Broadland Catchment Partnership Evidence Workshop 10th July 2013

Summary Report

Report produced by Neil Punchard on behalf of the Broadland Catchment Partnership Steering Group - 29/07/13

Broadland Catchment Partnership

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Broadland Catchment Partnership - Evidence Workshop Summary Report

Background

- The first partnership workshop in September 2012 presented a vision and discussed some issue areas and participants outlined their areas of expertise and interest.

- Strong support was evident for taking a Catchment Based Approach* to delivering environmental, social and economic improvements within the Broadland Rivers Catchment. **individuals and interest groups working together to agree issues, explore available evidence and uncertainty around these, in order to agree sustainable solutions to deliver multiple benefits.*

- The Broadland Catchment Partnership Steering Group had subsequently structured these issue areas around key themes through which a plan could be produced with more specific detail on catchment wide issues included.

- This information was e-mailed to participants prior to the workshop along with a template for the catchment plan and amended vision.

Evidence workshop

- The aim of the workshop was to discuss evidence around catchment wide issues that occur in all sub-catchments (although these are often area or site specific).

- An Evidence Survey was compiled by the partnership officer and e-mailed to individuals on the stakeholder database along with a request to bring along an example of any form of evidence that they had.

- Posters were provided by the Wensum Demonstration Test Catchment – monitoring evidence, Environment Agency - Water Framework Directive phosphate removal evidence, and Broads Authority – pollution risk model and land use evidence

- The workshop focussed on discussing the available evidence around contended statements that may ultimately be used to inform actions across the catchment.

Format

- Attendees were welcomed by Stephen Johnson, Broads Authority Chairman and Peter Woodward, independent facilitator.

- The amended vision, key themes and issues area were presented by Andrea Kelly, Partnership Chair, on behalf of the Steering Group.

- Neil Punchard, Partnership Officer gave a short presentation on evidence and uncertainty and how the Evidence Survey had been compiled - through dialogue with different stakeholder groups, literature reviews and collation of relevant information

- A brief presentation was provided by the Environment Agency on the monitoring that they undertake and Challenges and Choices, a summary of Significant Water Management Issues that was published for consultation in June 2013.

Group exercise

Individuals worked in mixed groups to discuss the available evidence to identify:

1. *What is the existing evidence base to support this statement?*
2. *How adequate/credible/understood/agreed is this evidence?*
3. *Is there additional evidence we should consider using?*
4. *What more is needed to build a shared view of the issue?*

The results of the survey including individual responses were provided to all participants of the workshop. Given time constraints different groups focussed on specific issue areas especially around contended statements. Group responses were gathered in a plenary session and a networking lunch followed, where the posters were available for participants to view forms of evidence. The group responses have been summarised and added to the survey results (Appendix 1) that also includes some of the poster material.

Individual feedback

Participants were also given the opportunity to fill in comments slips (to ensure that we captured feedback on the vision and issues as well as providing another mechanism in addition to group work) and asked to complete a feedback form so they could provide personal opinions of the event - this will assist the Steering Group in preparation of the next workshop on October 16th 2013.

What have we learnt and where next?

Most participants found the event valuable. Most felt that they were well informed to participate, able to discuss views openly, and that their views were acknowledged and will make a difference to future decisions.

The half day workshop was tight for time and several participants felt that they lacked the opportunity to contribute around their area of expertise where they could input significantly to the catchment plan. Some participants were aware of evidence that was available to share that had not previously been provided (although some has already been sent through).

Many participants are **keen to focus on actions** so we will be expecting a good turn-out for the next workshop which will focus on agreeing solutions to catchment issues.

For **issues where the evidence base is deficient, contended or where uncertainty around evidence** will always exist there may still be opportunities to agree actions providing they are 'win-win' or 'no regret' or if we can begin to move towards a payment for ecosystem services model where a provider e.g. farmer is paid by a beneficiary e.g. water company although there may be the need for pilot studies.

It is clear that since **some issues only apply to certain areas or even sites** (e.g. high risk/poorly managed/degraded) within each sub-catchment, any statements need to have caveats and deeper explanation (often more technical/scientific) as generalisations can be confusing and misleading. Unfortunately some stakeholders thought that the event was too

technical, which is one of the pit-falls of having a mixed stakeholder event and also leads to difficulties in providing clear key messages. **Careful consideration of and assistance in communications** is likely to be required when further engaging community groups and some farmers, for example.

