year work period, starting in winter 2017/18. In order to do this, maps delineating the areas to be managed within the next five years were required.
- 4.2 During January 2017, Rangers and Environment Officers worked together to fine tune the prioritisation process with additional criteria added to improve the robustness of the process. The list of parameters utilised in the prioritisation process includes:
- sailing intensity
 - general boat usage
 - presence of moorings
 - position of river stretch (bend or straight)
 - density of scrub
 - width of channel lost to tree encroachment

5. Results & Methodology

5.1 The prioritisation has been used to produce maps showing those areas that require management within the next 5 years (see Figure 1). Year 1 (2017/18) priorities have been confirmed pending landowner, Natural England and Environment Agency agreement. However, it should be noted that years 2-5 (2018/19-2021/22) are subject to final operational work planning in addition to obtaining further landowner permissions.

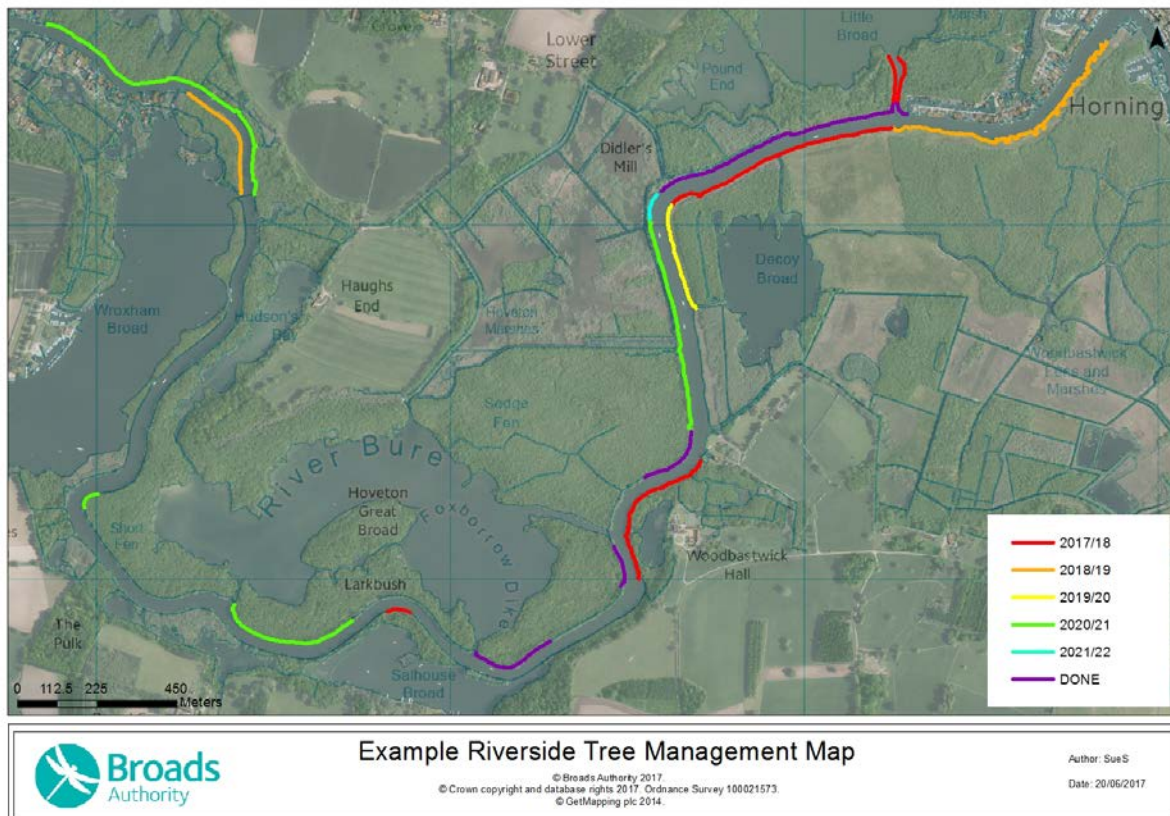


Figure 1 – Example 5 year tree riverside management plan

5.2 Part of the consultation and permissions process has included detailed discussion with Natural England and the Environment Agency regarding the works specification and practical methodology. The following points summarise the permitted approach:

- Trees and scrub will be managed in a zone to a maximum width of 3 m from the river edge (agreed through consultation with the Forestry Commission).
- Within managed zones, occasional trees and scrub that overhang the river will be retained for the benefit of birds and spawning and overwintering fish; the retained amount should total 20% of the linear distance of the managed stretch.
- Some mature trees are to be retained (particularly where there are no significant safety hazards and contain deadwood and features of use to invertebrates, bats and fungi).

