

Broads Forum

AGENDA

27 April 2017

2.00pm

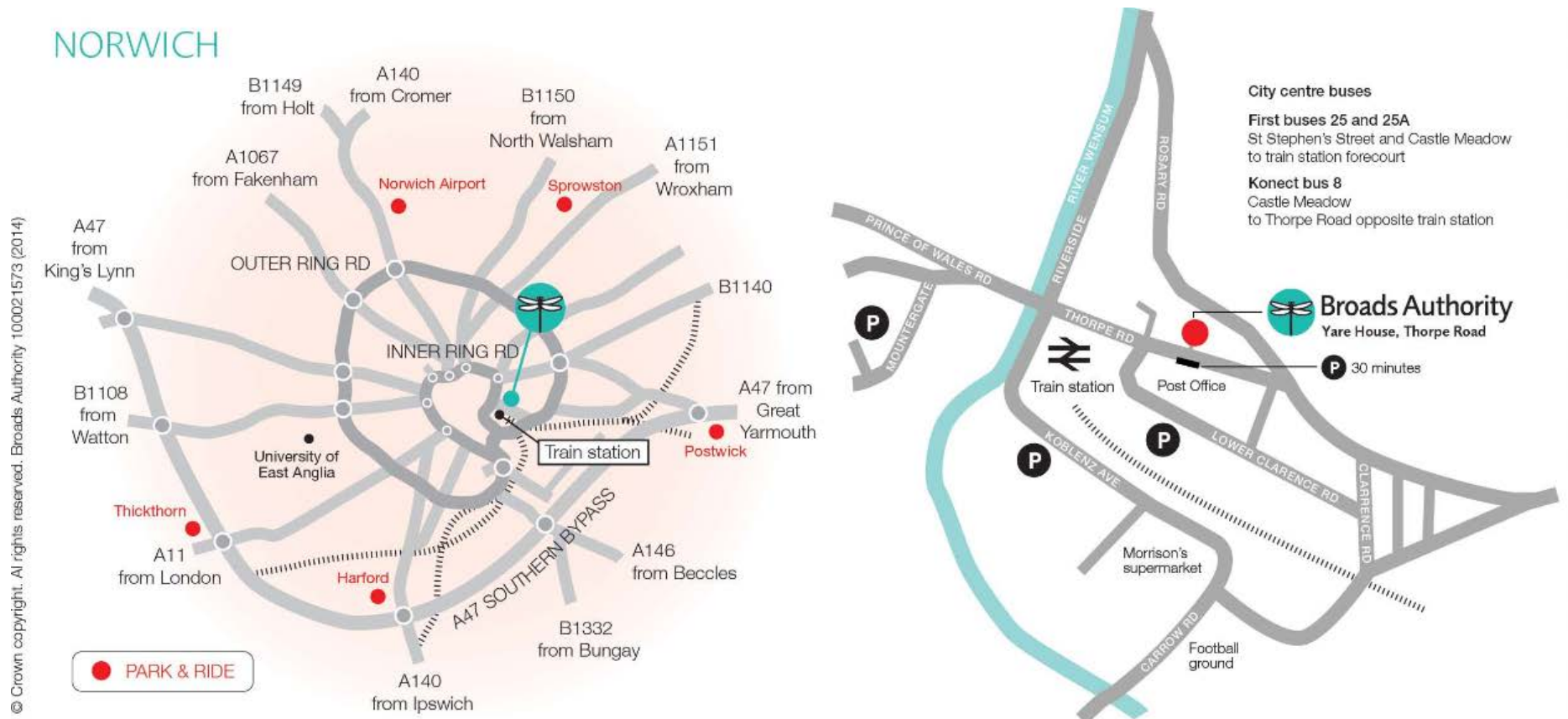
	Page	Time
1. To receive apologies for absence		2.00
2. To receive and confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 2 February (herewith)	4 - 13	
3. Public Question Time To note whether any questions have been raised by members of the public		
4. Summary of Progress/Actions/Response Taken following Discussions at Previous Meetings Report by Administrative Officer (herewith)	14	
5. Rural Development Leader Programme Presentation by Paul Mace, Norfolk County Council		
6. Prevention of Saline Incursion Presentation by the Broads Angling Strategy Group and the Environment Agency		
7. Mooring Strategy Update 2017 Report by Senior Waterway & Recreation Officer	15 - 20	
8. Chief Executive's Report Report (herewith) – For information only	21 - 24	
9. Parish Issues Standing item for local community members to report		
10. Current Issues		
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 27 July 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.

