HWMP – Felixstowe Peninsula Project group meeting on 8 November 2016

Present: JB, PB, JT, TD, GB, EH, SJC

Modelling:
Does not include the minor channels coming off the Golf Course. This water could be utilised to supply the ‘bird’ flows. Equally water at Falkenham could be used for this purpose.
PW to confirm whether David Adams’ licensed volume (and any other licences) was deducted from the modelled availability.
SJC requires pump data from GB to calibrate model

Bird survey:
GB had investigated use of volunteers and checked scope with other consultants. Agreed to progress with Wild Frontier scope/quote.
EA has funded £5k for BTO data. SCC to fund the survey work - £23.5k. GB to action survey and invoice SCC. Work should be complete by April 2017.
Working on assumption of 5l/s flow for birds based on Ravesencroft work. JT to share learning from other examples – e.g. Snape Bridge, Ham Creek

KF Angling Club:
TD to confirm the extent of Kings Fleet owned by Angling Club.
Circa 10 ac surface water. Angling Club keen on further dredging/maintenance to improve fishing.
GB stated there was a main drain through the KF and thus IDB may have right to abstract. GB to confirm.
9” difference between winter and summer levels (lower in winter). 2” rain in 24 hours can be accommodated easily.
Need to determine acceptable water level fluctuations (max and min and any seasonal level constraints) within Kings Fleet. (TD/GB to agree with Angling Club) This will determine ‘in channel’ storage capacity and inform reservoir sizing options and required pump/distribution mains conveyance capacity.
JB to check (via MH) current officers at the Angling Club.

Demand profile:
TD to share total demand with SJC based on latest discussions with landowners. Names to be redacted.
JT to provide map showing land holding boundaries. Names to be redacted.
JT/PB to provide SJC with current monthly usage of water. Weekly abstraction returns data should be available for summer irrigation season. This would provide better resolution for reservoir size and pipeline capacity scoping.

Scope of Study:
Options to be considered – large reservoir at Kings Fleet (either using existing or additional structure); small holding reservoir with larger on-farm storage capacity. Need to consider drought resilient option.
First output - pipe route from storage reservoir to nearest boundary of farm wanting water (assumes on-farm capacity to transfer water within the holding). This will be available end January. Motts to be aware of opportunity to link into East Anglia One pipe route.
SJC to confirm route of Anglian Water’s pipe and link proposed route into this - which would provide opportunity for trading around the Mill River.
SJC to share final scope with group by 11/11 2016. This report is attached to the email. If anyone has any comments please respond to me by 18/11/2016.

Discussions with Defra:
TD presented at conference and JB has had discussions with Henry Leveson Gower. Latter very interested in project and how it links with abstraction reform, trading of licences...
Henry L G wants to hold an informal meeting early March to review project proposals, including governance issues - with view to formal workshop including Minister, shortly afterwards.

Governance:
IDB to become water undertaker (but because not supplying public water this is lesser burden)
IDB proposing to take out Public Body Works Loan (currently 2.7% over 50 years). IDB rate payers would fund loan by raising precept - together with payments from water users outside the IDB boundary.
Charges would need to cover maintenance and asset replacement.
Any surplus would be used to repair sea defences, thus providing benefit for all IDB ratepayers regardless of whether using the water.
GB will take proposal to Board in June 2017 with view to raising rate at February 2018 meeting ahead of project implementation in April 2018.
GB to investigate whether similar low-cost loan could be offered to landowners towards construction of on-farm reservoirs.
Further work needed to understand sharing of water agreements/negotiations. Expect to have some annual bidding ahead of cropping and in-year trading with option to provide excess to Anglian Water.
Current abstraction licensing ‘two part tariff’ system would be a good model. Members/landowners have an annual guaranteed quantity. They pay half of their annual fee based on this quantity and half on what they actually use. Internal trading (with the IDB acting as broker) would be encouraged.

Next Steps:
EA assessing pre-application licence. Expect formal application in 2017 with determination by early 2018, start date October 2018.
TD to fix landowner meeting for end Feb to discuss pipeline route, general options and governance issues.
JB/PB to draw up Gannt chart for project
GB testing eel friendly pump options which should be available in time to inform project.
Kings Fleet saltmarsh – improvement to this should result from the project. Details of pump and outfall sitings will be determined by bird survey, eel considerations and after Motts work complete. FDGiA should cover cost as this is regulatory requirement.

Next meeting - when pipeline proposal available, unless Motts needs meeting earlier.