

HUMBER



Management Scheme

HUMBER ADVISORY GROUP

6pm, Tuesday 18th May 2010.
Swanland Village Hall, Swanland

DRAFT Agenda

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|----|---|-------------------|
| 1. | Introductions | All |
| 2. | Apologies | Chair |
| 3. | Minutes & matters arising* 25 th January 2010 | Chair/All |
| 4. | Incident Report | All |
| 5. | Research | |
| | a) Sub tidal research | |
| | - Dredging the Humber, view of the sub-tidal from ABP | Tom Jeynes |
| | - Sub-tidal habitats and species, input from HAG on data and conservation | Nev Jones |
| | (see previous minutes and presentation)** | |
| | b) Recreational disturbance | Tania Davey |
| | c) Future research | Darren Clarke |
| 6. | New ideas: Ebb & Flow | Tania Davey/Group |
| 7. | Humber Management Scheme Review | Tania Davey/All |
| | a) Score Card workshop | |
| | b) Future review | |
| | c) HAG Terms of Reference review | |
| 8. | AOB | |
| 9. | Date & Venue of next meeting | |

* Matter arising include:

- HERAG AGM
- Defra Marine Policy Statement
- Coastal Partnership Working Group
- Net Gain project
- East Riding BAP
- Marine Management Organisation

**Previous minutes included. For presentation, please see

<http://humberems.co.uk/downloads/HUMBER%20BIODIVERSITY%20ACTION%20PLAN%20Nev%20Jones.pdf>

HUMBER



Management Scheme

Humber Advisory Group

Draft Minutes of the meeting held on 18th May 2010.
6pm, Swanland Village Hall

Present

Adrian Koster
Andrew Gibson
Daryl Burdon
Darren Clarke
Dave Mouncey

David Jenkins
Fiona Berry
Kat Sanders
Lionel Grooby
Nev Jones
Tania Davey
Tom Jeynes
Vaughan Grantham
Will Maclennan

HAG Chair
Yorkshire Wildlife Trust (HAG Vice Chair)
IECS, University of Hull (HAG Vice Chair)
Humber INCA
Humber Yawl Club, South Ferriby Parish
Council
Humberside Police
Natural England/HERAG
Yorkshire Wildlife Trust
Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust
Ex HAG Chair
HMS Project Manager
ABP/HERAG
East Riding of Yorkshire Council/HERAG
Natural England/HERAG

Apologies

Andrew Taylor
Anna Moody
Caroline Steel
Catherine Collop
Chris Manning

Emma Hawthorne
Emma Wilmot
Helen Hornby
Steve Webb
Jon Capel
Mike Elliot

North Lincolnshire Council & HERAG Chair
Site Manager, Alkborough Flats
Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust
Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust
Lindsey Marsh Drainage Board and the
Isle of Axholme Internal Drainage Board
Natural England
Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust
Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust
Humber Parascending
Hull Naturalists Union
IECS, Hull University

1. Introductions and Apologies

Each attendee introduced themselves at the start of the meeting.

2. Apologies

The apologies were noted.

3. Minutes and matters arising from the HAG meeting 25th January 2010

Matters arising:

- Time of HAG meetings: AK explained the decision to change the meeting to 6pm with the intention to start at 6.15pm. AK pleased with attendance and suggest keeping at this time.
- Signage: TD informed the group that signage replacement at Skeffling is underway.
- Outer Humber Floodbank management: EA management to strip some vegetation. WM explained that Natural England have been involved in discussions over management. AG suggested it would be useful for EA & NE to bring together how vegetation managed around Humber. AK suggested obtaining information from EA on floodbank management throughout England as there appear to be regional differences. AK has written thank you letter to EA.
- Wildlife Crime: Sgt David Jenkins introduced himself to HAG. Sgt Jenkins is replacing Sgt Chris Hine on HAG and specialises in poaching (currently writing a policy). Sgt Jenkins is the unofficial wildlife crime officer for Humberside. His other role is supervising a neighbourhood team. Sgt Jenkins has flexibility to attend HAG meetings and hopes to become a regular member. AK suggested as appropriate that TD/AK could, if useful to do so, attend Humber Estuary wildlife crime issues at Humberside Police. For emergency wildlife crime issues, please contact Sgt Jenkins on 01377 208607 or david.jenkins@humberside.pnn.police.uk
- Ebb and Flow: AK congratulated TD on the Spring 2010 issue of Ebb and Flow. TD asked the group if they thought the current frequency and format of Ebb and Flow was appropriate. AG supported Ebb and Flow in its current format and frequency – it provides a good overview of issues around the Humber. DC/AK suggested a half way house could be to have more regular news updates on the website which could be emailed out. Support electronic updates to some organisations e.g. Defra. TD was asked which public venues Ebb and Flow was available in. TD to review. Agreed that Ebb & Flow should be in libraries, visitors centres etc. AK suggested the next issue of Ebb&Flow to include text saying Ebb&Flow is available both electronically and in print, inviting readers to indicate their preference.

ACTION: TD to review availability in public venues.
- Net Gain (North Sea Marine Conservation Zone project): TD reported that she is sitting on the Yorkshire and Humber Regional Hub group to provide a two way feedback to HMS and Net Gain. AK attended a meeting on 18th March at Scarborough Spa. Next meeting in June. TD will update HAG following this. KS highlighted that information about Net Gain is available on the website <http://www.netgainmcz.org/>

4. Incident reporting

Covered in matters arising. Additional comment by Sgt Jenkins on poaching.

