

Broadland Futures Initiative

Minutes of the meeting held on 14 December 2020

Contents

1. Apologies for absence and welcome	2
2. Update on consultant work	2
Collation of objectives	2
Appraisal criteria	2
Hydraulic modelling	2
Coastal process modelling	2
Salinity review	2
Long list strategic options	3
Next 18 months	3
3. Update on Communications and Community Engagement	3
Exhibition content	3
Online Survey	4
Comms and media support request	4
Additional Engagement Activity	4
4. Elected Members Forum	5
5. Flood! A potential partners prospectus	5
6. Norfolk & Suffolk Environment Plan	6
7. AOB	6
8. Date of next meeting	7

Attendees

Marie-Pierre Tighe (Chair) - Broads Authority, Donna Deane- Natural England, Emma Dixon -IDB Peter Doktor- Environment Agency, Kellie Fisher - Environment Agency, Rob Goodliffe- Coastal Partnership East, Mark Johnson - Environment Agency, Gavin Rumsey - Environment Agency, Rob Wise - National Farmers Union, Kylie Moos - Broads Authority (Minutes).

1. Apologies for absence and welcome

Apologies received from Andy Millar, Giles Bloomfield, Simon Curl and Nick Patrick (item 5).

Marie-Pierre Tighe (MPT) welcomed attendees to the remote meeting.

2. Update on consultant work

Peter Doktor (PD) noted that much of the product work discussed at previous IPT (Initiative Project Team) meetings have now been completed. Jacobs are currently focusing on completing engagement material for the new year. The forward look of consultant work was presented as follows:

Collation of objectives

Once feedback from the stakeholder engagement has been received the focus will be on collating the objectives for the plan. Objectives will be based around stakeholder feedback but will also reflect other factors such as legislative requirements, funding provider's requirements and other strategies already in place.

Appraisal criteria

This comprises the tests that will be applied to different strategic flood risk management options to check if the objectives are being met. Conventionally they include economic assessment and environmental assessment, also legal tests such as Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA). Depending on the objectives they could also include carbon assessment, natural capital accounting or wider social considerations. The criteria will also need to account for the uncertainty of climate change.

Hydraulic modelling

A range of tools will be required as part of the appraisal. Hydraulic modelling for Broadland will enable further understanding on how flood risk is changing and the different impacts of options. The contract for development of the new modelling is due to be awarded by March 2021.

Coastal process modelling

Jacobs have highlighted that the coastal process modelling needs updating to understand sediment movement and evolution of the coast.

Salinity review

We know that salinity is important to stakeholders but our knowledge is limited and data is dispersed. It is proposed to review of the data available, understand the sensitively and thresholds of receptors in order to better predict future impacts.

Long list strategic options

A key next step will be to identify the range of strategic flood risk management options that will be subject to appraisal. The extent and detail of these options needs to be decided and will depend in part on the scope of the BFI being confirmed through stakeholder engagement.

Next 18 months

It is estimated to take 18 months to develop the new hydraulic model for Broadland. We need to consider what other work can be completed during this time. Stakeholder engagement also needs to continue whilst Jacobs are working on the hydraulic modelling.

Comments and answers to questions

- Rob Goodliffe (RG) noted that the North Sea Sediment Transfer programme is due to be refreshed with potential opportunities for collaboration with Jacobs when the coastal process modelling is updated.
- Updating the coastal process modelling would likely require a business case update.
- Coastal process models have already been completed for the Bacton to Walcott sandscaping solution. RG agreed to share the design reports with PD.
- Mark Johnson (MJ) agreed to follow up the draft salinity report with Alison Parnell.
- When taking forward and appraising the strategic options the message needs to be simple and ensure that the decision-making process is made clear from the start.
- Objective setting, appraisal criteria and moving from the long to short list of options will ensure that the momentum is not lost whilst the hydraulic modelling is being completed and provide content to report back to stakeholders.

3. Update on Communications and Community Engagement

Gavin Rumsey (GR) met with Jacobs last week and agreed that the BFI online virtual exhibition will run from 18th January to 11th April 2021. The extended period will allow for additional activities alongside the virtual exhibition and the survey (see below).

Exhibition content:

- An Overview of the BFI - Public Consultation: Why the BFI are consulting and how you can be involved.
- A dedicated range of summary posters including:
 - Origins of the Plan Area.
 - The Sources and Nature of Flood Risk within the Plan Area.
 - Coastal Processes within the Plan Area.
 - Current Approaches to Risk Management within the Plan Area.
 - The Influence of Flood Risk Management within the Plan Area.

- The Future impacts of Climate Change.
- An Introduction to Dredging Video.
- An Introduction to Flood Modelling video.
- StoryMap flyer.
- The Future impacts of Climate Change.
- The Influence of Flood Risk Management within the Plan Area.
- A Virtual Exhibition Feedback Form
- FAQ page.