- The occasional young or semi-mature alder and/or oak are to be retained, in the spaces between other retained mature/veteran specimens, to provide replacement specimens for the future.
- Within the zone 1 m landward of the bank edge, trees with a 15 cm diameter or greater, a maximum of 50% of the cut stumps can be treated with herbicide. Of particular importance, and not to be treated, are those stumps with roots coming out from the bank which offer spawning potential and refuge areas for fish.
- Within the remaining 2 m strip (1 m to 3 m back from the river edge), all cut stumps can be treated with herbicide, but the occasional mature tree stump should not be treated, or young 5 to 10 year old trees should not be felled. This is to provide future specimen trees to replace existing mature trees.

It should be noted that each section of riverbank is assessed annually and further specific actions applied depending on the nature of the habitat present.

6. Consultation and Permissions

- 6.1 To consider the potential impacts of works within a site that has designated features of European importance, the Broads Authority is required to produce a Habitat Risk Assessment (HRA) Screening document. This describes the features for which the site is designated and considers whether the proposed works are likely to have a significant effect upon those features. If this exercise concludes that a significant effect is likely, an Appropriate Assessment is then required.
- 6.2 Consent is also required from the Environment Agency in the form of a Water Framework Directive (WFD) Assessment and formal application is required for permission to use herbicide near water (Aqherb01).
- 6.3 To date, an HRA has been produced and submitted to Natural England with the Authority concluding that the works proposed through the five year plan are not likely to have a significant effect on the European interest features. This conclusion is based upon the scale of the works and specification and methodologies for working, as described in section 4. The WFD Assessment and Aqherb01 permissions are in the process of submission at the time of writing this report.
- 6.4 Once assent from Natural England has been gained, individual landowners will be contacted to request permission for the Broads Authority to undertake the work on their land. A formal agreement will be drawn up between both parties detailing the works, specific methodology and expected timescale.
- 6.5 Consultation will also be required with Broads Authority planning officers where trees fall within planning Conservation Areas and/or have Tree Preservation Orders (TPO).

7. Next Steps

- 7.1 While the consultation and permissions process is underway, work proposed for the coming winter will be assigned between Broads Authority staff, volunteers and contractors.
- 7.2 Assent from Natural England, if awarded, will cover the proposed five-year work programme, whereas Aqherb01 licences are applied for on an annual basis.
- 7.3 For each consecutive year, final decisions will be made over the summer as to the exact stretches that will be managed the following winter and how they are best managed in terms of resource. As part of this process, all areas of completed management will be recorded and any stretches that do not get managed within the proposed year will be re-programmed.
- 7.4 It is anticipated that a further re-prioritisation exercise will take place during 2020/21 to plan the next five year work programme commencing in 2022/23.

Background papers: Riverside Tree and Scrub Management in the Broads 2015-2025

Author: Sue Stephenson

Date of report: 27/6/17

Broads Plan Objectives: NA2.1

Appendices: None

Enclosures: None

Publication Version Local Plan
Report by Planning Policy Officer

Summary: This report introduces a draft work in progress version of the Publication Local Plan.

Recommendation: Broads Forum's views are requested.

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The new Local Plan will contain policies and land allocations to help determine planning applications.
- 1.2 The new Local Plan for the Broads is nearing the later stages of production. To date we have consulted on the Issues and Options version in 2016 and the Preferred Options version of the Local Plan earlier in 2017. The next stage is called the Publication Version of the Local Plan.
- 1.3 The Publication Local Plan is still being produced and some evidence is still being completed. A 'work in progress' version is included at Appendix A for Broads Forum members to read and provide comments at the forthcoming meeting.