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BROADS FORUM MEMBERSHIP

CHAIRMAN

Keith Bacon

ORGANISATIONS	MEMBER	SUBSTITUTE
Boating/Water Based Recreational Interest Group <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 	4 members John Tibbenham Brian Holt Ashley Cato Julian Barnwell	Philip Ollier Paul Gurbutt John Carr
Commercial Interest Group <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 	3 members Barbara Greasley Matthew Thwaites Pete Waters	Katie Lawrence Colin Dye Nick Bond
Land Based Recreation Interest Group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ramblers Association SUSTRANS Broads Local Access Forum 	3 members Keith Bacon Anthony Wright (1 vacancy)	Ray Walpole
Fishing/Angling/Shooting Interest Group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Broads Angling Strategy Group British Association for Shooting and Conservation 	2 members Tony Gibbons To be advised	Mike Hoyland

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

Broads Forum

Minutes of the meeting held on 2 February 2017

Present:

Dr Keith Bacon in the Chair

Mr Andrew Alston	Ms Barbara Greasley	Mr Paul Savage
Mr Brian Barker	Mr John Hiskett	Mr Richard Starling
Mr Julian Barnwell	Mr Peter Jermy	Mr Charles Swan
Mr Ashley Cato	Mr John Lurkins	Mr Hugh Taylor
Mr Michael Flett	Ms Jennifer Parkhouse	Mr John Tibbenham
Mr Tony Gibbons	Mr Bryan Read	Mr Peter Wall
		Mr Anthony Wright

In Attendance:

Mr Gavin Devaney – Environment Officer
Dr Dan Hoare – Environment & Design Supervisor
Ms Esmeralda Guds – Administrative Officer
Mr Simon Hooton – Head of Strategy & Projects

Also in attendance:

Giles Bloomfield – Internal Drainage Board
Prof. Jacquie Burgess – Chair of the Broads Authority
Ian Holman – Cranfield Water Science Institute
Ulysse Pasquier - Student at the University of East Anglia
Rory Sanderson – Environment Agency

2/1 Apologies and Welcome

Apologies for absence were received from Henry Cator, Martyn Davey, Robin Godber, Philip Pearson and John Packman.

The Chairman welcomed Giles Bloomfield, Ian Holman, Ulysse Pasquier, Rory Sanderson and Jacquie Burgess to the meeting.

He announced that at the last Broad Authority meeting it had been agreed that the Authority would audio record all their meetings with immediate effect. Currently there were no plans to make the recordings available online however on request recordings could be made available at Yare House.

The Chairman further announced that Trudi Wakelin had left the Authority as she was offered and had accepted another position at the Marine Management Organisation. Rob Rogers had replaced her as the new Director of Operations.

The Chairman continued to report that in future the draft minutes instead of the confirmed minutes would be received at the Broads Authority meeting to overcome the delay of the confirmed minutes being received. Andrew Alston (AA) added that feedback from Chairman to the Broads Authority was important as the feel of the meeting didn't always come across in the minutes.

2/2 To receive and confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 28 July 2017

The minutes of the meeting held on 28 July 2017 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

2/3 Public Question Time

No questions were raised by members of the public.

2/4 Summary of Progress/Actions/Response taken following discussions at previous meetings

A report summarising the progress of current issues was received

Some issues were raised in regarding to the Staithes report from Prof Tom Williamson which was produced at the Broads Forum meeting in July 2016. Richard Starling (RS) and Brian Barker (BB) expressed concerns about the Authority founding a policy on, and drawing conclusions from a report which was believed to be inaccurate and was currently unavailable to the public. In addition Tony Gibbons felt that the distinction between Staithes and moorings in the report was unclear.

It was explained to the Forum that the delay for publication of the report was due to maps and photographs from the UEA not being made available yet. It was however suggested to look into the possibility of publishing the report without them and adding them as an appendix at a later stage when they became available.

It was further explained that Prof Williamson was commissioned to write a report based on certain key historic documents rather than a comprehensive report covering all possible evidence. The report was a great improvement on what currently existed and could be a sound base for further research. Any further evidence about staithes would be welcome.

2/5 Brograve Catchment Project – by Ian Homan and Giles Bloomfield

Members received a presentation about salinity and ochre levels in the Brograve System where groundwater modelling showed that raising water levels, infilling of over-deepened drains and cutting of new shallower drains could reduce the amount of salt entering the Brograve Catchment.

Giles Bloomfield (GS) from the Internal Drainage Board confirmed that although the main goal was reducing salinity, by raising water levels the ochre levels would be affected as well. He explained that altering the drainage to

remove ochre completely would change the landscape, and currently there was no mechanism in place landowners were willing to take on board.

