

Broads Authority

23 September 2022

Agenda item number 7

BA Summary of Progress

Title	Meeting date	Lead officer	Summary of actions	Progress so far	Target date
National Parks Review: Response	28/09/2018	John Packman	That the Chairs' Group, together with the Chief Executive, provide a robust response for submission to the Review Team based on the eight areas required of the team and guidance from Members as indicated. Deadline response submission 18 December 2018. Chairs Group to meet 5 Dec 2018 to finalise response and consider points raised. Members also able to submit individual responses.	<p>Sept 2019: DEFRA - Landscapes Review - Final Report 2019 (publishing.service.gov.uk) published 21 Sept. Awaiting Government response to review.</p> <p>Nov 2019/Jan 2020: Members received preliminary paper for discussion. Report on 31 Jan highlighted Review's 27 proposals and asked Members to consider BA priorities for more detailed discussion. Agreed to focus on where BA already taking action in line with Broads Plan, and where resources allow.</p> <p>Mar 2020: Issues for future discussion: Climate change and carbon capture; Biodiversity and future of agriculture; Promoting wider participation with National Parks on health and wellbeing benefits; Explore Proposal 21 Welcoming new landscaping approaches in cities and the coast - e.g. Norwich City as a National Park City.</p> <p>May 2020: Report and presentation on climate change to be given at BA meeting 24 July 2020.</p> <p>Oct 2020: Awaiting Government response on Landscape Review.</p> <p>Nov 2020: Defra's publication of The Ten Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution (publishing.service.gov.uk), which includes this headline "New national parks and greater protections for England's iconic landscapes to</p>	24/07/2020

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				<p>improve access to nature and better protect the country's rich wildlife and biodiversity".</p> <p>April 2021: Awaiting Government response on Landscapes Review.</p> <p>June 2021: Written Ministerial Statement issued on 24 June Written statements - Written questions, answers and statements - UK Parliament, and response from National Park England Landscapes review - government response: National Parks England</p> <p>Jan 2022: Landscapes review (National Parks and AONBs): government response - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk) published on 15 January 2022. Consultation period of 12 weeks. Member workshop to be arranged.</p> <p>Feb 2022: Member workshop held on 24 February.</p> <p>March 2022: Authority's response to the Government's consultation agreed at meeting on 18 March and submitted to the Government.</p> <p>Aug 2022: This item is now complete.</p>	
Wherryman's Way footpath on River Chet	26/07/2019	Rob Rogers	Wherryman's Way footpath by River Chet included in priority actions for new Waterways and Recreation Officer. Discussions ongoing with Norfolk County Council.	<p>Work to be split into 2 phases over winter 2020 and 2021. Plan is to concentrate efforts in first year on Loddon FP4, Langley with Hardley FP9 and Loddon FP5.</p> <p>NCC to repair two bridges at Loddon FP4 by Sept 2020. Environmental officers to complete minor tree/shrub clearance by Oct 2020.</p> <p>BA operations team to dredge Chet for 3 months from Oct 2020 and dispose of material on sections of footpaths mentioned. They will return 6 months later to rebuild paths with new material. Similar work to continue in 2021 to restore rest of footpaths at eastern end of Hardley Flood.</p> <p>May 2020: Project now part of a much larger programme of works in partnership with Norfolk County Council and CIL</p>	31/12/2021

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				<p>application; to include new circular routes, bank stabilisation, signs and infrastructure, and access for all resurfacing works. Programme improvements across entire Wherryman's Way beginning 2021.</p> <p>Oct 2020: Funding application submitted Aug, been through first round approval and decision to be made in Dec.</p> <p>Dec 2020: Application unsuccessful. Reframing bid with Norfolk CC colleagues to submit in a future funding round.</p> <p>Apr 2021: BA to dredge River Chet and place sediment onto footpath winter 2021/2022. Arrangement made with Norfolk CC to return up to 18 months later to reshape footpath once sediment has dried.</p> <p>Jun 2021: BA partnering up with NCC for CIL application to carry out additional works here and at Surlingham and Bramerton.</p> <p>July 2021: The CIL bid has been submitted (end of July 2021) with responses for successful bids expected in Nov 2021. Dredging in the River Chet is programmed for October 21 with material being deposited onto the footway to help build up the path. The CIL money (if successful) will be used to restore bridges and stabilise the banks at weak points.</p> <p>March 2022: A meeting at Norfolk County Council in March 2022 will decide which Community Infrastructure Levy funded projects are successful and the Broads Authority have two bids in the offing, Bramerton and Surlingham dedicated footpaths. If successful delivery will be progressed in 2022/23.</p> <p>April 2022: The final decision making meeting to allocate CIL project money is scheduled for May 16 by Norfolk County Council. The Broads Authority have arranged a pre-meeting with NCC Recreation & Project Officer (week commencing 1 May) to discuss action to date. Dredged material from the River Chet has been deposited and is drying on the</p>	