Action Summary

Action from workshop	Who	When
1. More time to discuss the Broadland Catchment Approach needs to be made in your networks and at the next workshop	All	Between now and next workshop 16 October
2. To aid 1. (above) we will be producing simple information about the approach, the plan and clear outline of next steps for you or the steering group members to communicate with wider partners	BCP Steering Group	Autumn
3. More evidence required around many areas.	All to send to NP	ASAP
4. Table of evidence is being set up	NP	Autumn
5. If you have views that you were not able to represent at the workshop please send these to NP	All	ASAP
6. Review the invitees and ensure that specialists around action areas are invited	BCP Steering Group	Autumn
7. Provide ideas for projects and larger scale catchment/sub-catchment measures	All to send to NP	August and September

Comments slips and Steering Group response

- What does Water Framework Directive (WFD) 'good' ecological status look like?
    - Use pictures/photos to better demonstrate what we are aiming for. Agreed.
- Use case studies of real deliverables to show the public the benefits. Agreed.
- Growth and development do not lead to a reduction in water quantity - it is an increase in demand. We expect an increase in 'quantity' due to climate change but also expect more storms and more droughts. There is an increased need to manage water quantity. We are not sure about the evidence about the increase in 'quantity' due to climate change, but we agree generally.
- Cost and complexity of water management needs to be taken into account in terms of what we consider 'normal' conditions, rather than just responding to drought or flood conditions.
- The Broads as we know it does not, and cannot, sustain itself without human intervention. Agreed.
- Vision misses achieving GES by 2027. Also alignment of River Basin Management Plan. See below.
- Given the vision is aspirational it should include a statement along the lines of: 'we have met the challenging targets for water quantity, ecology…..and there is widespread understanding and support which have seen many make positive contributions. Will amend Vision accordingly
- WFD targets are legally binding so we need to be upfront. Agreed but although CaBA should assist in delivery of WFD it is not the sole focus.
- More about pesticides! Will include in plan.

- The statements may be applicable nationally but not always applicable to the Broadland catchment. Also need to quantify what is meant by ground water and drinking water or for WFD. Will provide more detailed agreed explanation in plan and will also provide a Glossary
- Evidence needs to be accessible, simple and clear mitigations. Agreed
- Evidence not necessarily missing BUT not always at correct resolution - must be relevant with local aspect. Agreed - will provide more specific information at sub-catchment level plan
- Need to avoid slipping into a deficit framing - i.e. people lack something which needs to be compensated by filling them up with information Questions: 1. Who are the 'they' who need 'educating'?, 2. Do you know (value) the knowledge and experiences 'they' already have (including common sense/tacit knowledge)? Agreed – will establish a Task group to include Jackie Burgess, Geoff Doggett (RWT) and others.
- Should all consumers of water have a meter? If you want to reduce consumption… Essex and Suffolk and Anglian Water are both aiming to increase water efficiency by encouraging uptake of water meters, including at change of occupancy for households but no plans to make compulsory.

Feedback Form Comments

1. *How valuable overall did you find this event?*
    - Re-inforced my understanding of the issues but I didn't learn anything new (not a problem though!).
    - Technical event - difficult for a non-science based individual to participate
    - Great to get an insight into other stakeholders views
    - Discussions around the table worked very well.
    - Lack of time and opportunity
    - Questionnaire was effective
    - Didn't realise the questions from the survey would be used so intensively. Very time limited, not sure notes are going to be enough to reflect everyone's views.
    - Interesting mix of stakeholders
    - Wide variety of views so hard to extract consensus
    - Lists of available evidence from different organisations would have been v. Useful
    - Not sure how it moved the discussion forward, over and above circulating the results of the survey.
    - On-going commitment to process evident
    - Working on tables can lead to a dominant voice taking over. Limited opportunity and structure to ask detailed questions. Lots of text on flip charts which was good to take away but not so good to 'share' information in the room.
    - Data licensing is a national issue

2. *Did you feel you had enough information to participate effectively?*
3. *Did you feel that you and other participants were able to discuss views openly?*

4. *Do you feel that your views and those of others will make a difference to future decisions on planning and delivery?*
    - Depends very much on funding available
5. *Did you feel that your views and those of others were acknowledged?*
6. *If you had questions, how well were they answered?*

7. *How effective was the facilitator?*
    Feedback sent direct to the facilitator

8a. How effective were the flip charts?
8b. How effective were the GIS data?

9a. How helpful was this event in contributing to defining a shared vision?
9b. How helpful was this event in contributing to achieving a common view of the problems?
9c. How helpful was this event in contributing to agreeing actions?

