

# HUMBER



## Management Scheme

HUMBER ADVISORY GROUP

6.30pm, 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2006

Water's Edge Visitor's Centre, Barton upon Humber

### AGENDA

- 1) Introductions and apologies
- 2) Minutes of the meeting, 15<sup>th</sup> September (previously circulated)
- 3) Matters arising from the minutes
- 4) Humber Management Scheme – (Chris Manning)
  - (a) Progress of the Annual Report
  - (b) Recreation & Tourism section
  - (c) Codes of Conduct – distribution
- 5) Signage of the European Marine Site
  - (a) Need for signs and locations
  - (b) Design specification, text
  - (c) Funding
- 6) Fish retention sizes
  - (a) Guidance on sizes
  - (b) Format of advice
- 7) Promotion 2005/6
  - (a) Talks to other groups
  - (b) Low Tide Day – 27<sup>th</sup> May 2006
  - (c) Marine week – 5<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> August 2006
  - (d) Other events
- 8) HAG Business
  - (a) Constitution
  - (b) Insurance
- 9) Any other Business
- 10) Next Meeting
- 11) Illustrated talk, The work of Humber INCA and its members – Darren Clarke

# HUMBER



Management Scheme  
**Meeting of the HUMBER ADVISORY GROUP**  
**6.30pm, 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2006**  
**Water's Edge, Barton upon Humber**

**Attendees:**

Nev Jones	Chairman of HAG
Rodney Clapson	Clapson & Sons (Shipbuilders) Ltd
Adrian Koster	Derwent Valley Conservation Group
Darren Clarke	Humber INCA
Steve Webb	Humber Parascending
Dave Mouncey	Humber Yawl Club
Daryl Burdon	Institute of Estuarine and Coastal Studies
Martin Broadbridge	Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust
Hellen Hornby	South Humber Wildlife and People Project
Natasha Estrada	South Humber Wildlife and People Project
In Attendance	
Chris J Manning	Humber Project Manager

**1. Introductions and apologies**

Apologies were received from:

Jim Gowans	Barton & District Angling Clubs
Hazel Armstrong	British Horse Society
Emma Hawthorne	English Nature
Walter Houlton	Hull Civic Society
Professor Mike Elliott	Institute of Estuarine & Coastal Studies
Professor Jack Hardisty	University of Hull
Ray Eades	Yorkshire Wildlife Trust

**2. Minutes of the meeting 15<sup>th</sup> September**

It was agreed that these were a true record of the meeting, after the typing mistake in section 4 B was corrected from interrupted to interpreted.

**3. Matters arising from the minutes**

Yorkshire Wildlife Trust is now distributing the codes, during discussions they confirmed that Ray Eades is their representative, but Andy Gibson (Spurn Reserve Officer) will also receive minutes.

Press cuttings, none have been collected. It was noted that the press often don't know who to contact, a single point of contact for the estuary was suggested. The numerous acronyms are confusing, it was noted that HEDC is producing an up to date list <http://www.humber-edc.org.uk/acronyms.php>

#### 4. Humber Management Scheme

**A Progress of the Annual Report** Chris reported that this was underway with most sections at draft stage. The final report is due for the March meeting of HERAG. North Eastern Sea Fisheries Committee is producing a "Intertidal Fisheries Code of Conduct" for the three European Marine Sites within their area. The current edition is a simple Word file, the intention is to produce a glossy edition during 2006.

[http://erycdata.eastriding.gov.uk/pls/portal30/docs/FOLDER/NESEAFISH/NESEFDOCS/CODE+OF+CONDUCT\\_GB\\_.PDF](http://erycdata.eastriding.gov.uk/pls/portal30/docs/FOLDER/NESEAFISH/NESEFDOCS/CODE+OF+CONDUCT_GB_.PDF)

**B Recreation & Tourism section** HAG considered the current draft in detail, providing significant input, including:

G1/Angling. It was reported that the vehicular access arrangement to the floodbanks at Grimsby/Cleethorpes has been stopped. Various suggestions on the reasons were advanced.

Jim Gowans is establishing contact with all the clubs using the Barton Clay Pits, Dave Mouncey offered to help. It was noted that large prizes (i. e. £10,000 are provided for some angling matches.

It was considered that angling matches are unlikely to influence local bait digging activity as many anglers purchase bait via mail order.

G2/ Airborne recreation. It was reported that a small helicopter was regularly flying low over the upper estuary, disturbing wildlife and recreational users. So far its registration number has not been established.