It was further clarified that the farming of Hempstead Marshes was market force driven and therefore use of the land was open to any viable business model.

Members recognised that maintenance of the dykes was important and Giles confirmed that an annual maintenance regime for the drains was in place. He said that although this was just a trial, it got farmers sitting and talking around the table, which was optimistic.

Members noted the presentation.

2/6 Broads Water Quality Report: River Thurne 2015

Members of the Forum were presented with a Water Quality Report for the river Thurne 2015 which was produced following encouragement from the Broads Forum and especially BRASCA and the Broads Authority for data to be made more accessible.

The report's map illustrated water quality monitoring points, showing the results of each point, rather than of the river in general. The report would include the status, actions and the water quality itself. Though it didn't show flow grades, hydrology failure would be illustrated. Finally there would be a part about the fish status and a link to water plant surveys.

When queried Rory Sanderson explained that non-native fish were not actively removed by the Environment Agency (EA), however they would send out information to angling groups advising them not to put any non-native fish back in the water.

Rory then pointed out that the report was a template and would have to adapt if done on other parts of the Broads. He informed the Forum that he hoped the report would be replicated for the main Broadland Rivers and be made available on the Broads Authority's website.

RS said that he had pressed for this report from the Environment Agency after being frustrated that they could not discuss the issue at the Upper Thurne Working Group.

Although Rory didn't want to be completely dismissive of the Catchment Data Explorer (which was on the EA website to support the River Basin Plan), he agreed there was a gap for side by side information to help communities understand the situation and that the report would fill this gap. He continued that although the initial set up for other catchments would be labour intensive, he was hopeful that an annual update would be less time consuming.

Members agreed the report was very accessible and a big improvement on previous reports.

When asked whether water sampling by different bodies could be shared and fed into one system managed by the EA, Rory explained that the Agency did join up with different organisations on specific projects, however their system wouldn't allow data entry from other organisations.

Members welcomed and noted the report.

2/7 Ulysse Pasquier on his PhD modelling flooding risk and climate change in the Broads

The Members of the Forum received a presentation on modelling future flood risk for inland and coastal adaption in the Broads as part of a PhD.

They were informed that the first objective of the project was to model the impacts of climate change on flooding risk and salt incursion. The second objective was to explore ways of engaging stakeholders and the interaction between scientific information and local knowledge.

Members of the Forum were informed that the research would last for 3.5 years until 2019. It was based on a catchment scale approach, so looking at both coastal and inland flooding and built upon existing models on hydraulic flooding.

Members' views were sought and it was highlighted that Ulysse was looking for some volunteers with a knowledge of flood issues for the Broads to be interviewed as baseline information for the study and they were encouraged to make contact with him.

Members noted the report.

2/8 2016 Broads Water Plant Survey Results

Members received a report which presented them with the findings from the annual water plant survey carried out during summer 2016 when a total of 28 broads were surveyed using a standard rake sampling technique. The River Waveney upstream of Beccles was surveyed for water plants, using a similar rake methodology, but specifically developed for rivers and linear channels. Barton and Hickling broads were surveyed using hydroacoustic survey equipment, to gain greater accuracy and resolution of the volume of water plants growing in the water, and their spatial extent over the bed of these broads.

While discussing the current condition of Cromes Broad it was explained that the decrease of stoneworts in the broad was only a relatively minor fluctuation in the last three years. Since 1992 when the broad was isolated from the main river with a sluice, water plants have been dominant in Cromes Broad. The issue of nutrients entering the site via local septic tanks is on-going and requires further evidence. Water level management was queried with the broads' isolation from the river. Officers explained that water levels for

Cromes and Clayrack Marsh are controlled at Crowe's Staithe, and this has been a fixed height for at least the last 15 years.

RS expressed concerns about the potential for a large decline of stoneworts in Martham South Broad, if his observation of an increase in greylag geese activity were to be felt in the aquatic plant population.

The Environment Officer confirmed that the Broads were monitored annually for water plants and results were documented. He explained that establishing the cause for short-term fluctuations in species was difficult as there were many different causes, i.e. weather, nutrient availability, fish and boat traffic. When viewed over the longer term (>10 year scale), the general pattern and specific impacts of restoration actions were more apparent in the data. Reporting water plant data since monitoring first started in 1983 will be carried out in 2017 to give a fuller picture and make clearer the scale of the changes observed.

Members noted the report.

2/9 Chief Executive's Report

RS passed on a few corrections, one to the BA external funding reports where the £35K figure granted to BRASCA should actually be £24,558.00. Further he clarified that it was used to help solely younger people and new entrants to the industry.