5. Research

a) Sub-tidal research

Presentation by Tom Jeynes, Sustainability Manager for ABP, Dredging the Humber, view of the sub-tidal from ABP

TJ kindly gave the group a presentation on dredging the sub-tidal and sub-tidal invertebrates. TJ highlighted the process of dredging including how permission is gained. It was highlighted that ABP replaces dredging beneficially and tries to match to the character of the seabed to minimise the effect on the conservation features.

AK asked how long it would take for the Humber to become unnavigable if the dredging stopped. TJ reported a short amount of time for large ships (dredging pockets by Immingham Docks) but short sea routes could remain open longer.

LG asked how often the Humber was dredged. TJ reported that maintenance dredging takes place all year-round.

TJ continued the presentation giving an overview of benthic invertebrates from an ABP perspective. TJ highlighted a subtle gradation of invertebrates along the estuary. ABP dredging is analysed based on spatial and temporal trends. Invertebrate populations are also monitored at ABP realignment sites to research the impacts of the realignment and dredge disposal.

Presentation available at:

<http://humberems.co.uk/downloads/HAG%20presentation%20APB%20dredging%2018.05.10.pdf>

<http://humberems.co.uk/downloads/HAG%20presentation%20ABP%20invertebrates%2018.05.10.pdf>

Sub-tidal habitats and species, input from HAG led by Nev Jones

NJ discussed sub-tidal habitats and species in terms of data availability, objectives and targets.

KS asked if this was a continuation of the Humber BAP? NJ reported that it was just for the sub-tidal.

WM was of the opinion that the work was to enable the collation of data and gaps.

NJ reported that the aim was to create targets to hang future programmes on.

HAG members attending felt that there are many projects and schemes around the Humber, and would prefer not to have another management document/project. It was suggested that some targets could be included in the HMS.

It was highlighted that there is no consensus from the Humber Community that there should be a Humber BAP.

FB again reiterated WM comments; it is more critical to collate information and highlight gaps.

From conversation with EH, TD highlighted that the process was to ask HAG for data and consult on potential objectives and targets. Management of outcomes has not been decided.

AK proposed that in principle the prepared questions could be rephrased as HAG statements, aims and objectives, where also appropriate that answers should be "yes" or "no", and that via TD HAG should aim to respond to NE, hopefully within 8-weeks in collaboration with NJ.

Action: HAG members to complete feedback form 19th July and return to TD providing opinion on objectives, targets and how these could be utilised.

b) Recreational disturbance update

TD informed the group that HERAG had given approval to undertake a desk based recreational disturbance study to obtain and highlight gaps in bird and recreational data and make recommendations on how to undertake any major studies if required. HMS is currently going through tendering process. Plan to start the study in June and complete by early September. TD highlighted that there are lots of HAG members who have vital information for this study and emphasised the importance of HAG's involvement in the study. TD asked members if they had any objections to passing their contact details onto the successful consultant. No objections were made. TD to keep HAG updated and vice versa

ACTION: Any HAG members to contact TD if they do not want their contact details to be passed onto the successful consultant.

c) Future Research – Darren Clarke

DC updated the group on the ecological research needs of the Humber meeting that took place on 24th March 2010 in which 17 people attended. Key areas of research highlighted included impact of noise on birds, sub-tidal information and impact of recreation on all features including mudflats and seals. It was agreed that any future research should be holistic (for the management of the estuary) and applied. Also, there should be different scales of research. DC currently collating research topics. AK attended the meeting and highlighted that HAG could be a future forum for research.

6. New ideas: Ebb and Flow

Discussed in matters arising. AK reminded HAGs ongoing suggestions for future contents to TD.

7. Humber Management Scheme review

a) HAG Terms of Reference Review

TD highlighted that as the HMS was undergoing a review, it seemed appropriate to review HAG terms of reference. TD went through the Terms of Reference briefly highlighting areas for review. It was agreed that the Terms of Reference should be reviewed and discussed at the next meeting.

TD also went through the stakeholder list and asked the group if there were any gaps

ACTION: HAG members to complete stakeholder form, and inform TD of any other individuals or organisations that could be involved and support the HMS.

b&c) future review and Score Card workshop

TD updated HAG on the results of the Score Card workshop. The workshop is used as a way to review what the Scheme has done well in the past, and what it could do better in the future. Positive outcomes included stakeholder engagement and communication including Ebb&Flow, Codes of Conduct and the website, all of which HAG have been involved in. TD reported that some areas were highlighted for improvement and these will form actions to review the HMS over the next year. TD highlighted that HAG's involvement in the review process will be very important. TD will keep HAG informed and updated on the review process.

8. AOB

AK asked about the robustness the disaster manager plan for the Humber. TJ highlighted very robust and gave details. AG highlighted that it filters down to the bottom and is practised every year.

AK informed the group that Ebb & Flow had been distributed to National Trust and London Wildlife Trust.

KS updated on YWT activities including beach surveys, Seasearch surveys and boat trips at Flamborough

DM reported 350+ avocets on Reeds Island

DC informed the group of the date for the next Humber Conference: 17th November, Hull Truck Theatre.

9. Date and venue for next meeting

Tea and coffee at 6pm for a 6.15pm start, 8.30pm finish. Tuesday 5th October 2010. Waters' Edge Visitors Centre, Barton upon Humber.

TD/AK 21.06.10