

## Southwold to Walberswick Flood and Coast Board

**Minutes of meeting 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2022 10am-12pm**

### Attendees:

DB	Cllr David Beavan (Chair)	East Suffolk Council
DR	Cllr David Ritchie	East Suffolk Council
SB	Sharon Bleese	Coastal Partnership East
MF	Madeline Fallon	Coastal Partnership East
SR	Sharon Richardson	Coastal Partnership East
AS	Alysha Stockman	Coastal Partnership East
CF	Chris Finbow	Coastal Partnership East
JC	James Cochrane	Coastal Partnership East
IB	Ian Bradbury	Southwold Town Council
PO	Philip O’Hear	Reydon Parish Council
ABu	Adam Burrows	Natural England
DT	Daniel Turner	Natural England
RS	Richard Steward	Blyth Estuary Partnership
JT	Jamie Thompson	SHRBUA
WS	Wayne Saunders	Suffolk Highways

### Apologies:

GW	Gary Watson	Environment Agency
ML	Cllr Michael Ladd	Suffolk County Council
VG	Vanessa Gouldsmith	Natural England
JB	Josie Bassinette	Walberswick Parish Council
KT	Karen Thomas	Coastal Partnership East
PP	Paul Patterson	Coastal Partnership East
SF	Simon Flunder	Southwold and Reydon Society
AJ	Anne Jones	Landowner
PJ	Phil Jones	Landowner
ABI	Andrew Blois	Landowner
FJ	Fiona Johnson	Coastal Partnership East
MJ	Mark Johnson	Environment Agency
KB	Kerry Blair	East Suffolk Council
MH	Matt Hullis	Suffolk County Council
GM	Graeme Mateer	Suffolk County Council

Welcome, introductions, minutes and actions from last meeting	The Chair shared a round of introductions.
Potters Bridge Update	<p>WS shared with the Board that the landowner has cleared the outfall. The situation is being monitored and a road closure is in place. In the long-term there will not be any construction due to the cost and the Environment Agency have previously tried to build a bank there several years ago, but it sank. WS has been speaking to the Suffolk County Council structures team and found out that a bigger and longer bridge could sink. There is an option of sandbags.</p> <p>The Chair noted this would block water run off draining and shared the community are sharing the water depths regularly online. The landowners have dug a channel so that the broad is draining at the moment but it is not clear who is going to clear the outfall next time.</p>

	<p>WS suggested a meeting to look at where the gullies are and to see if there is anything else that can be done.</p> <p>PO suggested to tie this in with the Parish Council meeting.</p>
Public drop-ins	<p>SB introduced the draft information boards for the public drop-in events on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> December.</p> <p>PO noted that the boards do not cover the Bridge Road area of Reydon or the North Road area of Southwold. PO understands that the landowners are in discussion with the Environment Agency and suggested including this as they are vulnerable. PO asked if the Climate Central map could be included and shared that it states the red areas if by 2050 nothing happens are likely to be flooded annually and by 2100 permanently underwater. The Chari agreed with PO and added most people live in Reydon.</p> <p>SB has not seen the map and is unsure about its credibility or where the data comes from.</p> <p>The Chair agreed to share the map with SB and added the line from Gun Hill to Walberswick is alarming.</p> <p>PO added the picture of the estuary is not unlike the ones of not maintaining the Blyth River walls.</p> <p>SB shared that the public drop-in events are not a consultation but an engagement event with a blank sheet of paper. CPE can include the Environment Agency as part of the Resilient Coasts project.</p> <p>PO suggested that if the aim is to raise the community's awareness, not including the threat to the Buss Creek area seems to be a missed opportunity.</p> <p>SB agreed to include something around that and added the virtual room can be updated. SB highlighted the idea is over the next six years, the Board can look back and see what has been achieved as part of this project.</p> <p>SR agreed to send the draft survey questions for the community to the Board.</p> <p>The Chair agreed to produce something on Potters Bridge.</p> <p>The Chair asked about the availability of the Jacobs report.</p> <p>MF confirmed Jacobs are currently working on putting together information for the public drop-in events.</p> <p>The Chair asked if the aim of the public drop-in events is to get a stakeholder group together.</p> <p>SB confirmed there will be an initial event early in the new year with Tim O'Riordan and if that works well CPE will repeat it in other areas.</p> <p>PO asked if where Southwold is mentioned, that means Southwold, Walberswick, and Reydon.</p> <p><b>ACTION: Chair to share Climate Central map with SB</b>  <b>ACTION: SR to share draft survey questions with the Board</b>  <b>ACTION: Chair to provide information on Potters Bridge to SB</b></p>
AOB	<p>The Chair noted the final Harbour Study report is yet to be shared.</p> <p>MF added that at the last Harbour Management Committee was an update that Royal HaskoningDHV have done an extra piece of modelling work as requested for the spillway and that output will be fed into the draft report. This should be finalised in early to mid-</p>

	<p>December. The dredging work has been scoped out and costed. There will be a separate technical note for the dredging aspects.</p> <p>RS asked if this includes the request from the Blyth Estuary Partnership for the modelling for 3.3mOD outside the harbour flood level.</p> <p>MF agreed to check with Royal HaskoningDHV</p> <p><b>ACTION: MF to check if Blyth Estuary Partnership request has been included in Harbour Study</b></p>
Date of next meeting and close	The Board agreed the next meeting will be in March with the possibility of being hybrid.