

Suffolk Coast Forum Annual Conference 2018

Learning from the past, adapting for the future



- 08.45 to 9.30 Registration, coffee and visit the exhibition
- 9.30 Welcome
Cllr David Ritchie, Chair of the Suffolk Coast Forum
- 9.45 2018: the year we took climate change seriously?
John Curtin, Executive Director of Flood and Coastal Risk Management, Environment Agency
- 10.20 War and Peace – the battle against the North Sea
Mark Dixon MBE, Independent Wetland Consultant
- 10.50 Introduction to workshops
Keith Moore, Environment Agency, Sustainable Places Account Manager
- 10.55 Coffee
- 11.10 Workshops
- 12.20 Lunch, networking and visit the exhibition
We will be joined by special guest and conference key note speaker, Nicholas Crane.
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- 1.30 Coast and The Making of the British Landscape
Nicholas Crane, geographer, writer, explorer, broadcaster and presenter of BBC Coast
- 2.30 Evolving our thinking reviewing SMPs on our coast
Kevin Burgess, Head of Coastal, Jacobs
- 3.05 Coffee and last chance to view exhibitions
- 3.15 The Marine Pioneer: approaches to deliver multiple benefits from natural capital
Dr Aisling Lannin, MMO
- 3.40 Sue Allen Memorial Awards for contributions to our coast and estuaries
Cllr David Ritchie
1. Volunteer
 2. Employed
- 3.50 Summary and close
Paul Hayden, Chair Regional Flood and Coast Committee
- 4.00 Conference close

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Workshops

1. RFCC funding – Exploring who benefits from FCERM projects and how this links to funding and the final design (Aaron Dixey, Environment Agency)

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- Identifying beneficiaries to a FCERM project;
- Government's funding policy;
- Sources of funding and how to access it;
- Implications for the final design.

2. Suffolk Holistic Water Management Project – holistic water management seminar (Jane Burch, Suffolk County Council)

Kindly sponsored by the Water Management Alliance



Many of you will have already heard about this innovative project taking place on the River Deben. It aims to view water as one issue, whether we are considering flooding, water resources or the many water-dependant environments in our area. This seminar will bring you right up to date with progress and particularly how our approach to drainage, flood risk, water resources and the environment on the Felixstowe Peninsula is leading the way in a new approach to managing water. Delegates will have the opportunity to input ideas into how some of the many challenges to this approach can be overcome and explore where else in the Suffolk coastal strip this may be applicable.

3. Communities – Getting others on board (David Spark and Rex Kellett, Groundwork Suffolk, Norfolk and Essex)

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Come along and gain tips and tools as to how you can ensure your project, campaign, and key messages are being heard by all. Groundwork is a local environmental charity with extensive experience of community engagement, education and empowerment. They will run through live relevant project examples that are successfully engaging and influencing all aspects of community from voluntary and community sector organisations, parish and town councils to businesses, schools and householders.

4. Adaptation to Coastal Change (Bill Parker and Kellie Fisher, Coastal Partnership East)

Kindly sponsored by Coastal Partnership East



Managing the impacts of coastal change, such as reducing risks from flooding and erosion can be defined as coastal adaptation. But what does adaptation mean to you?

Delegates will explore the strategic challenges facing delivery of coastal adaptation and leave with an appreciation of the wider impacts of coastal change. A bespoke spatial mapping exercise will reveal innovative solutions to and the potential benefits of coastal change, as well as the social, political and economic constraints facing adaptation. Through a Q+A session, delegates will also have the opportunity to give their views on coastal adaptation and help steer future action in this field.

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5. Modelling and forecasting on the coast (Steve Taylor, Senior Team Leader, National Operations Environment Agency)

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The opportunity to find out latest developments in coastal modelling and forecasting. Open discussion on how to encourage use of information and what the key areas are, where improved information would benefit all parties. Opportunity to examine the planning and readiness of Suffolk to respond to a major coastal flood risk.

6. The role of geology for coastal resilience (Dr Andres Payo Garcia and Kathryn Lee, British Geological Survey)

Kindly sponsored by VolkerStevin



The aim of this workshop is twofold: to provide an overview of the range of activities (both past and ongoing) that the British Geological Survey (BGS) have been involved with and how this has increased our understanding of the role of geology on coastal resilience; and to co-design with the participants, activities and products to be developed in the coming years.

Participants will leave the workshop with an overview of the progress made in the last 20 years of active research as well as an opportunity to input or steer ongoing research activities and data development directly related with coastal resilience at regional and national scale. BGS, conveners will leave the workshop with a greater understanding of how to better steer BGS product development and research activities towards the national public good.

7. School's seminar (Alex Monk, Jacobs Thames 2100 team)

Kindly sponsored by Jacobs



Students will attend the conference in parallel with the other delegates, and will hear from the presenter of BBC's Coast, Nicholas Crane. Students will also take part in a seminar designed by the [Thames Estuary 2100](#) team. TEAM 2100's Future Skills programme is designed to inspire the next generation to join the industry as flood risk management professionals and is based on outreach work from The Environment Agency, CH2M and Balfour Beatty.

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This year sees the 65th anniversary of the 1953 floods and the 5th anniversary of the 2013 tidal surge. It seems an appropriate moment to pause, assess what we have learnt and consider what we might need to do to manage our coast now and for the future.

Our speakers are drawn from those who are local and can reflect upon a lifetime of learning: those who are reviewing our Suffolk coast now: those who have managed our coast during some of the worst weather we've seen on the East coast; those whose work now leads them to make decisions about investment on our coast and of course those who have studied this coast and others in detail, sharing that knowledge and bringing another dimension to this year's conference.

We are delighted to be joined by John Curtin, Executive Director for the Environment Agency as our morning key note speaker. The afternoon's programme will see the conference reach new heights in terms of its principle speaker. We welcome explorer, writer, geographer, broadcaster and presenter of BBC's Coast Nicholas Crane.

Our workshops and seminars once again are based upon feedback from our 2017 delegates and aim to reflect a broad spectrum of subjects which are complementary to the main speaker topics.

With the sudden and sad passing of Cllr Sue Allen this year, the Forum will be dedicating two awards in her memory. Sue was the founder of the first estuary partnership and dedicated much of her time working hard on behalf of coastal and estuary communities. The memorial awards will mark the hard work of people who have done and are doing similar. There will be two awards, one for someone employed and one for someone working in a voluntary capacity.



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