High Level Flood Management Review

Members of the Forum were updated that the Authority continued looking at High Level Flood Management alongside the Environment Agency. Meetings were being held with local MPs, CEOs and Leaders of the Norfolk and Suffolk Councils. A further meeting was intended in Westminster for MPs and Councils to debate the issues and timescales involved.

Tolls Review

Given it was the first year of implementation of the new toll structure, it had been decided for the Tolls Review Group to remain in existence. They intended to have two more face to face meetings, monitoring and responding to issues as they develop and contributing to the Tolls Review next year.

Broads Local Plan

RS suggested whether the consultation on the Broads Local Plan should be extended due to the delay of the Staithe report. The Head of Strategy & Projects explained that as the Staithe report was not the sole piece of evidence on which the plan was based this was unlikely but that his concerns would be passed on to the Planning Policy Officer.

AA expressed concerns about the consultation process for the Broads Plan which didn't draw out factors he felt were not right in the area. For example he felt it would be necessary to ensure water level management was controlled

through the planning process. He felt flood plains were not being able to function properly and national policy had to change.

When RS asked about the Flood Risk Supplementary Planning Document it was clarified that the responses to the consultation on this document were to be considered by the Planning Committee and that feedback would be forwarded once the outcome had become available.

Giles Bloomfield responded that regulations were in place and that the Environment Agency does seek to manage water level change, however he agreed there was room for improvement and that better legislation was on its way.

The Chairman updated the Forum on the following changes on the Broads Authority Committee since July 2016:

- Greg Munford , CEO of Richardson Boatyard and Chairman of Broads Tourism - Secretary of State Appointee;
- Sarah Mukherjee, Environmental journalist and soon to be CEO of Crop Protection Agency – Secretary of State Appointee;
- Haydn Thirtle – appointed by Great Yarmouth Borough Council;
- Brian Iles – appointed by Norfolk County Council;
- Bill Dickson, moved from the Navigation Committee – Secretary of State Appointee
- Nicky Talbot, acting Chairman of the Navigation Committee in absence of Michael Whitaker through illness.

Barbara Greasley (BG) confirmed that Broads Tourism was now a Limited Company and explained that this would give them more credibility with the banks.

Members noted the report.

2/10 Parish Issues

Mike Flett informed the Forum that it was doubtful that the issues around waste between Ludham Parish Council and North Norfolk Council would be resolved and therefore it was likely that two boat waste sites at Ludham, Womack Water and Ludham Bridge, would be removed by 31 March 2017.

AA questioned whether the problem was that there was no mechanism in place for the Councils to generate income to pay for this service. BG suggested a contribution through Tolls, although was aware that not all hire boat operators would welcome this idea.

It was deliberated whether it might be worth finding out how other authorities deal with the commercial waste issue on their rivers, i.e the Thames.

Paul Savage (PS) commented that his understanding was that the legislation stated that commercial rates would apply only if the boat was wholly residential and therefore shouldn't be applicable to private and hire boats.

On a different matter John Lurkins (LK) reported that South Norfolk Council had now decided to charge their parishes for emptying their dog waste disposals. A further concern was about maintaining footpaths and knowing who was responsible if they deteriorated. It was explained that when footpaths crossed farmland or land that was registered with a compliance agreement it would be the County Council who was responsible. However, if the footpath ran along a riverbank often the responsibility would come under BESL.

Charles Swan informed the Forum of a new parish as from 1 April 2017, Oulton Broad Parish Council. He explained this was in addition to Oulton Parish Council which still remained.

2/11 Current Issues

No items were proposed as current issues.

2/12 To note whether any items have been proposed as items of urgent business

No items were proposed as items of urgent business.

2/13 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.

2/14 Matters to be discussed at the next meeting

RS asked about establishing the areas of functional flood plains in the Broads, where water is free to flow on and flow off without pumping. AA asked the same for areas of functional reed beds.

SKH explained it might be difficult for the Authority to obtain this information but would look into this.

Tony Gibbons proposed for the Broads Angling Strategy Group to liaise with Steve Lane from the Environment Agency to give a presentation on new ideas around a filter system to lessen saline incursion.

Peter Jermy proposed to have an update on the Mooring strategy and enquired about a list of moorings which were linked to planning applications permissions.

The Head of Strategy and Projects responded there is a list, with a map, where moorings have been identified as needed. There will be limited occasions when public moorings are required as part of a planning permission but this information would be available.

RS suggested encouraging members of the public to attend and that Forum meetings should have a section on the Agenda allowing the public an allocated time to raise questions. The Chairman responded he was happy for

members of the public to come along and raise an issue however could not guarantee they would receive an answer immediately.

