

Yorkshire Derwent Partnership

Minutes of Delivery Group (DG) meeting – 14th February 2017, NYMNPA Office, Helmsley

Attendees:

Karen Saunders – Yorkshire Derwent Partnership	(KS)
Don Davies – Ryedale District Council	(DD)
Francesca Pert – Howardian Hills AONB	(FP)
Duncan Fyfe – Environment Agency	(DF)
John Shannon – East Yorkshire Rivers Trust	(JS)
Brian Lavelle – Yorkshire Wildlife Trust	(BL)
Jenny Craven – Natural England	(JC)
Rachel Pickering – North York Moors National Park Authority	(RP)
Matt Millington – North Yorkshire and York LNP	(MM)
Sarah Woolven – Natural England	(SW)
Petra Young – Forestry Commission	(PY)
Jeremy Pickles – East Riding of Yorkshire Council	(JP)
Andrew Walker – Yorkshire Water	(AW)
Tim Burkinshaw – Scarborough Borough Council	(TB)

Apologies:

Jim Smith – Forestry Commission
 David Renwick – North York Moors National Park Authority
 Emily Mellalieu – North Yorkshire County Council
 James Copeland – National Farmers Union
 Liz Small – North Yorkshire County Council
 George Winn-Darley – Country Land and Business Association

Summary of Actions:

No.	Action	Who?
1	Follow up outstanding actions from the previous meeting.	KS
2	Circulate draft budget to Delivery Group for review	KS/All
3	Send final comments on the draft Officer Job Description to KS by Wednesday 15 th Feb	All
4	Confirm the IDB representatives within the Derwent catchment and follow up with Innes Thompson to discuss representation on the Delivery Group.	KS/DF
5	Resend papers for January Board meeting to Delivery Group and ensure future papers are received in time. (<i>Papers sent out on 17/1/17 and resent on 15th Feb. Minutes still to be finalised</i>)	KS
6	Establish extent and scope of work done to date by Ian Cowx/University of Hull on the Catchment Action Plan.	JS
7	Set up sub-group meetings as soon as possible to progress work on the Catchment Action Plan	DF/KS
8	Send a link to the SUNO catchment plan to the Delivery Group as an example of an on-line plan	KS
9	Establish scope of the iCASP Project and potential for links/support of work on the wider Derwent Catchment	KS
10	Suggest potential ideas for an NFM-focussed project on the Derwent, so we are in a strong position if Catchment Action Fund money is available in 17/18	All
11	Produce a draft work plan based on the outputs of the small group discussion, for the Officer role, including induction activities and share it with the Delivery Group/Jeremy Walker for comment.	BL
12	Complete an initial draft of the CaBA evaluation form and send round the Delivery Group for comment. Deadline for submission to CaBA is 16 th March.	KS/All

13	Liaise with partners to confirm attendance at agricultural shows and establish potential for a joint Partnership presence at the Ryedale Show and Pickering Game Fair.	KS
14	Explore potential for using interview ideas/process from the Rye recruitment process for the Derwent	RP/BL
15	Send out a Doodle Poll to canvass for an April Delivery Group meeting	KS

1. Welcome

KS welcomed people to the meeting. There was a round of introductions and apologies were noted. John Shannon was welcomed to the group. He has replaced Ian Cowx on the Delivery Group and will be attending future meetings on behalf of EYRT.

2. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising

Subject to one amendment, the minutes were accepted as a record of the previous meeting. There are a couple of outstanding actions relating to the Partnership budget and Howsham weir, which KS will follow up after the meeting.

ACTION: KS to follow up outstanding actions from the previous meeting.

ACTION: KS to circulate draft budget to Delivery Group for review.

3. Election of the Chair for the Delivery Group

KS advised the group that one nomination had been received, which was for Sarah Woolven, Natural England, to chair the Delivery Group. This was supported by the Delivery Group and it was agreed that the role would be reviewed each year. The group also agreed to appoint a Vice-Chair and appointed Duncan Fyfe, Environment Agency to the role.

4. Partnership Board Update

KS updated the group on the key points from the January Board meeting, particularly in relation to Officer recruitment. Discussions with partners are continuing in order to fill the gap in funding for a full-time officer. KS updated the group on the funding contributions confirmed to date and BL said that YWT hoped to be able to advertise the post within the next week, with the aim of holding interviews in the last week of March.

ACTION: DG to send final comments on the draft Officer Job Description to KS by Wednesday 15th Feb.