G11/ Motorised recreation on the foreshores. The Lincolnshire Police/English Nature work at Donna Nook has resulted in 50 warning letters to offenders over the past 2 years. It was regretted that a dedicated Wildlife Crime officer was not employed by the Humberside Constabulary.

In discussion the possible reorganisation of Humberside Force was noted. It was decided that HAG would write requesting reinstatement of wildlife crime officer post as a single point of contact for all wildlife crimes on the estuary.

Sandboarding is a new activity, it is like skate boarding without wheels, HAG reported that this has been undertaken on a local basis.

G12/ Personal Water Craft. It was reported that Humber Parascending has an agreement with the Harbour Master on its operational areas. Humber Yawl Club reported that discussions have taken place on appropriate operational area. It was noted that disturbance to breeding avocets at Read's island would be an offence (Wildlife & Countryside Act). In discussion it was noted that many Estuaries (Felixstowe/ Poole) have designated activity zones, that the Humber has some very sensitive

areas such as Read's island, HAG suggested the adoption of designated activity zones for the Humber Estuary. It was noted that Humberside Police had recently purchased an ex pilot boat for estuary patrols.

**C Codes of Conduct** Steve Webb offered to distribute copies of the Codes to his clients. Brigg Tourist Information Centre was suggested as a contact for economical distribution of the promotional materials.

## **5. Signage of the European Marine Site**

**A Need for signs and locations** It was reported that the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Bill currently before parliament will remove the need for offenders to know they are within a SSSI before prosecution, this will remove the statutory need for signs. HAG thought that recreational use on the north bank tended to be local while the south bank attracted visitors from the Midlands. Signs would draw visitors attention to the Codes, provide informative material and guide them to further information via the website. At the close of the meeting HAG members advised on locations for some signs

**B Design specification, text** It was noted that the upper and lower estuary differ and suggested that the information on signs reflect this. Agreed that signs should highlight the HMS partnership. Suggestion of other estuaries with good interpretive signs included, St Andrews, Northumberland Coast, Wells next the Sea.

**C Funding,** Chris outlined various funding opportunities as signs were not included in the main HMS budget, these need to be developed and an application made. At this stage it wasn't known if HAG or HERAG would be most appropriate for successful bid, concern was expressed that the format of the bid didn't in any way jeopardise HAGs independence. Maintenance was queried, Chris expected that this would be included in the annual HMS budget

## **6. Fish retention sizes -. A Guidance on sizes/ B Format of advice**

Not considered as no fishing club representatives were present.

## **7. Promotion 2005/6**

**A Talks to other groups** Chris's recent talks: 12<sup>th</sup> January 2006 Humber INCA Board, 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2006 City of Hull & Humber Environment Forum, 10<sup>th</sup> February 2006 Market Rasen Group - Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust. A talk was booked for 7<sup>th</sup> March 2006 to Bottesford Friendship Club. HAG members were asked to report any talks they give on HAG's behalf.

**B Low Tide Day** – 27th May 2006 Not considered further.

**C Marine week – 5<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> August 2006** An event will be held at Far Ings on 6<sup>th</sup> August, HAG will provide short presentations during the day.

### **D Other Events**

HMS has been invited to The Deep for their event on the Humber between 7<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> April. Humber Parascending offered to provide wildlife rides and Natasha offered to provide an educational commentary. Chris will organise display materials. A small meeting to develop this idea has been organised for the 2<sup>nd</sup> March.

### **8. HAG Business A Constitution/B Insurance**

HAG is now an affiliated to BTCV with their Combined Insurance policy providing public liability, personal accident and employers liability insurance.

### **9. Any other Business**

Lincolnshire Environmental Awards 2006, HAG decided to enter and a draft entry was circulated.

Mitten Crab, Chris reported that despite recent press reports, Hull University has not received specimens from the Humber for their work on genetics, looking at; source populations, number of introductions and whether the is range expansion due to new introductions. HAG were asked to forward specimens to assist with this work.

Humber Vision the newsletter of the HumberINCA had reported the Humber Conference, copies can be obtained from Darren.

Humber Parascending stated that they welcomed co-operation with the RPB/EN.

Defra is taking samples from Read's Island for their bird flu monitoring.

### **10. Next Meeting**

23rd March 2006 at Water's Edge – concern was expressed that this venue disadvantaged the north bank, feedback was required.

### **11. Illustrated talk, The work of Humber INCA and its members**

Unfortunately postponed due to insufficient time, it will be rescheduled.

Chris J Manning  
February 2006