AA suggested inviting the manager of the Rural Development Leader Programme to give a presentation on available grants as they are struggling to find suitable projects at the moment.

2/15 Date of Next Meeting

To note that the date of the next meeting would be Thursday 27 April 2017 at 2.00pm at Yare House, 62-64 Thorpe Road, Norwich.

The meeting concluded at 4.30 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.
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 tripartite agreement has been signed by all parties and is held pending completion of the HRO. The Marine Management Organisation (MMO) comments have now been received and it advises that they require 2 HRO's to be completed, as 2 harbour authorities are seeking changes to their jurisdiction. Solicitors are currently drafting individual HRO's to be submitted.
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. Currently waiting for map and photograph files of historic documents before publication.

Mooring Strategy Update 2017
Report by Director of Operations

Summary: This report provides members 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.

1 Background

- 1.1 The Broads Authority originally published a mooring strategy in 2006 at which time the Authority provided 5,969m of moorings. The need for a strategy to guide the provision of Broads Authority free 24-hour moorings was identified as a priority in the best value review of navigation and supported through the public consultation for the Broads Plan 2004. The original strategy was developed with the guidance of a steering group formed of Broads Authority members and wider consultation was undertaken with a formal consultation group which included representatives from the Authority's partners and stakeholders.
- 1.2 The 2006 strategy was reviewed in 2009 and in 2013 the Authority adopted an Integrated Access Strategy (IAS) for the Broads which sought to make improvements to the connectivity and use of access facilities on both land and water. The overarching objective of the mooring strategy: *"to maintain as a minimum the present number of moorings available for visitor use"* and the other principles of the mooring strategy were carried forward into the IAS. Appendix 1 sets out these principles.
- 1.3 The adoption of the Mooring Strategy in 2006 and the IAS in 2013 has resulted in a significant increase in the length of moorings the Authority provides. Currently the Authority provides 7,535m of visitor and demasting moorings over 63 sites. They are listed in a table in Appendix 2.
- 1.4 The consequence of this is that the Authority's asset management liabilities have also increased considerably. In response to this fact the Authority produced an asset management strategy in January 2014 for the future management and maintenance of all its assets.
- 1.5 Since then the Authority has reviewed the Asset Management Strategy and also reviewed the level of mooring provision that it is appropriate for the Authority to continue to provide. This review was informed by a member workshop which concluded that, if possible, the Authority should continue to maintain a policy of no net reduction in mooring length although a number of sites were identified by the workshop as not being a high priority to maintain

or repile. Two of these sites were Thorpe River Green and a section of the Hoveton Viaduct moorings. The Authority has given notice in respect of Thorpe River Green (January 2017), and agreed Heads of Terms for the lease at Hoveton Viaduct (March 2017).

- 1.6 It should be noted that while there was some appetite for trying to increase the number of free moorings provided by the Authority the mooring workshop recommended that the Authority should not seek to take on new mooring sites if the acquisition of those sites would result in an increase in its piling responsibilities. However, members did consider that the Authority should consider acquiring sites if there was no piling liability connected to them. Subsequently the Navigation Committee was consulted on an action plan for the maintenance of the Authority's mooring assets and the action plan was adopted by the Broads Authority at its meeting on the 21 November 2014. Additionally an annual budget of £150,000 was allocated to cover the costs of maintaining the Authority's piled assets into the future.
- 1.7 In October 2015 the Navigation Committee also considered a report on demasting mooring provision and identified that the high priority sites for demasting mooring provision were at St Olave's Bridge, Ludham Bridge and Acle Bridge. However the Committee did not recommend that budget should be allocated to provide facilities at these sites.

2 Review of the Asset Management Action Plan for Piled Sites

- 2.1 The Navigation Committee has given officers unequivocal advice that the Authority should not consider entering leases for mooring sites that require the payment of annual fees higher than those recommended by our property advisers. This advice is informing our lease negotiations and unfortunately has already resulted in the loss of the 24-hour moorings at Aldeby, Woodbastwick and Percis Island, Horning. Additionally a number of sites are currently, or will shortly be, subject to lease negotiations and the Committee recognised that the continued inclusion of these sites in the action plan was dependent on the successful renegotiation of those leases. The action plan was therefore reviewed by the Navigation Committee in December 2015 and the revised 10 year repiling programme that was supported at that meeting is shown in Appendix 3.
- 2.2 Another factor that has the potential to affect the repiling programme is that the Environment Agency (EA) is currently seeking to pass on liability for piling that is no longer required for flood defence purposes to the owners of the land behind the piling frontage. This has formed a major part of the discussions with the landowner at Thurne Mouth.
- 2.3 Clearly this means that the Authority needs to ensure that its Asset Management Plan is able to adapt to changing circumstances. Officers will therefore annually review the proposed repiling programme to take account of the outcome of the various lease negotiations, the EA's proposals, changes in contractor costs and prices for steel and materials.

