Association of Drainage Authorities Eastern Branch

AGM and Meeting

Date: 6 November 2018

Time: 10.30 – 15:00

Venue: West Somerton Village Hall, Norfolk NR29 4DL

**In attendance:** Giles Bloomfield, Ben Blower, Jane Burch, Robin Buxton, John Carrick, Henry Cator, Robert Caudwell, Emma Dixon, Edward Greenwell, Matt Hullis, Mark Johnson, Jamie Manners, Chris Mutten, Louise Taylor, Karen Thomas, Richard Pipe, Rob Wise

**10.30 Branch AGM**

1. Welcome and introductions: JB ( vice chair) introduced group.
2. Apologies for absence: - Innes Thomson (ADA), Andy Millar (NE), Andrew St Joseph, Simon Hooton (BA), Bill Parker & Sharon Bleese (CPE), Phil Camomile (WMA)
3. Announcements: - Bryn Colleen standing down as ADA Eastern Director.
4. Election of Chairman : - Robin Buxton was voted in as Chairman
5. Election of Director from Branch to the ADA Executive Board : Chris Mutten was voted in as Director
6. Minutes of previous AGM: - All agreed.
7. Matters arising: - None.
8. Approval of Branch Accounts – £941.15
9. Forthcoming Budget & Subscriptions – presented by Branch Secretary

No subscriptions paid atm. Subs previously raised from annual conference. Idea floated that each Board hosts each AGM, pays for costs, and visits site nearby to showcase. KT to take this away as an action to raise idea with Boards

**11.00 Branch Meeting**

1. Welcome and introduction to guests
2. ADA national update – presented by Robert Caudwell

* ADA conference on Nov 14th H&S questionnaire – key issue
* [Good Governance Guide](https://www.ada.org.uk/knowledge/governance/) out soon.
* Demaining – needs to be a continuing rolling programme
* Water Transfer / Abstract Licensing
* ADA Staff resources – Iain Moodie on paternity leave. David Sisson on temporary basis Dec 2019, 1 day a week/ tech expertise / train up potential graduate

1. Environment Agency update (MJ)

* National Priorities:
  + Deliver 300,000 better protected homes by 2021
    - 4 years into a 6 year programme. Near to target. EA having to focus on which projects can meet targets. Eastern RFCC met in Sept (local choices mtg) Re-priorisation of number of programme (ALL RMA projects have been impacted) NOT stopped but moved back
  + Incident mgt
    - Winter readiness
* Finance – constrained both capital and revenue budgets. Looking at best delivery despite reduced funds. 3% increase on local levy on top of healthy baseline
* Looking back – weed cutting 25km river cut in Norfolk. £2 million spent on maintenance in Suffolk. Suffolk - 38 embankments cuts, Shingle recycling prep and groundwork required for shingle bank. 85% done due to weather. North of Southwold pier –wall repairs going on around car park.
* RMRN – demaining – Tud, Tunstall & Waxham Cut & Suffolk
* Next 12 months – Natural Flood Management scheme - £15 mill of DEFRA funds made available. Bacton (large scale capital project for delivery in 2019) Weybourne Stream and Marlingford. Martham Boat Dyke – EA conscious trying to funded deliverable solution. Benacre. Suffolk.
* LJ – potential options with regard to Broads contract. Asset mgt being research and reviewing. New team. 4 potential options if funding attached. LJ would like to set up steering group for Jan 2019. Now in house evidence gathering done.
* Longer term EA progressing a collaborative project Broadlands Futures Initiative – fully democratic

JC spoke about River Wensum and lack of cutting. Need maintain regularly.

RC spoke about EA target for people and property. Should be looking at holistic approach / wide review not just houses. Place based approach was put forward by John Curtain at recent SCF conference.

Broadland flood alleviation scheme - needs maintaining. HC – man made and made managed and at risk of coastal issues – long term strategy required. RW would like to know where short term and long term meet. Time horizon - 2021 is imminent deadline but next 5-10 years - keep things going and steady.

BB – ask MJ about Highland Water Contributions which rumour of threat to be reduced. ACTION: MJ will go back to Peta Denham. Briefing note to be produced (see attached)

The 3% levy raise = £3mill levy total income RFCC – 10% of budget – Nationally is good

Break

1. Partnership presentations:
   1. Water Resources East

20-40% shortfall in water supply by 2050. Group pulled together as multi sector impacts – leadership group headed by Henry, plus technical group. No resilience in system. In East England - 2 years’ worth of supply in reservoir. NW no reservoirs

* 1. Water Management Alliance (Karen Thomas)
  2. Suffolk Flood Risk Partnership (Matt Hullis)
  3. Holistic Water Management Project (Jane Burch)

ACTION: RB to ensure a representative from NCC attends next year’s AGM

1. Date and venue of next AGM and Branch meeting: Kessingland / Benacre Autumn 2019