

# Minutes of Meeting held on 9 November 2022

## Deben Room East Suffolk House and Teams



In attendance:

DR	Cllr	David	Ritchie	ESC (Chair)		GB		Giles	Bloomfield	WMA
AS		Alysha	Stockman	CPE (minutes)		JW		Joshua	Walpole	CPE
MF		Madeline	Fallon	CPE		LW		Laura	Winter	CPE
AA		Alison	Andrews	AOCP		JS		Jon	Stockwin	CPE
SR		Sharon	Richardson	CPE		SLB		Sara	Barratt	CPE
TY		Thomas	Yeung	CPE		JC		James	Cochrane	CPE
AnR		Andrew	Rouse	BCP		DB	Cllr	David	Beavan	ESC
RP		Richard	Powell	RFCC		DD	Cllr	Derek	Davis	BDC
LM		Lisa	Mills	CPE		FJ		Fiona	Johnson	CPE
TC	Cllr	Tony	Cooper	ESC		VG		Vanessa	Gouldsmith	NE
GN	Cllr	Graham	Newman	SCC		JG		Julian	Gregory	EIFCA
JF		Jaap	Flikweert	RFCC		DK		David	Kemp	EA
MJ		Mark	Johnson	EA		RS		Richard	Steward	BEP
RR	Cllr	Russ	Rainger	ESC		DS		David	Spray	MMO
AdR		Adam	Rowlands	RSPB		DT		Daniel	Turner	NE
GU		Graham	Underwood	UoE		RW		Rob	Wise	NFU
SJB		Sharon	Bleese	CPE		JM	Cllr	James	Mallinder	ESC

Apologies: Cllr Russ Rainger (ESC), Karen Thomas (CPE), Simon Amstutz (AONB), Tim Beach (AOCP)

1.	Welcome and introductions	<p>The Chair shared a round of introductions.</p> <p>The Chair and MJ shared their thanks for receiving Sue Allen Memorial Awards.</p>
2.	Lowestoft Flood Risk Management Project	<p>Jon Stockwin is the Project Delivery Manager for the Lowestoft Flood Risk Management Project. JS updated the forum on the Project including its history, flood modelling, impacts of a potential flood event, case for change, and work completed so far. JS shared a video fly through of the tidal barrier.</p> <p>The tidal barrier is approaching the 60% design stage towards the end of this year. Following a navigational impact assessment analysis, the team need to ensure the channel is clearer than what a 28m barrier offered. Once the Outline Business Case has received technical approval, the team will be applying for Transport Works Act Order approval for the project. The tidal barrier construction is now an unconstrained programme rather than only constructing in the winter period.</p> <p>SJB added on social value the aim at completion is 25p in every pound. The team have worked hard with the contractor to reduce the geographic area so that social value provided is predominantly in the local area.</p> <p>The Chair asked when the start date for construction of the tidal barrier is. JS confirmed 2024 dependent on the Transport Works Act Order process.</p> <p>The Chair noted the change from winter working to an unconstrained programme. JS acknowledged the excellent work that the engagement team have done with key stakeholders.</p>
3.	Pakefield Urgent Works	<p>MF updated the Forum on the Pakefield Urgent Works. Benacre Ness is a unique feature which, over the past 10 years, has been travelling northwards at 80m per year. If</p>

		<p>the Ness continues at that rate, it could be in front of Pakefield in 15 years or 30 years at a slower rate. The caravan park has been adapting and have a Planning Application in to continue to roll back.</p> <p>MF shared the linear length of the rock revetment will be roughly 70m in the area of rapid erosion. CPE have been working hard within a fixed budget to get maximum linear length to provide protection for that key infrastructure this winter.</p> <p>SJB acknowledged the time and support EA and NE have given to the team and the useful conversations with the MMO.</p> <p>The Chair asked when Benacre Ness comes further north, if there will be a point that the rock is no longer needed. MF confirmed this and added it is part of the adaptation. The longer-term works will be designed for a 15 to 30 year period on the understanding that the Ness will provide a wider beach and the rock can be removed and used elsewhere.</p> <p>SJB thanked ESC for providing a good proportion of the funding and added some of the funding is CPE's first outcome of the Resilient Coasts Project: a moveable stockpile of rock.</p>
4.	Post-conference update	<p>SJB presented the conference feedback to the Forum. The conference once again had a climb in attendance to 377. Next year will be a three-county event and the first East Anglian Coast and Estuary Conference. The conference has come a long way since it started in 2012 entirely publicly funded with 70 delegates and has been developed on the feedback given. Lessons learned included making it clear to audience members that the team are attending to their questions but not all questions are visible to everyone, and that there is some refining needed around the use of slido online.</p> <p>Working with the support of RP and the EA, CPE will be extending the 1953/2013 films to be shown in libraries and independent cinemas along the coast to commemorate the 1953 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary.</p> <p>SJB shared some of the suggestions for next year in terms of content and format. Key themes were climate and coastline, ecology and habitat, and progress, best practice. The conference will be returning to Wherstead Park next year as it is a bigger venue with better technical support. It will still be a hybrid event with workshops coming back. The conference will be held on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2023. SB asked the Forum for their suggestions of speakers.</p> <p>TC noted the suggestion of Sizewell C and suggested it would overpower the conference. SJB agreed.</p> <p>RP thanked SJB and the CPE team for the conference. RP suggested the schools should be an important part of the conference next year and asked if there is a possibility of setting a challenge for them now. SJB agreed.</p> <p>The Chair asked if there were feedback forms in the room. SJB added there was an online feedback form. SLB added there was a link to the online feedback form on the screen and it was emailed out to all attendees, but a lesson learned for next year is to have that available as people leave. SJB added there will be combination next year.</p> <p>The Chair highlighted the need for an afternoon break. SJB agreed.</p> <p>The Chair asked that future technical presentations are understandable for the audience. SJB agreed. AA suggested testing the questions on a few people ahead of the conference.</p>