2 About the Broads Forum version of the new Local Plan

Please note the following:

- Maps – some maps are included within the document and others are being worked on. You can go to the Preferred Options maps webpage to see allocations if they were in that version of the Local Plan: <http://www.broads-authority.gov.uk/planning/planning-policies/development/new-local-plan-maps>
- HRA and SA – these are not yet completed.
- <<text>> shows a section that is not included in this version as it is being worked on.
- **Text** shows a section that will need updating/reviewing but this has not been completed yet.

3 Next steps

- 3.1 This version of the new Local Plan is for discussion at the meeting. Please note that there will not be a presentation at the meeting. It will be an opportunity for Broads Forum Members to ask questions and make comments about the draft version of the new Local Plan. Broads Forum Members can

also email in comments about the plan. The deadline for comments from Broads Forum members is 31 July.

3.2 After Broads Forum, the following steps are anticipated to be taken:

- Draft work in progress circulated to officers for comment – 18 July
- Draft work in progress to Management Team – 4 August
- Draft work in progress to Navigation Committee – 7 September meeting
- Final version to Planning Committee – 15 September meeting
- Final version to Full Authority – 29 September meeting
- Consultation could start around 1 October for 6 weeks.

Background papers: None

Author: Natalie Beal
Date of report: 4 July 2017

Appendices: [APPENDIX A - Draft work in progress Publication Version Local Plan](#)

Chief Executive's Report

Summary: This report summarises the current position in respect of a number of important projects and events, including any decisions taken during the recent cycle of committee meetings. It does not include matters which are already on the agenda for this meeting. Members are asked to note the report.

1 BA Follow up: From 19 May 2017

Contact Officer/Broads Plan Objective: Sandra Beckett/None

1.1 Appointment of Co-Opted Navigation Committee Members to the Broads Authority

Mrs Nicky Talbot and Mr Brian Wilkins were elected as Chairman and Vice Chairman respectively at the Navigation Committee meeting on 20 April 2017. At its meeting on 19 May, the Authority confirmed the appointments of Nicky Talbot and Brian Wilkins as the co-opted members from the Navigation Committee to the Authority.

1.2 Conservation Management

At its meeting on 19 May the Authority received a report that provided an update on the practical work and monitoring of our Conservation Management. Dan Hoare, Head of Conservation Management and the Environment in his presentation made very specific reference to Hickling Broad emphasising the Authority's role in accordance with its three purposes. It was emphasised that due to the uniqueness and sensitivities of the site with its international designations under the Birds and Habitats Directives it was required to provide evidence to Natural England, as the designated regulator, in order to obtain consent to carry out any work in a sustainable way and demonstrate that there would be no adverse impacts.

The Authority had also received a public question relating to the role of the Authority on the management of water plants in Hickling Broad and many of the points raised in that question were addressed. Unfortunately the Questioner was unable to stay for the presentation and therefore the Authority provided him with a further written response, particularly relating to the surveys.

1.3 Governance

The Authority received a number of reports concerning governance arrangements which included Ethical Standards, the Protocol on Member

and Officer Relations as well as Amendments to the Standing Orders. The paper on Ethical Standards has the key aim to have the Authority's core values of Sustainability, Exemplary, Commitment, Caring and Open and Honest being embedded in all that the Authority undertakes. This was adopted.

The Authority also adopted the amendments to the Standing Orders which include those amendments necessary as the result of the recent decision to audio record Authority meetings. As part of this reference is made to the use of hand held electronic devices or tablets within meetings where again, taking account of the Authority's core values, these should not be used in a discourteous or disrespectful way.

The Protocol on Member and Officer Relations was commended and the Solicitor and Monitoring Officer was delegated to make some minor amendments partly for consistency and for clarification, and to consult Authority members prior to it being published.

In discussions, the use of twitter, Facebook and other forms of social media was raised. These matters will be more fully addressed in a policy for members on the use of social media, which is being developed by the Head of Communications and the Solicitor and Monitoring Officer.

It was considered that all the reports were very timely and helpful and all members should be reminded of the contents of these papers. They can be viewed from the website in the Committee section under the Broads Authority meeting for 19 May 2017 and will also be available under the Constitutional Documents section when finalised.