- The event only aimed to go so far, so it could only go so far.
- Agreed (almost) view of shared vision but I'm not sure we are there with the problems yet?
- Able to exchange challenges/objectives with other stakeholders
- Not sure how much progress towards actions was made
- Difficult to see consensus on actions
- Actions more for next workshop
- Maps too large an area - some larger scale/local info would be great
- Vision already set
- Vision already agreed…actions to be developed…
- Specific evidence wasn't requested and presented. Almost all anecdotal.
- We didn't go into the problems individually so no possibility of producing a shared view

10. How well did the way the event was structured and run enable you to address the issues?

- Workshop relied upon knowledge/ background of those around the table, which was very specific to certain issues.
- Would have liked more opportunity for commenting on other statements
- Would harvest knowledge better in expertise groups

11. To what extent did the event provide the information you need for your role in the Catchment Based Approach?

- Felt outcomes from Neil's collation of workshop results will be useful
- Contacts and possible use of UEA for data analysis
- How work will be apportioned and co-ordinated not clear.
- Need to know where information is.
- Clear outline of next steps.
- Second section at the end was useful to summarise struggles in catchment management.

12. How clear are you about future opportunities for you to be involved in the next stages of the catchment planning and delivery?

- Do you envisage a GIS output? Who will do it? Licensing? Work programmes…
- Depends on practical solutions proposed - most solutions require engineering input - not many engineers present!
- Will help contact landowners through our means - no guarantee but worth a shot!
- We need clear explanation of 'shape' of catchment plan i.e. content and issues, timescale
- Planning OK - not clear about delivery.

13. What would you have liked more time for?

- Discussions on importance of land drainage and flood risk in area.
- Discussion
- Round table discussions
- Enjoyment and access
- To discuss evidence available - no time to explain to members of the group whose knowledge was much lower than others
- Other problems around but not directly related to the subjects under discussion
- Perhaps too much sub-group activity - need consensus building
- Models
- Individual thought missing - some people don't respond well in group work.
- Nothing
- Status of catchment plan process
- Time was fine
- Consideration of questions
- Finding out what each organisation has
- Reviewing all responses to survey
- Some of the other statements
- Reviewing issues
- Feedback/discussion of some of the detailed responses and statements
- More time discussing questions
- Water Quantity
- Agreement of issues
- Reviewing available data sets/evidence/maps
- Discuss all issues linked to catchment with the specialists
- The questions I am more knowledgeable about
- Subject relevant discussion

14. What would you have liked to spend less time on?

- Over analysis
- Less scene setting
- Vision (it's been done!)
- Nothing

- Fetish about data being 'everything'
- Vision
- Emphasis on broad generic principles
- Short presentations
- Focusing on the specific questions of survey
- The questions I am less knowledgeable about