Online Survey

- Responses to this survey will help set the objectives for the BFI strategy plan, and will help move towards the creation of a framework for future flood risk management to better cope with the changing climate.
- The virtual exhibition, as well as all surrounding content and activity is designed to help the public make informed decisions when completing the survey and to help them shape their own future stance to any of the decisions the EMF will make further down the line.
- IPT have received a copy of the survey, all feedback is to be provided by the end of the day on 21st December.
- The outcome of the survey will be discussed with the Elected Members Forum (EMF), giving them a 'temperature check' as to how the local community and other stakeholders feel

Comms and media support request

- Advertising and promotion will begin on 4th Jan, including, social media drive, press release, email and digital newsletter to stakeholder list.
- 2 week interval advertising on social media platforms throughout the duration of the virtual exhibition period.
- GR will email IPT individually to double check the communication teams email addresses are correct. All social media lines, BFI imagery will be provided.

Additional Engagement Activity

Stakeholders will also be able to have their say and join by:

- Attending one of the series of live interactive Virtual Village Hall evenings (registration link available will be made available on the BFI webpage).
- Provisional dates of Feb 17th, March 10th, March 24th.

- GR requested volunteers from the IPT to attend and answer questions at the Virtual Village Hall evenings on behalf of BFI. For further information please contact GR.
- Respond to via phone – book your slot with a member of the project team (registration link available on the BFI webpage).
- Request a postal copy of the survey questionnaire

Comments and answers to questions

- Stakeholder fatigue is something we are and will need to be aware of following public feedback, content initially shared with some key stakeholder groups, e.g. Upper Thurne Working Group.
- Moving to online enables a varied delivery and will reach a wider demographic. The content of the exhibition and survey has been taken from existing public facing documents already reviewed by the IPT.
- The first EMF meeting is scheduled in the middle of the online survey and virtual exhibition period.
- Emma Dixon (ED) offered to review the plain English style of writing for public facing documents, and content on dredging.
- GR agreed to share the content with IPT before the advertising and promotion begins on the 4th January 2021.

4. Elected Members Forum

MPT confirmed that all local authorities have been contacted requesting representation for an Elected Member and officer where applicable, the deadline for response is 7 January 2021. Norfolk County Council have confirmed that their representation will be Cllr Andy Grant, but a substitute member has not been provided yet.

ED noted that a reminder email should be sent out as soon as possible before staff begin their annual leave. KM agreed to send out reminders this week to all authorities that have not yet responded.

RG confirmed that Cllr Harry Blathwayt will represent North Norfolk District Council. Great Yarmouth Borough Council and East Suffolk Council have also been contacted. RG advised that depending on the nomination process, the speed of which a member is put forward will vary between local authorities.

BFI are presenting at the next Broads Authority and Regional Flood & Coastal Committee (RFCC) meeting both held on 29 January. The RFCC will be a good opportunity to remind local authorities of the EMF if there is a delay in submitting their representation

5. Flood! A potential partners prospectus

Agenda item postponed. Nick Patrick (Arts & Heritage) unavailable.

6. Norfolk & Suffolk Environment Plan

MPT presented a small section of the completed Norfolk and Suffolk compendium to the IPT. The compendium has been produced by the UEA and was commissioned by Norfolk and Suffolk County Council as an evidence tool to assist with the development of the 25-year Norfolk and Suffolk Environment plan.

The compendium, link here: <https://www.norfolkbiobiodiversity.org/assets/Uploads/NCC-SCC-Natural-Capital-Assets-Evidence-Compendium-30oct20.pdf>

has highlighted 10 natural assets which are of greater importance in Norfolk and Suffolk than the rest of the England and a list of priorities and next steps for considerations in the development of a local 25-year environment plan.

Priority G; “Assess natural asset vulnerability & develop contingency planning in preparation for increasing likelihood of extreme climate events e.g. droughts & wildfires, floods, extreme storms and associated amplified coastal erosion” coincides well with BFI and will help to deliver a list of long list and short list options for BFI.

Comments and answers to questions

- Rob Wise (RW) noted that other areas are considering using Defra money to get more information drawn out of the compendium. It would be possible to extract data for any relevant geography and there may be the chance to do this with BFI at a later date.
- The compendium has been signed off by the steering group and they will discuss the next steps at a future meeting.
- Jacobs have just completed a summary document for the natural capital baseline assessment that was completed for BFI. Jacobs have also completed a review of the compendium and been in contact with the UEA. PD agreed to check if the document can be shared with RW and MPT ahead of the Norfolk and Suffolk 25 year environment plan steering group to be held on 18 December.

7. AOB

MPT provided an update on a meeting with Asher Minns from the Tyndall centre. The Tyndall Centre has received £2million for the [OpenCLIM](#) project, which will use the Broads and Glasgow as their 2 case studies. MPT has been invited to a workshop in the new year and will send further information to the IPT when available.

RG noted that Coastal Partnership East are working with East Suffolk Council, Great Yarmouth Borough Council, North Norfolk District Council and the Broads Authority on the Coastal Adaptation Supplementary Planning Document. Any further developments will be brought to future IPT meetings.

8. Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the Broadland Future Initiative is 8 February 2021 10.30am via video conference.

Summary of progress

Outstanding actions	Meeting date	Assigned to
RG to share the Bacton sandscaping design reports with PD.	14/12/2020	RG
MJ to follow up the draft salinity report with Alison Parnell.	14/12/2020	MJ
IPT to provide feedback to GR on the online survey by 21 December.	14/12/2020	ALL
KM to email EMF reminder to local authorities this week.	14/12/2020	MPT/KM
PD check if the N&S summary document can be shared with RW and MPT before 18 December	14/12/2020	PD