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				<p>Wherryman's Way which will be re-shaped once its dry enough to use.</p> <p>July 2022: CIL funding of £216, 500 approved. Work already started on improvements to the Wherryman's Way, with riverbank stabilisation starting in Spring/Summer 2023. The scheme for Rockland access improvements to Bramerton and Surlingham footpath will are timetabled for completion in late 2023.</p>	
Responding to Climate Change Emergency	27/09/2019	John Packman	<p>To adopt Climate Change Emergency Statement for the Broads (first report Appendix 1) and principles outlined for BA to:</p> <p>Recognise climate emergency</p> <p>Work toward making the Broads Authority 'carbon neutral' by 2030, with further objective of reducing all carbon emissions to zero by 2040.</p> <p>Establish base line for CO2 emissions using a common methodology with NPAs and develop an Action Plan and Monitoring system</p> <p>Work with constituent local authorities to reduce emissions from domestic, travel and other sources in the Broads across the two counties.</p> <p>Work with farmers, land managers, NFU and Defra to influence land management practices, to maintain and build organic matter and carbon in soil, improve biodiversity and store water to protect against flooding and drought. Work with boating and tourism organisations to continue promoting and developing environmentally friendly boating and sustainable tourism; and</p> <p>Aspire to offsetting carbon emissions locally within the Broads by a Broads offsetting scheme.</p>	<p>Sept 2019: Principles agreed - first in series of items dealing with climate change.</p> <p>22 Nov 2019: Presentation to BA from Asher Minns, Director of Tyndall Centre at UEA and update by CANAPE Project Manager/Carbon Reduction Projects Manager.</p> <p>10 Jan 2020: Planning Committee report on planning policy response to climate change mitigation and adaptation.</p> <p>May 2020: Progress report to BA prepared on Climate Change Action Plan for Broads Authority and Broads Area. Deferred to BA meeting in July due to COVID-19 situation.</p> <p>July 2020: Report on agenda on Climate Change Action Plan - agreed to set target of 1.5 degree compliant emissions curve for Broads executive area, in line with Tyndall Centre recommendations, and use as basis for public engagement and working with partners.</p> <p>Sept 2020: National Parks England received data from BEIS on emissions from National Parks and the Broads. Work underway to better understand these figures, in particular around boating emissions listed as several times higher than previous estimates.</p> <p>Yare House electricity supply switched to Green Tariff. BA investigating capacity of its equipment to use higher percentages of biofuel. These measures will achieve targeted savings for this year.</p>	

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				<p>With South Downs NPA, BA working with Smallworld Consulting Ltd to deliver Consumption Baseline for Broads Area by March 2021. From data provided by this and BEIS data, BA will establish savings needed in each year to achieve carbon neutrality.</p> <p>12 Mar 2021: Facilitated presentation on climate change to the Norfolk Public Sector Leaders Board.</p> <p>August 2021: Trial of HVO Biofuel with the CME team has been successful. This can provide a low-carbon fuel source for our heavy equipment before electric/alternative fuelled equipment becomes available, and make a substantial reduction in the BA Carbon Footprint.</p> <p>Ongoing work with Smallworld Consulting Ltd to calculate a consumption based Climate Footprint for the Broads Executive Area, in line with the National Parks Family. This will inform our high level targets for Climate Mitigation. We have carried out a survey of boat owners in the Broads to get a better understanding of usage habits and fuel consumption, and to gather views on green boating. We have successfully received funding to carry out a partnership project (led by Ren Energy Ltd) to deliver a feasibility study into an electrified broads network.</p> <p>19 November 2021: Agreed, in principle, to support the National Parks' involvement as a hub in the "Count Us In" Protect What You Love Count Us In (count-us-in.org) initiative and work with partners and others to promote the development of "Broads specific" actions, linked to the 16 "Count Us In" themes, to residents and visitors to help tackle climate change and biodiversity loss in the Broads in order to develop behaviour change messaging.</p> <p>27 April 2022: We have received the draft report on greenhouse gas emissions by Small World Consulting Ltd (academics based at Lancaster University). There are some minor adjustments to be made before we can share it more widely, including testing some of the recommendations with</p>	

