

HUMBER



Management Scheme

HUMBER ADVISORY GROUP

6.30pm, 26th July 2006

Hessle Town Hall

AGENDA

- 1) Introductions and apologies
- 2) Minutes of the meeting, 23rd March (previously circulated)
- 3) Matters arising from the minutes
 - (a) English Nature's reply
 - (b) Letter from Humberside Police
- 4) Project Officer, recruitment
- 5) Monitoring the HMS
- 6) Integrated Coastal Zone Management, DEFRA's consultation – Tony Edwards
www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/iczm-strategy/consultation.pdf
- 7) Presentations and discussion, the Rural Pathfinder – Tony Edwards and Nev Jones
- 8) Any other Business
- 9) Next Meeting

HUMBER



Management Scheme
HUMBER ADVISORY GROUP
Meeting on 26 July 2006 at Hessle Town Hall

Attendees:

Nev Jones	Chairman of HAG
Phil Arnott	Bass Anglers Sport Fisheries Society
Walter Houlton	Hull Civic Society
Barney Upton	Hull & East Riding Wildfowlers Association
John Rowley	Humber Chemical Focus
Tony Edwards	Humber INCA
Daryl Burdon	Institute of Estuarine and Coastal Studies
Mike Elliott	Institute of Estuarine and Coastal Studies
Martin Broadbridge	Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust
Rodney Clapiston	South Ferriby Marina
Andy Gibson	Yorkshire Wildlife Trust (Spurn Reserve Officer)
Rob Stoneman	Yorkshire Wildlife Trust (Chief Executive)
In Attendance	
Chris J Manning	Lindsey Marsh IDB (Relevant Authority)

1. Introductions and apologies

Apologies were received from:

Adrian Koster	Derwent Valley Conservation Group
Emma Hawthorn	English Nature
Steve Webb	Humber Parascending
Dave Mouncey	Humber Yawl Club
Prof Jack Hardisty	Department of Geography, University of Hull
Natasha Estrada	South Humber Wildlife and People Project
Helen Hornby	South Humber Wildlife and People Project

2.

Rob Statham was welcomed to his first meeting of the Group and was congratulated on his appointment as Chief Executive of YWT.

3. Minutes of the meeting 23rd March

It was agreed that these were a true record of the meeting.

4. Matters arising from the minutes

- (a) English Nature's reply

The Letter from Dr Lunn was noted. He confirmed English Nature's support for HAG but explained that they have difficulties in attending all meetings including because of the setting up of Natural England.

- (b) Letter from Humberside Police

The letter was noted. Andy Gibson said that YWT had had discussion with the Police on the North Bank.

5. Project Officer

It was reported that Chris Manning had resigned in July; his new position was Environment Officer with Lindsey Marsh Drainage Board, one of HMS Relevant Authorities who he will be representing on HERAG. Chris was thanked for all his work for the Management Scheme and HAG.

It was explained that his replacement would be funded 50:50 by Humber INCA and HERAG. The service to HAG would be unchanged. The post had been advertised. And it is hoped that the successful candidate will be in post in September.

6. Monitoring the HMS

Nev Jones asked how the Codes of Practice had been received and whether any changes should be made. It was reported that many copies were distributed including to libraries, tourist centres tackle shops, etc; they are on the website of at least one of the local authorities. It was agreed that they were useful but to date few comments from interest groups or members of the public. Tony Edwards said that there are plenty of spare copies in the Humber INCA office if anybody wants more.

It was agreed that the Codes need to be kept under review. Nev Jones encouraged the promotion of the Scheme and Codes through talks to groups. It was reported that Scheme and Codes were distributed in France as part of a project undertaken by IECS.

Action: All

Chris Manning said he had further discussions over the signs but by the time of his resignation had not secured funding. This would be something for his successor to follow up.

Action; HERAG

7. Integrated Coastal Zone Management - DEFRA consultation

Tony Edwards took the Group through the Defra consultation paper, 'Promoting an integrated approach to the management of the coastal zone (ICZM) in England' (copies distributed to those present). For the Humber he posed several questions:

- Is ICZM relevant for an estuary like the Humber?
- What is the Humber's coastal zone?
- Will ICZM add value to statutory and other management obligations or be another bureaucratic layer of planning?
- How will ICZM fit in with the 'sectorial' requirement for the Humber Management Scheme?
- How will it fit in with the Water Framework Directive requirements?
- How far can the economic planning be incorporated – Humber Trade Zone, Hull and Humber City Region Development Plan, etc.?
- Is there an evolving role for HAG?

It was explained that the *raison d'être* for ICZM was to 'join up' the management of coastal waters and the adjacent land. The discussion ranged over a number of issues including the relationship between this consultation with the proposed Marine Bill, the EU's proposed Marine Directive, role of a 'marine agency' if established, the future role of Natural England, the Water Framework Directive, the need for legislation, and the relationship with strategic environmental assessment, local development frameworks, etc. There was an expression of concern that everything is getting over-complicated.

It was generally thought that the various Humber plans and initiatives were quite well integrated with the provisions of the SSSI/SPA/SAC heavily influencing planning and actual activities. The provision statutory ICZM requirements could inhibit flexibility and practical management.

It was **agreed**:

- Members would send any comments on the Consultation Paper to Tony Edwards by 21st August:
- Nev Jones, John Rowley and Tony Edwards would draft the response;
- The draft would be circulated to members for comment before submission to Defra in time to meet the deadline of 8th September.

It was noted that some organisations represented at the meeting would be commenting direct to Defra.

8. Humber Rural Pathfinder Project – Coast and Estuary topic

Tony Edwards reported that the Humber Rural Pathfinder project is one of eight such projects across England to assess ways of improving the delivery of public services to rural communities. East Riding of Yorkshire Council is leading the Humber Pathfinder with the Coast and Estuary Environment Topic being one of seven Humber studies. It is investigating effective means of involving the community and individuals in decision-making and the appraisal of proposals for coastal and flood management.

As part of this work a review is in progress of steering groups and consultation exercises. He asked for members' comments on the circulated working paper on HAG and particularly welcomed views on how things with hindsight could have been done better.

Action: All

9. Any other Business

- **The Blue Green** scheme has launched a comprehensive research database on environmental effects of boating (www.thegreenblue.org.uk/sciencematters under 'database') it has also launched a programme to link research students to identify projects to fill gaps in knowledge.
- **Breathing Places:** Grants are available through the Big Lottery Fund for local environmental improvement projects as part of the BBC's Breathing Places campaign.
- **Marine Bill:** IECS has a contract from Defra to look at unregulated activities and species. He asked if he could write to members for information that they may have. This was agreed.
- **Managed Realignment:** It was reported that the breaching of the banks at Chowder Ness and Welwick was complete and the tide is now flowing into ABP's site. Alkborough is on schedule for breaching in the autumn. In respect to who will manage these sites in the long term, Tony Edwards said that this must be followed up with ABP and the Environment Agency respectively.

10. Next Meeting

6.30pm on Tuesday 26 September at Waters' Edge Visitor Centre, Barton upon Humber.