3 Provision of New Moorings

- 3.1 As mentioned in paragraph 1.5, previous advice from members was that, while the Authority should attempt to increase the number of moorings it provides, it should not seek to acquire sites for the development of new moorings that would add to its asset management liabilities. In practice this means that only piled sites where the piling will remain the responsibility of the landowner can be considered for the development of new moorings.
- 3.2 But it should also be recognised that if sites are lost because of lease issues the Authority may also lose the responsibility for repiling those sites. This does give some potential for taking on new sites that come with repiling responsibilities but only if they replace any lost sites on a like for like basis. The difficulty is that in many cases officers will not know the outcome of lease negotiations for some time and therefore this assessment can only be carried out on a case by case basis as lease negotiations are concluded.
- 3.3 Having considered potential sites, officers have initially identified two possible locations for the development of new moorings which would give the Authority no additional piling maintenance liability while meeting the aims of the IAS. These are at Rockland Short Dyke and Berney Arms. In the case of Rockland the location is in an area with limited mooring availability and the development of a mooring in this location would also be in accordance with one of the key objectives of the Broads Sustainable Tourism Strategy which states:

“Spreading benefits to all parts of the Broads: A number of parts of the Broads experience visitor congestion at certain times while others are under-visited. The imbalance between the northern and southern Broads should continue to be addressed.”

Providing new facilities like moorings in the southern rivers is essential if this aim is to be realised. As regards to Berney Arms, if a greater length of mooring were to be managed by the Broads Authority it would allow for the site to be managed to ensure that moorings are available for vessels waiting to cross Breydon Water. Lease negotiations for these sites are progressing well and if leases are successfully completed construction works at both sites will be programmed as soon as possible.

- 3.4 Other major mooring works have been completed to safety moorings on land purchased by the Authority at Scare Gap on the lower Bure, emergency mooring pontoons at Mautby and the complete refurbishment of the 24-hour moorings at Somerleyton. Also works have been completed on demasting moorings both upstream and downstream of the Haddiscoe Cut Bridge at St Olave's through a Section 106 Agreement with the landowner.

4 Mooring Maintenance and Repair

- 4.1 Aside from work on new moorings the Authority continues to carry out an ambitious programme of mooring and piling maintenance and repair works throughout the river system. Repairs are carried out to timber capping, mooring posts, path surfacing, timber piles and safety features at all the

Authority's moorings on a regular basis to ensure that the sites are safe for public use. Major projects are also carried out like the replacement of Turntide Jetty at the confluence of the Rivers Waveney and Yare which was completed last year at a cost of £357,000.

5. Principle of Free 24 Hour Moorings

- 5.1 One of the key principles of the Moorings Strategy has been to "Maintain free use of Broads Authority unmanned moorings". Currently the Authority only charges for mooring at the two Yacht Stations at Norwich and Great Yarmouth which have Broads Authority staff in attendance and provide services such as showers and toilets.
- 5.2 This issue has been debated at length by the Navigation Committee in recent years: in 2006 when the Mooring Strategy was first adopted, in 2009 when the Strategy was reviewed, in 2013 when the Integrated Access Strategy was adopted and at the moorings workshop in November 2014. It has also been debated in relation to two specific sites, Ranworth and Reedham. On every occasion the Committee and the Authority has supported the current policy.
- 5.3 The officer view is that the current policy is the right one for the following reasons:
- (i) For most sites the cost of collecting mooring fees is likely to be outweighed by the costs of collection;
 - (ii) It could be seen as a deterrent to visitors to the Broads who have already paid significant amounts for the hire of a boat;
 - (iii) Private boat owners will quite correctly think that their toll should cover the cost of the provision and maintenance of moorings;
 - (iv) Landowners are likely to demand higher rents for the leasing of mooring sites if the Authority is levying a charge.

6. Conclusions

- 6.1 This report identifies that the Authority is working hard to maintain its moorings and also seeking opportunities to increase mooring provision in accordance with the principles of the Mooring Strategy and Integrated Access Strategy. It emphasises that officers are regularly reviewing the action plan for maintaining the Authority's assets and following members' advice regarding the need to continue to provide free moorings and not take on piling liabilities unnecessarily. Comments on the report from Members of the Forum are welcomed.