15. What was the most important thing you got out of taking part in this event?

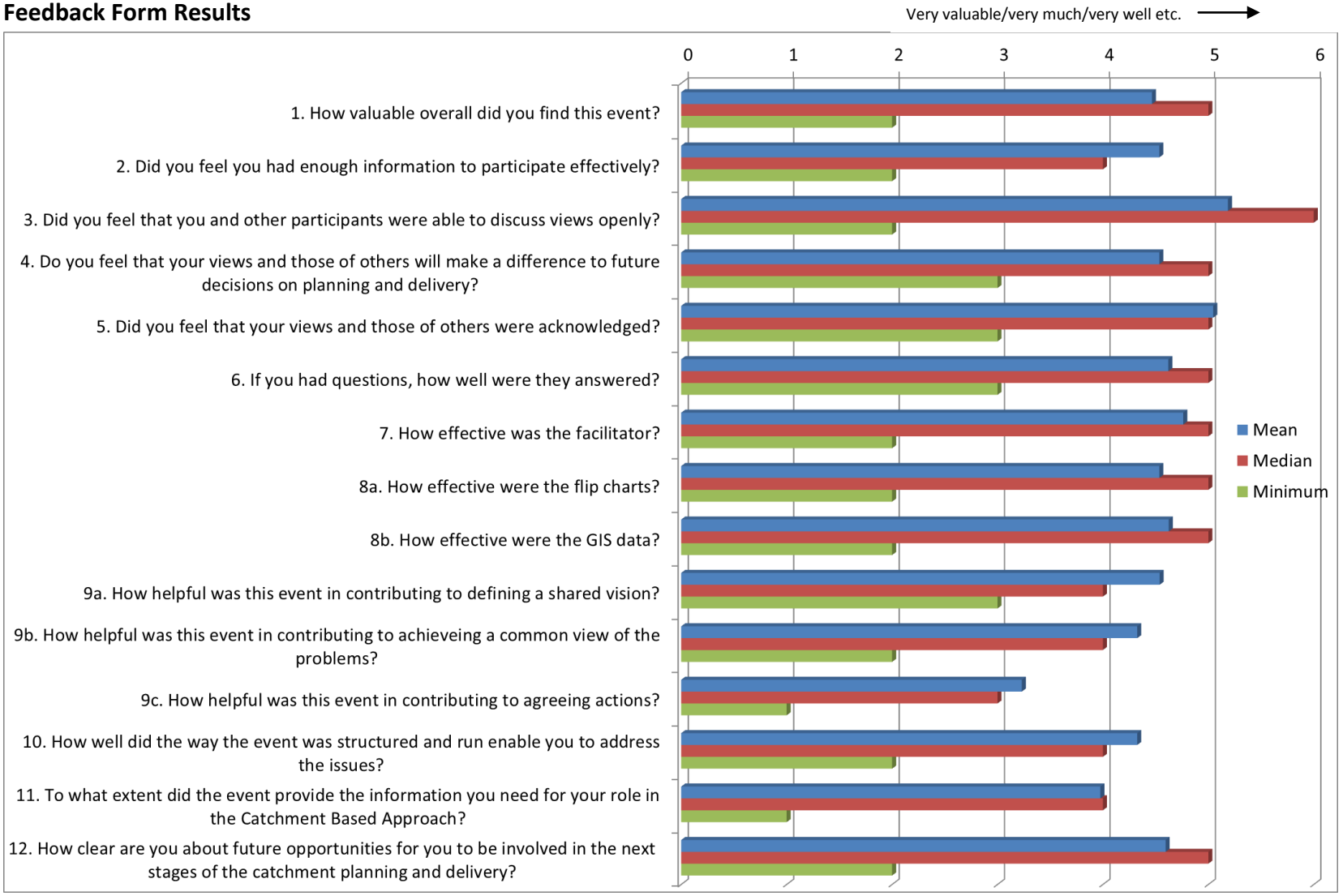
- Networking
- Meeting more people working in Broadland
- This is a very difficult problem involving different people and agencies all with conflicting views and needs
- There are still different views and desires in water management
- To hear other people's views
- Networking and opportunity to learn about others challenges/issues/concerns
- A sense of agreed purpose
- Discussions with stakeholders
- Feel for the state of play in this part of Norfolk and Suffolk.
- Awareness of breadth of stakeholder group
- Learning about what other people have been up to especially at sharp end of doing
- Sharing experiences
- Exchange of views
- Networking
- Need to target data collation and analysis at most difficult issues
- Appreciation of breadth of issues
- Finding out about the views of other organisations and about sources of information
- Networking
- Meeting new contacts/other stakeholders
- Gaining an understanding of what the catchment plan will be
- Other viewpoints
- Group discussion and opportunity to talk openly with a variety of stakeholders about evidence and also projects taking place across catchment that we don't always get to hear about
- Greater understanding of issues facing others and issues in general
- Round table discussion
- Role of my organisation in preparation of plan so need to engage more colleagues e.g. highways, councillors
- Good to meet wider stakeholder group and use time to understand other peoples perspectives/requirements
- Feeling farming voice was heard
- Better understanding of phosphate, sedimentation, hydromorphology issues.
- Meeting other stakeholders and getting a variety of feedback
- On-going commitment and ability to air some information

- Networking
- Knowledge from the specialists
- Open discussion
- Hearing others opinions.

Any other comments

- Great networking opportunity
- I don't have the knowledge to comment on the technical issues, however sometimes people forget to explain and talk at a level understood if it is just WFD professionals
- The effects of the WFD have not hit the UK yet. It will soak up money!
- Very well planned event - thanks Neil and others!
- Quality of contributions today quite good - well set-up and facilitated.
- Engagement with schools and communities necessary
- For October - making issues understandable and easier to engage with for public
- All consumers of water should have a meter! = reduction in water use!
- Looking at questionnaire I was pleased to see there were relatively few statements which produced a widely diverse response.
- Projector difficult to read from the back. Room had terrible acoustics.
- Not sure if possible but will Neil have put together the evidence to clarify the answers to the 50 statements by October so the action meeting can concentrate on the right sources and pollutants?
- Distinct lack of any recognition or discussion regarding pesticides impact on water quality
- Need to ensure species issues don't get lost within the discussion. Looking at habitat in isolation is not sufficient.
- The survey seems to be seeking a consensus on questions across the group but the guess of someone not involved in a particular field is nowhere near as valuable as the informed opinion of someone who is.
- Events like this would benefit more from wider stakeholder interests, including non-experts - use more community representatives.
- I think it is difficult for salient points to filter through large group discussions especially when members are so diverse. Perhaps give participants an opportunity to contribute outside of event to the same statements.