DF asked the group for views on whether we should seek IDB representation at the Delivery Group level, given their work across significant parts of the catchment and to reflect the fact that we have IDB representation at the Board level, following the appointment of Innes Thompson. The group agreed that it would be good to involve them.

ACTION: DF/KS to confirm the IDB representatives within the Derwent catchment and follow up with Innes Thompson to discuss representation on the Delivery Group.

JP asked for Board papers to be sent to the Delivery Group before Board meetings, to allow time for briefing Board representatives. KS thought that this had been done, but agreed to resend the papers.

ACTION: KS to resend papers for January Board meeting and ensure future papers are received in time.

5. Catchment Wide

- a. **Catchment Action Plan** – No update paper had been received from Ian Cowx prior to the meeting, so the scope of the work that the University of Hull is doing on behalf of EYRT is still unclear. It was agreed that JS would raise this with Ian to establish progress to date, but that a sub-group of the Delivery Group would get together over the next few weeks to progress the Catchment Action Plan. DF, KS, JP, BL, AW, LB/FP and a representative from Natural England will form the sub-group. JP and MM both suggested the group look at the Dales to Vale Network (SUNO) Partnership website as they are developing their plan as an on-line tool.

ACTION: JS to establish extent and scope of work done to date by Ian Cowx/University of Hull on the Catchment Action Plan.

ACTION: DF to set up sub-group meetings as soon as possible to progress work on the Catchment Action Plan.

ACTION: KS to send a link to the SUNO catchment plan to the Delivery Group as an example of an on-line plan.

- b. **Natural Flood Management** – KS updated the group on the potential projects in relation to NFM that the Partnership may want to explore. NERC have called for bids to explore the role of NFM at a catchment level, and there is interest from both the University of Hull and the White Rose Group of Universities in including a bid on the River Derwent. There may also be an opportunity to submit bids to the EA for NFM projects and therefore it is important for the Delivery Group to plan out in more detail where the opportunities are for NFM within the catchment and to start thinking about potential demonstration projects for the RFCC grant. It is recognised that there are issues in relation to proving the benefits of reducing flood risk via NFM, as it would be very unusual for NFM alone to move an area from one band of flood risk into a lower band.

DF also mentioned that there may be some Catchment Partnership Action Fund money available in 17/18, targeted at NFM, with a maximum project budget of £50,000 reinforcing the need to develop some project outlines, although as AW noted, the Partnership needs to be clear about the benefit and need for NFM within the catchment and where the best opportunities are rather than 'chasing' pots of money. A few ideas were suggested including extending previous work on Dalby and Thornton Becks. AW is also on the Governance group for the iCASP project and mentioned that there might be opportunities there for the iCASP project to undertake work or modelling that would support the Partnership's objectives. The Ryevitalise project is also working with iCASP and AW also noted that there could be potential interest in sediment finger-printing studies, which YWS would support as they remove more than 21,000 tonnes of sediment a year from the rivers Derwent and Ouse, and knowing where sediment inputs are derived from can also help identify priority areas for NFM.

YWS is involved in an upland project, Bogathon aimed at restoring the capacity of upland areas to hold and slow the flow of water. AW thinks there is potential for a similar project, Agathon, in lowland areas, aimed at restoring the capacity of arable soils to hold water, as the majority of existing soil structure has been destroyed as a result of compaction and other land management practices. He suggested exploring a project YWS are involved with, Sustainable Futures, which works by supporting farmers and landowners to make their businesses more sustainable by changing management practice. Other suggestions for progressing NFM were made including reviewing a Wild Trout Trust report on Scampston, working with a major potato producer and pursuing discussions with Richard Murray-Wells to explore the potential of using his land for a demonstration project. It was agreed that developing project ideas would be something for the new Partnership Officer to progress, but some immediate suggestions for projects were also needed in order to use the RFCC grant most effectively.

ACTION: KS to establish scope of the iCASP Project and potential for links/support of work on the wider Derwent Catchment.

ACTION: All to suggest potential ideas for an NFM-focussed project on the Derwent, so we are in a strong position if Catchment Action Fund money is available in 17/18

- c. **Group Discussions** - KS gave a brief overview of the two discussion topics before the Delivery Group split into two smaller groups to discuss each item:

- i. **Partnership/Officer Work plan** – with the forthcoming appointment of a full-time Officer, we need to start developing a work plan for the Partnership and the Partnership Officer for the next 12 months. BL led the discussion and the outputs will be used to draft a work plan for review by the whole Delivery Group.

