

Broadland Catchment Partnership - Steering Group

MINUTES



Wednesday 9th March 2015 (10am - 1pm)

Broads Authority, Yare House, Thorpe Road, Norwich

Attendees: Andrea Kelly (Chair), Barry Bendall, Richard Cooper, David Diggins, Geoff Doggett, Rosanna Kellingray, Anna Lynch (minutes), Bridget Marr, Mathew Philpot, Neil Punchard, Will Robinson, Rory Sanderson, Christine Stevens, Ian Skinner, Alison Smyth, Heidi Thompson, Rob Wise.

Apologies: Tim Strudwick

	Action items	Actions
1.	Welcome, introductions, apologies	None
	Apologies were received as above.	
2.	Minutes of the meeting held on 19th Aug 2015	
	The minutes were agreed as accurate. Matters arising as follows: Item 3: Action to deal with the soil loss into the Yare has been agreed with Paul Sorrell.	
3.	BCP key activity since the last steering group meeting	
	<p><u>Slow the Flow Project – Saxthorpe and Martham – progress update</u></p> <p>Saxthorpe has almost been completed. Water had been coming in from the top field. A sediment trap has been installed at the top with a low bank on the right side. A low bund has been placed by the field entrance. The farm yard pond has also been desilted. A further pond in a garden contained a large amount of silt and a similar arrangement has been set up. Grass seed will 'make good' the area. The plan is to desilt after UK Power networks have undergrounded cables. This work is almost complete. Silt from the farm pond is going into a straw bund receptor in the farm yard and once dried it will be put onto a field to be agreed with the EA following a position statement produced for the BCP.</p> <p>The farm is improving handling of pesticides overall and the project provides a good example of working together. MP may share the case study on-line. It was noted that these solutions can be used at other sites and MP will share drawings with NP.</p> <p>Works at Martham are taking place this week. The main drain is being taken into an existing pond which is currently full of vegetation and trees. There will be steps and banks around the pond with a low plug into the main drain. There are some potential pollution issues so a new culvert with a section of drop-boards will be included so it can be blocked if required.</p> <p><i>Members expressed an interest in seeing some of the projects. Neil Punchard to explore opportunities for site visits in the coming year.</i></p>	<p>MP</p> <p>NP</p>
4.	WaterLIFE Water Sensitive Farming	
	<p>A presentation was given by Barry Bendall updating the group on the successful WaterLIFE Water Sensitive Farming funding bid. Main points were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £1.8 million budget total - 50% from the EU and 50% from the project partners. • A 3 year project, completing in 2017 but with an additional year of funding from Coca-cola. • The key measure of success from the standpoint of Coca-Cola is 'replenishment' based on the Cranfield calculation – measured by capturing soil type and 	

	<p>interventions, and calculated per acre (Cameo and BA combined targets).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The EU Commission targets for engagement with businesses are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Demonstrable environmental impact on the ground - Involvement in collective action - Influence over government policy. • The legacy of the project will include water efficiency and a more resilient water supply, as well as an ability to scale-up similar future projects and refine methodology for bespoke, targeted, interventions specific funding. <p>The group discussed the impact on existing projects and agreed that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All replenishment information must be recorded • Project work-plans must be considered against WWF objectives and targets • A partnership approach will be promoted by all so that work is not duplicated and gaps or opportunities can be identified. <p>The follow was also noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In terms of marketing and communications, a great deal of sign-off will be required from the funding partners • There is no competition clause preventing work on a similar project. <p>Plan to provide a one day seminar as part of an ‘Enrich Your Soils’ initiative at a cost of £160 per person. <i>DD will circulate the proposal from Innovation for Agriculture.</i></p> <p><u>Farmer Steering Group</u></p> <p>The group discussed how to encourage membership and the following was noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is vital to disseminate information widely in order to increase confidence in and understanding of the role of the group, and to engage disengaged elements of the community • Senior representatives from agronomy companies will be invited to attend • Prospective members may respond more favourably to a ‘forum’ or ‘advisory group’ • It is important not to duplicate the work of existing groups (e.g. Waveney Agricultural Advice Group). <p>It was agreed that a number of small localised groups had the potential to be set-up (Yare/Bure) with members invited from within the Broadland area. These groups could assist the delivery of local projects and feed into an overall group that would be established in the first instance and could be the catalyst for sub-catchment groups.</p> <p><i>NP will contact local farmers to establish interest and gain feedback on the need for a group and the role it could undertake and arrange a meeting date with Rob Wise.</i></p>	<p>DD</p> <p>NP</p>
5.	<p>Stakeholder web-map and future workshop</p>	
	<p><u>Water quality and ecosystem service prioritisation – demonstration</u></p> <p>NP presented the current map format, which is due for trial within 6 months. Information relates to all sub-catchments and will be made available to agronomists and farmers. NP demonstrated pop-ups for project details and multiple filter options such as erosion mapping and eco-system servicing.</p> <p><u>River floodplain restoration prioritisation – potential sites/workshop</u></p>	