<http://www.broads-authority.gov.uk/broads-authority/committees/broads-authority/broads-authority-19-may-2017>

1.4 **Health and Safety**

In addition to receiving the corporate Health and Safety Annual Report and Annual Safety Marine Audit, which had been reviewed by the Navigation Committee at its previous meeting, the Authority also appointed Nicky Talbot as the Authority's lead member for Safety.

2 **Corporate Sponsorship**

Contact Officer/Broads Plan Objective: John Packman/None

Following agreement by all the National Parks and the Broads Authority, in June 2016 National Parks Partnerships (NPP) was established to develop and actively take to market the National Parks corporate sponsorships. NPP's brief has been to find national level corporate partnerships that bring benefit to the 14 National Park authorities and the Broads Authority. This is in line with government's requirements to seek additional sources of funding.

NPP has now finalised its first major corporate sponsorship arrangement

and set up a collaboration with an International Sportswear Company (Columbia). This is a deal over a five year period to help raise the profile of both the National Parks and Columbia. NPP as the coordinating body will manage the relationship with the company on behalf of all the National Parks to ensure the obligations are fulfilled and give guidance on operational delivery.

A press launch took place on Tuesday 23 May 2017 in London and the first large delivery of clothing for over 2,000 staff is scheduled for October/November 2017.

3 Broads Plan 2017

Contact Officer/Broads Plan Objective: Various/Multiple

The Broads Plan 2017 – the partnership strategy for the Norfolk and Suffolk Broads is now published and will have been officially launched at Whitlingham Country Park on 26 July 2017. Hard copies of this are available to members of the Forum and will also be available from the Authority's website.

4 Planning Service: Customer Satisfaction Survey

Contact Officer/Broads Plan Objective: Cally Smith/Multiple

As part of its commitment to best practice in delivery of the planning service, the Broads Authority as Local Planning Authority engages regularly with its service users to seek their views on the quality of the service. This takes the form of a customer satisfaction survey and the holding of an Agents' Forum usually on an annual basis. The results of both of these consultations were reported to the Authority's Planning Committee on 23 June 2017 and demonstrate a high level of satisfaction with the Authority's planning service. Full details in the report may be viewed from our website.

http://www.broads-authority.gov.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0011/965693/Customer-satisfaction-pc230617.pdf

5 Broads Climate Partnership Meeting

Contact Officer/Broads Plan Objective: Simon Hooton/None

Update on activity following the High Level Review of Flood Risk. Last November the High Level Review on Flood Risk was shared with the Broads Forum and the main conclusions from the workshop were that future flood risk management was very important for the Broads and an effective process for raising the political profile and engaging with stakeholders needed to be developed. The Broads Authority held briefing meetings with all of the local authorities drawing attention to the Review and the desire to work collaboratively to better consider the medium and long term issues. Briefings were also held with some of the local MPs. Brandon Lewis and Peter Aldous have offered to host a briefing session for all local MPs when required – probably in the coming autumn.

The Broads Climate Partnership has met three times since and discussed what the possible scope of an initiative to take this further could be. The notes of the Broads Climate Partnership meetings are now available on the Broads Authority website (the notes of the meeting of 30th June will be joining them once drafted and agreed by the Chair). At the last meeting a preliminary possible stakeholder list has been started and an outline governance structure suggested whereby decisions are taken through an elected Members body, with the Broads Climate Partnership acting as the officer client group and being informed through stakeholders and task and finish groups. These preliminary ideas will be shared with others to build consensus on a way of working that is compatible with the existing governance structures for the main flood risk management areas. The emphasis for this new initiative will be the medium to long term and seeking to move towards a consensus on approaches to strengthen the case for making this area a national priority.

Further and more detailed information will come to future Broads Forum meetings and members are welcome to contribute thoughts at any time on issues and matters that need to be incorporated.

Further details: Contact Simon Hooton, Head of Strategy and Projects or the Chair of the Broads Climate Partnership, Professor Kerry Turner. <http://www.broads-authority.gov.uk/looking-after/climate-change> for Partnership meeting notes.

Background papers:	None
Author:	Sandra Becket/Sarah Mullarney
Date of report:	June 2017
Broads Plan Objectives:	Multiple
Appendices:	None