Background papers: Nil

Authors: John Packman, Rob Rogers, Adrian Clarke
Date of report: 3 April 2017

Broads Plan Objectives: NA5, TR2

Appendices: APPENDIX 1 - Principles of 2006/9 Mooring Strategies
APPENDIX 2 - List of Broads Authority Moorings

Mooring Strategy Update

Principles of 2006/9 Mooring Strategies

- Distribution of moorings – maximum 30 minutes cruising time between sites (“90 minutes for Country Park” moorings).
- Distribution of mooring types - Wild 21%, Rural 36%, Urban 4% Country Park 37%, Flagship 2%.
- Maintain free use of Broads Authority unmanned moorings.
- Protect and enhance existing sites/facilities including working in partnership regarding third party provision.
- Seek contributions/ establish charges for ancillary services e.g. water/ Ranger etc.
- Promote double alongside mooring at appropriate sites and review effectiveness of national schemes.
- Encourage sustainable development of boating and associated infrastructure to be consistent with Water Framework Directive (WFD) and planning policies.
- Ensure sites have no negative impact in environmentally sensitive localities.
- Encourage innovative mooring design to provide habitat opportunities and mitigate landscape impacts.
- Improve the dissemination of information to users, to include location of sites, facilities available and consider a Moorings Code to refer to behaviour.
- Mitigate user conflict through design and alternative provision, i.e. relocate angling to adjacent facilities.
- Strategy to be linked to Broads Flood Alleviation Project, Electric Charging Point strategy, angling strategy, slipway strategy and water related sport and recreation strategy (**now the Integrated Access Strategy**) to consider and encourage partnership development/ funding opportunities.
- Undertake Byelaw enforcement to discourage misuse.

Appendix 2

Broads Authority Moorings, Yacht Stations & Demastings

1	Aldeby (<i>unavailable March 2017</i>)	37	North Cove
2	Barton Turf	38	Norwich Yacht Station
3	Beccles South	39	Paddy's Lane Barton
4	Beccles North Bank	40	Polkey's Mill, River Yare
5	Belaugh Staithe	41	Postwick Wharf
6	Berney Arms Reach	42	Potter Heigham Bridge Green
7	Bramerton	43	Potter Heigham Demasting
8	Brundall Church Fen	44	Potter Heigham Dinghy Park
9	Burgh Castle	45	Potter Heigham Martham Bank
10	Cantley, RSPB Moorings	46	Potter Heigham Repps Bank
11	Catfield Staithe	47	Potter Heigham Staithe
12	Chedgrave	48	Ranworth
13	Cockshoot	49	Rockland St Mary Staithe
14	Coltishall Common	50	Scare Gap, Acle
15	Commissioners Cut	51	Somerleyton
16	Deep Dyke	52	St Benet's Abbey
17	Deep Go Dyke	53	St Olaves
18	Dilham Staithe	54	Stokesby
19	Dutch Tea Gardens, Oulton Dyke	55	Sutton Staithe
20	Gaye's Staithe	56	Wayford Bridge
21	Geldeston	57	West Somerton
22	Great Yarmouth Yacht Station	58	White Slea
23	Haddiscoe Demasting	59	Whitlingham Country Park
24	Hardley Cross	60	Womack Dyke
25	Herringfleet	61	Womack Island
26	Horning Marshes	62	Worlingham
27	Horning Staithe	63	Wroxham Island
28	Hoveton St John		
29	Hoveton Viaduct		
30	How Hill Staithe		
31	Irstead Staithe		
32	Langley Dyke		
33	Loddon Staithe		
34	Ludham Bridge de-masting		
35	Mutford Lock demasting		
36	Neatishead		

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 24 March 2017**
Contact Officer/Broads Plan Objective: Sandra Beckett/None

- 1.1 **Appointment to the Navigation Committee**
Contact Officer/Broads Plan Objective: David Harris

At its meeting on 24 March 2017, the Authority appointed Mr Simon Sparrow to the Navigation Committee on the recommendation of the interview panel. Interviews of the 4 short listed candidates approved by the Navigation Committee at its meeting on 23 February, took place on 1 March 2017. The panel made their selection of Mr Sparrow after considered discussions, based on the consensus view of the whole panel.