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				<p>relevant officers. Agreed to hold a member workshop on the topic in June.</p> <p>05 July 2022: The presentation of the report to members is planned for the middle of July. Following the completion of the "Electrifying the Broads" feasibility study in March 2022 we are investigating funding options for expanding the electric charging network, and developing a fully electric vessel.</p> <p>13 September 2022: A member workshop was held on the 25th of July, and the full report circulated to members. Work is ongoing on the next steps, with a report anticipated for the November Authority meeting.</p> <p>The next phase of Clean Maritime funding, which may allow us to build on the Electrifying the Broads feasibility study, is expected to be announced on the 22nd of September.</p>	
'Broads Peat' - A Nature for Climate Peatland Grant Scheme project	23/07/2021	Andrea Kelly	<p>Broads Peat - 15 month partnership project 100% funded by the Nature for Climate Peatland Grant Scheme. Preparing 13 of sites to develop peat building conditions (via baseline surveys, permissions etc), and exploring private finance to support the restoration with Revere.</p> <p>Broads Peat started in November and will close in March 2023.</p>	<p>July 2021: Members agreed to submit an application, at the Broads Authority meeting on 23 July 2021, with the Authority as the lead partner.</p> <p>Aug 2021: Bid submitted, for around £800k project across 13 sites, with 7 partner organisations and 9 private landowners. Natural England report that they will announce successful projects in mid-November 2021.</p> <p>Oct 2021: Responses to 12 clarification questions submitted. Initial preparation on recruitment and procurement.</p> <p>Dec 2021: Awarded £800k grant on 24 Nov. Internal Board meeting weekly. Held partnership meeting on 26 Nov, including adoption of ToR, PA, Procurement and Schedule. First round of recruitment for PM unsuccessful. Readvertising into January. Secondment for PO being advertised into January. Stage one small contracts let. Tender for seven work packages developed to advertise in early January. Framework Contracts being assessed. Paper for Jan 22 BA Committee prepared. Press release in EDP. £800,000 grant for project to restore peatland in the Broads</p>	31/03/2023

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				<p> Eastern Daily Press (edp24.co.uk). Webpage drafted. Agreement with Palladium and landowners being drafted.</p> <p>Jan 2022: An update on Broads Peat and Framework Procurement was provided to members at the 28 Jan 2022 BA meeting. Peat depth and land level assessments underway. Developed farmer engagement programme to discuss private finance and land management.</p> <p>February 2022: Recruitment for two posts progressing, and start of the standstill period for activities consulted by tender. Linking with two other Discovery Grant projects in the East.</p> <p>March 2022: Secondments from Birketts and the Suffolk Wildlife Trust agreed and staff started work.</p> <p>April 2022: All contracts underway with consortia of 17 contractors. Entered SCAPE Framework to access Jacobs, working closely with WMA. Third Partnership meeting held. Workshop on Carbon Finance held with landowners. Working towards influencing the fen peatland code.</p> <p>June 2022: Main contracts delivering ahead of schedule with peat, topography and water level data largely complete. Novel water vole habitat assessment tool showing promising early results for consenting landscape water level raising. Contract with Jacobs, via SCAPE, close to completion with scoping study task defined. 50 farmers and landowners attended a further carbon finance event at Acle led by Andrea Kelly and Palladium. Site prioritisation for Restoration Grant being discussed by partners and 3 new farmer led sites added to partnership. Palladium scoping out sites for Nutrient Neutrality as well as carbon finance. Youth engagement with fashion, young farmer and architects at scoping stage. Display of wet farming products engaged people at the Norfolk Show. Preparing for Internal Audit of Partnership.</p>	