		<p>SJB agreed to make that offer to speakers.</p> <p>AnR raised concern about making presentations less technical and suggested instead making them digestible for the audience and briefing speakers on the diversity of the audience.</p> <p>The Chair agreed.</p> <p><b>ACTION: Forum to share any speaker suggestions with SJB</b></p>
5.	Coastguard coastal safety campaign	<p>SB shared that over the past few years it has been difficult to get people to behave safely on the coast. This is an issue for all local authorities around the UK and the Coastguard. SB is the lead officer for the LGA Coastal SIG Beach and Water Safety Group. The Coastguard have recently launched a campaign called Coast Clever and is a toolkit available to everybody to use. SB shared the toolkit and campaign video with the Forum. SB asked the Forum to support the campaign if they can.</p>
6.	SMP Refresh and EA Strategy	<p>DK shared the EA are moving forward and progressing the SMP Explorer to be up and running in the spring. The Action Plans will be put in the new format to go on the website.</p>
7.	Updates from partners	<p>AOCP – AA shared that things are moving forward and the AOCP hope to hear in the next couple of months if they have got the grant.</p> <p>BEP – RS shared the BEP are awaiting the final report from Royal HaskoningDHV for the Blyth Estuary.</p> <p>WMA – GB shared the Alde and Ore Estuary business case is in and going through review. The Benacre scheme is in detailed design and plan to be on site next year with a two year build programme. GB asked GU if there is an educational opportunity with school children on the carbon aspect of the existing grazing marshes. GB to contact GU.</p> <p>CPE – SJB shared that CPE have worked closely with the homeowners regarding the recent demolition of the property at Thorpeness. CPE are moving forward with the business case and detailed design. The community are still fundraising and there is heightened interest locally.</p> <p>EA – DK shared there are a number of business cases moving through the system at the moment. The EA plan to be on site in the new year for the Felixstowe Ferry rock revetment scheme. It is Flood Action Week this week and reminders will be going out through social media.</p> <p>EIFCA – JG shared the EIFCA are working on finding the right balance between fishing activities and the environment in the Cromer Shoal MCZ. Two officers participated in a workshop yesterday on nature regeneration in Essex and Suffolk rivers and estuaries hosted by Blue Marine.</p> <p>NE – DT shared that NE attended the Lowestoft flood defence meeting a couple of weeks ago and provided comments, have provided input on the Pakefield Urgent Works, and been working through the SMP Refresh documents.</p> <p>MMO – DS highlighted that if any members of the Forum would like specific updates to get in touch.</p> <p>The Chair asked if licencing is improving.</p> <p>DS confirmed that it is based on the information given. The issues around provisioning of licencing officers has been met. DS cannot give advice on specific applications.</p> <p>GU asked if Therese Coffey MP should be contacted regarding MMO licencing.</p> <p>SJB added the MMO licencing issue is countrywide and the LGA Coastal SIG has written to Therese Coffey MP on behalf of local authorities around the UK and set out the difficulties faced.</p> <p>The Chair asked if it would be appropriate for him to write to Therese Coffey MP.</p> <p>SJB agreed and suggested it may need to be done for the Lowestoft FRMP Transport Works Act Order anyway.</p> <p><b>ACTION: GB to contact GU on educational opportunity around grazing marshes</b>  <b>ACTION: The Chair and SJB to write to Therese Coffey MP regarding MMO licencing</b></p>
8.	Suggested agenda items	<p>AA shared there are ongoing public consultations for Sea Link and Euro Link and raised concern about impacts on the coast.</p>

	for future meetings	<p>The Chair agreed with the need for coordination. AA highlighted that the Suffolk coast has been excluded from the Offshore Transmission Networks Review as the work is in progress. SJB suggested including an update from the Energy Projects Team and see if the energy companies would like to attend.</p> <p>AnR suggested inviting Therese Coffey MP to a meeting.</p> <p>SJB suggested an update on the Resilient Coasts Project.</p> <p><b>ACTION: Forum members to share any agenda suggestions with AS</b></p>
9.	Previous minutes	The Forum approved the minutes from the previous meeting.
10.	Any Other Business	SJB shared the first piece of engagement on the Resilient Coasts Project will be in Southwold on 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> December at the Southwold and Reydon Constitutional Club. It will cover the coast of Christmas past, the coast of Christmas present and the coast of Christmas future. It will be looking at how the coast, estuaries, and harbour have shaped over the last few decades, where the coastal processes are now, what people value about the coast, and what they would like to see in the future. This will help CPE develop a picture to work with the community to create a masterplan for Southwold and its future.