- 1.2 **Broads Plan 2017 Adoption**
Contact Officer/Broads Plan Objective: Andrea Long/

The Broads Plan 2017 was formally adopted by Members at the Broads Authority meeting on 24th March. This followed two years of work by the Broad Authority and its partners including two rounds of full public consultation. The Plan is supported by Sustainability Appraisal and Habitats Regulations Assessment. The Plan provides the strategic vision for the Broads over the next 5 years and identified the key priorities and projects that will be delivered in the Broads over the period up to 2022. All comments received as a consequence of the consultation exercises have been assessed and appropriate changes were made to the Plan. The Plan will be formally launched in May 2017 and updates on progress will be reported to Broads Authority meetings in May and November each year. The plan covers all areas of work in the Broads and is split into 8 key themes:

- Managing water resources and flood risk
- Sustaining landscapes for biodiversity and agriculture
- Maintaining and enhancing the navigation
- Conserving landscape character and the historic environment
- Building 'climate smart' communities

- Offering distinctive recreational experiences
- Raising awareness and understanding
- Connecting and inspiring people

There is a brief introductory section providing the context and background for each theme and the key projects and areas of work including, delivery partners and targets are identified for each.

1.3 **Education and Volunteer Strategies**

Contact Officers/Broads Plan Objectives: Maria Conti/Nick Sanderson/Beth Williams (Section H of the New Plan)

The Authority also adopted the Education and Volunteer Strategies for 2017 – 2022 both of which are in conformity with the Broads Plan and its high level strategic direction as well as having strong links with the project themes in the Broads Landscape Partnership Scheme, Water Mills and Marshes.

[Broads-education-and-volunteer-strategies](#)

1.4 **Landscape Partnership Scheme**

Contact Officer/Broads Plan Objectives: Will Burchnall/ Multiple

As Members are aware, one of the key strategic priorities for this year is the Landscape Partnership Project: Water Mills and Marshes. The Project Manager for the Landscape Partnership Scheme provided the Authority with an interesting presentation on the progress in preparing the development phase of the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) bid for the project to be submitted in May 2017. A decision on the proposed implementation phase will be due in October and if successful the delivery phase will commence in January 2018 with completion in December 2022. Specific reference was made to the excellent data, analysis and interpretive material provided by the innovative scanning device particularly for the Mills project as well as the work on the Landscape Character Assessment. Officers were in the process of obtaining final confirmation including financial commitments from those partners already signed up for the 38 projects and £4.5 million programme.

The Authority fully endorsed the excellent progress being made and supported the submission to the HLF. Details of various supporting documents may be found on the Authority's website.

[Summary-HLFBid](#)

[Access-report](#)

[Heritage-skills-and-training-report](#)

[Learning-Interpretation-Audience-Development-Report](#)

1.5 **New Flood Risk Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)**

Contact Officer/Broads Plan Objective: Natalie Beal (Section E of New Plan)

Another document adopted by the Authority at its meeting on 24 March 2017 was the new Supplementary Planning Document relating to flood risk. This replaces the SPD produced in 2008, seeks to clarify and expand on Policy DM29 of the adopted Development Management Policies Development Plan Document. It is designed to increase awareness of the nature of flood risk in the Broads area, give advice to developers and others about the Authority's approach to the issue of development and flood risk and to stress the need to maintain a high standard of design in new waterside development. The SPD has been produced in association with the Environment Agency and Lead Local Flood Authorities and was the subject of consultation in November to December 2016.

All of these documents may be viewed on the Authority's website.

[FloodRiskSPD](#)

1.6 **Peer Review**

Contact Officer/Broads Plan Objective: John Packman/multiple

On 24 March 2017, the Authority agreed to undertake a Peer Review of its governance arrangements following discussions at the previous Authority meeting on 27 January 2017 and detailed consideration by the Financial Scrutiny and Audit Committee in February 2017. On its recommendations, the Authority agreed that the review will be designed to be in line with the National Park Authority Peer Assessments (NPAPA) process to meet the specific needs of the Broads Authority, of which the Authority had been subject to in 2005 and 2011. On this occasion, the process will be administered by the Local Government Association. The outline arrangements of the Peer Review team, the scope and terms of reference as well as approach and output have been accepted by the LGA. The Peer Review team will be comprised of representatives from external bodies that understand the Broads Authority and English National Parks to include:

Member peers

- (i) A county or district councillor who is also a member of an English National Park Authority;
- (ii) A Member of an English National Park Authority appointed by the Secretary of State

Officer peers

- (iii) A Chief Executive of a local authority with part of his/her area within an English National Park
- (iv) A Chief Executive of an English National Park Authority who will

lead the team

Independent peer

(v) One of the Authority's independent persons

Members recognised that it would have considerable resource implications for staff and therefore would have implications for work programmes. However, it was considered that it was important in identifying areas for improvement, resetting certain standards and perceptions as well as the relationship with Local Authorities and help consolidate the views and roles of all Members.

Further details are available under the Authority's Committee papers on the website.

[PeerReview](#)

Background papers:	None
Author:	Sandra Becket / Esmeralda Guds
Date of report:	April 2017
Broads Plan Objectives:	Multiple
Appendices:	None