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				<p>August 2022: Water vole habitat assessment method completed at all sites and initial analysis was presented on 24 August. Analysis of 3 test sites indicated a significant relationship between increasing habitat suitability score and water vole presence.</p> <p>Restoration Plan structure agreed. Updated list of sites agreed with landowners and Natural England. Prioritisation of sites to have full Restoration Plans endorsed by the Partnership on 28 July and then sent to NE. Consultant Stantec will be appointed for the design of engineering solutions.</p> <p>Programme of engagement with colleges due to commence September. Public arts engagement with youth-led collective member of RE-PEAT at GroundWork Gallery, Kings Lynn 2-30 September.</p>	
Farming in Protected Landscapes (FiPL)	23/07/2021	Hannah Norman	To deliver the Farming in Protected Landscapes (FiPL) programme.	<p>24 August 2021: First meeting of the Local Assessment Panel (called the Broads and Norfolk Coast Land Management Board), in collaboration with Norfolk Coast AONB. Ten applications were approved: five from the Broads (about 62% of the allocation), and 5 from the AONB (about 69% of the allocation).</p> <p>22 October 2021: Another two Local Assessment Panels (on 30 September and 8 November) to approve additional projects (12 approved, over 90% fund allocated). Some work on-going to reallocate some of the administrative and advice project towards the project pot. The website will publish the summary of the successful projects. Farming in Protected Landscapes (broads-authority.gov.uk) The catchment and farming officer joined the Authority on 21 October.</p> <p>17 December 2021: Additional Local Assessment Panel (on 14 December) with 3 new applications approved (two in the Broads and one in the AONB). These projects will be for Year 2 (start from April 2022). The Board thanked the team for the team's support since FiPL was announced this summer. Two farmer Board members presented successful FiPL</p>	

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				<p>projects at a national workshop of ~600 people. FiPL evaluation completed by members of the PL Team.</p> <p>February 2022: The Board agreed at their January meeting the changes for Year 2 submissions, with a maximum grant of £50k. Preparation of communications about the success of Year 1 projects.</p> <p>10 March 2022: Next meeting of the Land Management Board will consider three further applications for funding.</p> <p>21 April 2022: Year 1 funding spend by the end of March 2022 with available information on the summary of Year 1 projects Broads Farming in Protected Landscapes Programme - Year one summary (broads-authority.gov.uk). Good progress on the allocation of funds for Year 2 and Year 3.</p> <p>30 June 2022: The Land Management Board met on 6 June. Two projects were approved, both for the Norfolk Coast, and one application for the Broads was rejected. So far, 10x Year 2 projects have been approved for the Broads and one rejected. To date for Year 2, 53% of the funding has been allocated, and two projects have been completed.</p> <p>25 August 2022: The Land Management Board met on the 18 July and approved one Year 2 project for the Broads. Three applications under £5,000 have been improved internally, bringing the total number of year two projects to 14. Good progress is being made on approved projects.</p>	
Safety on the Broads	18/03/2022	Rob Rogers	<p>Amend the Authority's Hire Boat Licensing Conditions such that the Code for the Design, Construction and Operation of Hire Boats is incorporated in full.</p> <p>Make the British Marine's QAB scheme a mandatory aspect of Broads Authority Hire Boat Licensing Conditions from 1 April 2023 in line with the Navigation Committee's view.</p>	<p>July 2022: Letters have been issued to every Hire Boat operator within the broads informing them of the changes to Hire Boat Licensing Conditions that will be effective from 1 April 2023.</p> <p>British Marine has offered a special discounted membership and QAB price to all Broads hire boat operators and this has also been communicated.</p>	01/04/2023

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				<p>The Hire Boat Licensing Officer is also talking to all operators as part of their auditing and condition checks and British Marine are resourced and ready to assist operators reach the required standards.</p> <p>September 2022: A letter to all hire operators has been issued asking for comments on the widening of Hire Boat Licensing Scheme to include ALL non-powered paddle, or pedal craft let for hire from 1 April 2023. A paper is planned for Navigation Committee in October with recommendations presented to the Authority in December. A phased approach is planned which will hopefully incorporate any craft or vessel let for hire (including houseboats and craft let for airbnb) being licensed in the future to bring further safety improvements.</p>	

Date of report: 08 September 2022