	<p>NP presented the mapping system detailing river flood plains prioritisation (showing fluvial flooding only), pin-pointing specific areas for 'making space for water' and hydraulic modelling and feasibility studies. The maps demonstrate objective decision making and can be used as an effective engagement tool to build trust amongst stakeholders.</p> <p>It was noted that the phrase 'reconnection with the flood plain' may be a more suitable term to replace 'making space for water'.</p> <p>The group supported this new mapping approach and no one raised any conflict or duplication with other initiatives. It was suggested that the system is developed in a local workshop with a range of stakeholders similar to the previous ecosystem services workshop.</p> <p><i>NP agreed to scope a workshop for 2016/17.</i></p>	NP
6.	Potential Funding	
	<p>Andrea Kelly, BA: Countryside Productivity: European Innovation Partnership</p> <p>The European Innovation Partnership for Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability (EIP-Agri) is open for applications for operational partnerships working on soil organic matter/agronomists/drones/increasing organic matter and increasing data using drones. The UEA are interested in collaborating with a future bid and a follow on meeting is planned with UEA.</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/apply-for-the-eip-agri-grant</p> <p>Rosanna, CSF: CSF funding is available for concreting yards/gateways/biofilters. Bidding will take place in two rounds during 2015/16 - April and Sept. Last year 31 successful applications were received during the first round, although less during the first round. This year the first round opens on 14th March. Capital only grants are also available in the form of 2 year agreements with a 3 month follow-on period for claims.</p> <p>60% of holdings can be prioritised for CSF. These have been ranked in terms of water quality, targeting areas where there are multiple water priorities. Local areas have been targeted for lavender risk and a vulnerability map has been drawn up. It was noted that locations can be 'bumped up' according to local knowledge.</p> <p>Bridget Marr, EA: EA has submitted a bid for WFD GiA money to support around a dozen projects in Essex, Norfolk and Suffolk - including £150k for projects in the Broadland rivers and North Norfolk rivers catchments. A list of these was circulated in January. They include £30k towards rural SuDS to continue the Slow the Flow work and will use the WaterLIFE work as match funding. Another project of note is with the IDB, adding to their routine maintenance budget to carry out more sustainable works in areas already modelled for flood risk. One point to note is that all DEFRA GiA projects require 50% match funding from non DEFRA sources.</p> <p>In addition to the GiA projects, RS is waiting for a response regarding catchment partnership host funding and is expecting to hear in March or April.</p> <p>RSPB are currently leading on an Interreg funding bid for peatlands. AK outlined some of the project elements for this project, which has a working title of CANAPE – creating a new approach to peatland systems – exploring materials coming from wetlands and how to use them efficiently. Expressions of interest submitted in March 2016, to hear if full application is invited in September 2016.</p> <p>A Broads wet grassland HLF and LIFE project for £1.5million has been coordinated by AK working with partners to enhance and produce grassland take-up (including creating and modifying catch drains). Details are currently being finalised.</p>	

7.	CaBA Septic Tank Leaflets	
	The group endorsed the CaBA Septic Tank leaflet. The BCP logo will be added and the leaflet will be circulated to partners for use in any correspondence.	NP
8.	<p>Freshwater Habitats Trust – volunteer water quality testing</p> <p>The group noted that volunteers are required for water sampling (phosphate and nitrate test kits). Water sampling in rivers, streams, ponds: http://freshwaterhabitats.org.uk/projects/clean-water/ PondNet is a good resource for people interested in habitat and species recording: http://freshwaterhabitats.org.uk/projects/pondnet/ CaBA have issued guidance to planners and developers. <i>NP will circulate a link to a report on their approach to group.</i></p>	NP
9.	<p>Partner Updates</p> <p>Christine Stevens, NT – The decision on the National Trust HLF bid to support catchment work in the Upper Bure is due at the end of April/early May.</p> <p>Richard Cooper, UEA - Jonah NRT visited a potential silt trap site on the Blackwater- there is potential for a case study.</p> <p>Rory Sanderson , EA- Norwich City Council/BA/EA are putting together a strategy for the Wensum through Norwich.</p> <p>Urban surface water works are planned due to issues related to surface water in and around Norwich byways.</p> <p>New authorisations are required for consultation/abstraction licenses, ending on 8th April.</p> <p>David Diggins, NRT - A Tesco funded ‘Fishing for Youngsters’ projects is planned.</p> <p>Geoff Doggett, RWT - A Tesco funded non-school project bid totalling £8k is likely. This will be matched by South Norfolk Council for restoration at Alma Beck/Oulton Broad. 10 year data will form a baseline in Waveney.</p> <p>A USB stick with information for farmers from Tried and Tested is available and will be provided to Neil Punchard</p> <p>Matthew Philpott, IDB - Helen Manly has joined IDB.</p> <p>Rosanna Kellingray, NE (CSF) - Ditch management workshop was held at Sculthorpe. Biobeds are going in at Swanton Morley.</p>	
10	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>None.</p>	
	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>A doodle poll will be circulated to arrange the next meeting date.</p>	

Action Summary

Who	What	Deadline
MP	Share updated Martham Drain drawings with NP	01.05.2016
NP	Explore possibility of SuDS site visit for 2016/17	01.09.2016
DD	Circulate 'Enrich Your Soils' proposal from Innovation for Agriculture	01.05.2016
NP	Contact local farmers to establish interest on advisory group and role and arrange a meeting date with Rob Wise.	01.05.2016
NP	Scope a floodplain re-connection mapping workshop for 2016/17.	01.09.2016
NP	Add BCP logo to CaBA septic tank leaflet and circulate to partners for use in any correspondence.	01.09.2016
NP	Circulate link to CaBA guidance for planners and developers to group.	01.05.2016

Visit: www.broadlandcatchmentpartnership.org.uk to download the catchment plan.

Email: admin@broadlandcatchmentpartnership.org.uk for further information.