Feedback Form Results



Particpants			
Name		**Organisation**	**Title**
Kelvin	Allen	Angling Trust and Broads Authority	East of England Chairman
Nick	Anema	JD & NJ Anema	Farmer
Mark	Atherton	River Waveney Trust	Catchment Officer
Peter	Baker	Bure Navigation Conservation Trust	Secretary
Sue	Baker	Bure Navigation Conservation Trust	Secretary
Louis	Baugh	NFU and Broads Authority	Farmer and Member
Chris	Bielby	Natural England	Broads WFD Specialist
Alys	Bishop	Norfolk County Council	Sustainable Drainage Officer
Dave	Brady	National Trust	Head Warden
Sue	Bull	Anglian Water	Planning Liason Manager
Jacquelin	Burgess	Broads Authority	Member
Lottie	Carlton	Broads Authority	Administrative Officer
Maria	Conti	Broads Authority	Strategy and Projects Officer
Nicolas	Deane	NFU	Farm Manager
Geoff	Doggett	Waveney River Trust	Chairman
Simon	Eyre	Anglian Water	Source Protection Manager
Victoria	Fradley	Natural England	Catchment Sensitive Farming Co-ordinator
Lisa	Frosdick	Anglian Water	
Tony	Goodwin	Broads Internal Drainage Board	District Engineer
Kevin	Hart	Norfolk Wildlife Trust	Head of Nature Reserves
Richard	Hattersley	Norfolk County Council	Flood & Water Management Planner
John	Hiskett	Norfolk Wildlife Trust	Senior Conservation Officer
Dan	Hoare	Broads Authority	Project Design Supervisor
Robert	Holland	Essex and Suffolk Water	Catchment Adviser
Sue	Hooton	Suffolk County Council	Senior Ecologist
Maisie	Jepson	Country Land and Business Association	Rural Advisor
Stephen	Johnson	Broads Authority	Chairman
Andrea	Kelly	Broads Authority	Senior Ecologist
Claire	Lorenc	Essex and Suffolk Water	Catchment Team Leader
Bridget	Marr	Environment Agency	Catchment Delivery Officer
Lesley	Marsden	Broads Authority	Landscape Officer
Samuel	Neal	Norfolk Biodiversity Information Service	GIS Officer
Faye	Outram	UEA	Wensum DTC Officer
Tim	Papworth	NFU member	Director
James	Patterson	BAWAG	Chairman
Michael	Payne	Independent	Technical Expert
Ian	Pearson	Environment Agency	Environment Management Team Leader
Phil	Pearson	RSPB	Senior Conservation Officer
Neil	Punchard	Broads Authority	Broadland Catchment Partnership Officer
Rory	Sanderson	Environment Agency	WFD Delivery Manager
David	Savage	Canoe England	Regional Waterways Advisor
John	Sharpe	RSPB and Broads Authority	Broads Authority Member
Gavin	Sharpin	Environment Agency	Technical Officer (Hydrology)
Vicky	Short	Broads Authority	GIS Officer
Chris	Smith	Norfolk Wildlife Trust	Ecological Consultant
Michael	Sutton-Croft	Norfolk County Council	Norfolk Non Native Species Initiative Co-ordinator
Louise	Taylor	Environment Agency	Broads Officer - Analysis & Reporting
Heidi	Thompson	Norfolk County Council	
Lisa	Turner	Environment Agency	Senior Environment Officer
Mark	Watson	Norfolk Rivers Trust	Projects Director
Brenda	Williamson	Suffolk FWAG	Project Manager
Rob	Wise	NFU	Regional Adviser
Peter	Woodward	Quest Associates	Facilitator
Apologies			
Mike	Evans	NSBA/RYA	President
Bernard	Harris	Great Yarmouth Borough Council	Service Development Manager
Kevin	Hiscock	UEA	Professor of Environmental Sciences
Ian	Robinson	RSPB	Broads Area Manager
Carl	Sayer	University College London	Aquatic Scientist
Nicola	Steer	Environment Agency	Senior Environmental Planning Officer
Henry	Walker	Farm Conservation	Farm Conservation Adviser
Russell	Wilson	Broads Authority	Waterways Recreation Officer