ACTION: BL to produce a draft work plan for the Officer role, including induction activities and share it with the Delivery Group/Jeremy Walker for comment.

- ii. **Partnership Evaluation Exercise** – KS ran through the evaluation spreadsheet which all Catchment Partnerships have been asked to complete by mid-March as one of the conditions of the CaBA hosting money. The spreadsheet consists of four components and the small group discussion was used to help populate some of the fields and suggest projects that would be included in the evaluation spreadsheet.

ACTION: KS to complete an initial draft of the CaBA evaluation form and send round the Delivery Group for comment. Deadline for submission to CaBA is 16th March.

General Updates

6. Whole Catchment

- a. **INNS mapping work** – YWT are collating data on INNS on behalf of the Environment Agency in the Rye and Upper Derwent sub-catchments. This includes information on location as well as whether a particular area is currently being treated or not. This work is part of establishing a complete picture of the extent of INNS in the Derwent Catchment. If you have records to share, please email connor.byers@ywt.org.uk by the end of February 2017 to allow time for all the data to be collated.

- b. **Agricultural Shows** – EYRT are currently planning attendance at agricultural shows for this summer. They are planning to attend the Pickering Game Fair (held at Scampston) and the Ryedale Show and would like know if any partners would like to share a space with them. KS suggested that the Officer could attend both events on behalf of the Partnership.

ACTION: KS to liaise with partners to confirm attendance at agricultural shows and establish potential for a joint Partnership presence at the Ryedale Show and Pickering Game Fair.

7. Rye

- a. **Update on Ryevitalise recruitment** - The NYMNPA is in the process of recruiting for two roles, a Programme Manager and Catchment Restoration Officer. The successful candidates will work on the project for the 2-year Development Phase and will both start work soon.

8. Upper Derwent

- a. **Filey Flood Alleviation Scheme** - SBC has been urged to bid to ESIF, the European Structural Investment Fund in respect of building on ecological and habitat enhancements for its Filey Flood Alleviation Scheme. The main flood engineering scheme is due to commence in 2017, but if successful, environmental enhancements will be dovetailed in subsequent years. An outline ESIF bid goes in this week with news expected in May, at which point detailed bids are invited by Aug 2017. The work could commence in Nov 2017 at the earliest. Projects must complete by 2023. The minimum grant is £500k and must be 50% matched.

Some land purchase is possible with ESIF for habitat creation and also a staff post for project managing and maybe community engagement before during and after seems to be eligible too. Ideas for hides, habitat, access, interpretation, community events programme etc. have also been put in the mix for a full bid. Other possible project components discussed by SBC project team are improving the water quality of outflow from Filey Dams, addressing erosion issues in Arndale Ravine, enhancements in Filey Country Park and the previously drafted Parish Meadows habitat creation. Both Filey Birds Observatory Group (FBOG) and YWT will be asked for expert input on any detailed bid.

- b. **Coastal and Estuary Water Body Fund** - The Environment Agency has made available an internal pot of money from the National Environment Programme for investigation work and projects on TRaCs (Transitional and Coastal Water bodies). There is only £250k available nationally and project bids need to be submitted by Catchment Co-ordinators by 10th March. DF is proposing to submit a joint project bid with the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust to address Marine Litter and Ghost Netting which affects migratory fish species such as salmon and lamprey along the Yorkshire Coast. If anyone would like any more details or has any project ideas, they would like to discuss please let him know as soon as possible.

9. Middle Derwent

- a. **Norton Ings** – KS attended a site meeting with Don Davies (RDC) and John Shannon and Alan Mullinger (EYRT) to run through the proposed works at Norton Ings. Planning permission will be required for the shallow scrapes and EYRT have submitted the necessary forms to apply for Approved Vendor status.

10. Lower Derwent - no updates received.

11. AOB

- a. Officer Interviews** - BL was asked to confirm who would be on the interview panel. Subject to availability, the panel will include BL, an HR representative from YWT and DF or Liz Small. RP suggested that we consider offering a lunch during which all candidates would meet some of the partners and said that the feedback from this had been invaluable in the Ryevitalise recruitment process.

ACTION: BL to explore potential for using interview ideas/process from the Rye recruitment process for the Derwent.

- b. Date of Next Meeting**

ACTION: KS to send out a Doodle Poll to canvass for an April Delivery Group meeting.

Karen Saunders, Partnership Facilitation Officer – 17th February 2017