

MINUTES

Title:		Suffolk Flood Management Partnership (SFRMP)	
Date:		06 July 2017	
Place:		East Suffolk DC, Melton	
Time:		09:30-12:00	
Attendees:		Matt Hullis, SCC, CHAIRMAN Will Akast, EA Giles Bloomfield, East Suffolk IDB Tom Mann, SCC Simon Curl, SCC Neal Evans, Suffolk Resilience Forum Emma Dixon, SCC Will Todd, EA	MH WA GB TM SC NE ED WT
Apologies:		James Jackson, Highways Agency Stephen Greenhill, Highways Agency Kate Lindsay, EA Jean Heading, Ely Drainage Board Cally Smith, Broads Authority Chris Fry, BDC / MSDC Mark Walsh, FH/ St Eds Bill Parker, SCDC / WDC John Grayling, BDC / MSDC Peter Barratt, Essex & Suffolk Water Jonathan Glerum, Anglian Water	
Item No.	Item Description	Relevant business considered, facts noted, the decision taken and its rationale	Actions / Papers
1.	Welcome, Introductions and Apologies	MH welcomed everyone to the meeting and listed apologies.	
2.	Suffolk Partnership	<p>The ongoing remit and membership engagement of the SFRMP were discussed in response to ensuring the group is effective. MH thanked Kate Lindsay from the EA for producing evidence from across the country of similar partnerships. It was noted that engagement was higher in those areas which had suffered from flooding in recent years.</p> <p>MH reviewed the current ToR and the reasons behind the SFRMP.</p> <p>WT highlighted the vital link with district and borough councils, in particular with regard to planning.</p> <p>SC & MH informed the group of the partnership working in existence between SCC and the Planning Authorities and how that was working well.</p>	<p>MH to revise the ToR</p> <p>MH to invite cabinet members to mtg in Sept.</p>

		<p>MH raised the potential for inviting upper management and local councillors to the meetings in order to raise the profile of the flooding issues, current and future, in Suffolk.</p> <p>GB gave notice of an upcoming event in the Autumn being organised on behalf of ADA, which may be a suitable platform for engaging with decision makers.</p>	
3.	SuDs and Planning Matters	<p><u>Presentation of statutory consultee performance data</u></p> <p>SC gave an update with figures showing an increase in performance. 94.5% of planning applications are responded to within the statutory 21 days. In 2016 there were 583 applications commented on, to date in 2017 400 have been received. SC put the increase down to developers taking advantage of a lack of 5-year land supply in a number of districts.</p> <p>Discussions were had on the possibilities of using CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy – only in use in certain Districts/Boroughs) for funding of strategic flood risk projects. It was understood that there were multiple “asks” from across the public sector for this funding so competition can be intense. There is an opportunity to work with Parish/Town Councils as they receive 15% of CIL raised (25% if they have a Neighbourhood Plan) and may wish to prioritise a flood project.</p> <p><u>Summary of PFRA Review and future actions</u></p> <p>SC highlighted the submission to EA in June 2017. As a result of the review of risk it was suggested that the Ipswich Surface Water Management Plan from 2012 should now be reviewed. This has been incorporated in to the forward plan for the SCC Projects Team.</p> <p><u>Ongoing and future joint working</u></p> <p>MH outlined the transformation project that SCC and BDC / MSDC are working on, trialling a new way of working for development control and planning policy. An Operation Planning Group meets monthly to discuss process and site specific issues. There is also a bi-monthly Client Side Panel which is well attended by developers & architects who meet with the DC and SCC to discuss current blockages in the planning process</p> <p>SCC are now running a charged-for pre-application service for developers which will reduce service costs and should help speed the application process. After 6 months of this pilot the aim is to begin discussions with other LPAs to roll out the system across Suffolk.</p>	<p>SC to investigate how to access CIL funds in Suffolk.</p>
4.	Update on projects and S19 investigations	<p>TM introduced himself as one of two new officers in the SCC Flood and Water Team and updated the group on the prioritised projects which he has been working with alongside Nikki China (employed by EA and hosted in SCC). There are now 22 projects on EA PAFS database (up from 5).</p>	<p>All to meet to discuss individual projects, priorities &</p>

		<p>GB raised the issue of ensuring that everyone's future schemes and priorities are known to help potential partnership working and funding. The RFCC is about to make available a web-based portal showing all schemes receiving funding from Eastern and Central RFCC.</p> <p>WT informed the group of the EAs new Project Delivery Units (PDUs) which is a project established to ensure the EA meets its current 6 year work programme. Suffolk sits in PDU 4.</p> <p>The LFRMP is moving on time and to target.</p> <p>The HWMP is progressing well, in particular the Felixstowe Peninsula project.</p> <p>WT informed the group that the EA had submitted a bid to DEFRA for a monitoring project in the Debenham catchment area.</p>	<p>awareness of funding.</p> <p>MH to share link/login.</p> <p>WT to report on the priorities for PDU 4</p>
5.	Emergency Planning	<p>NE feedback on 'Op Barnett', the major flood event in January 2017 which saw the Lowestoft temporary flood barrier deployed for the first time.</p> <p>Although there was a low confidence, variable forecast, it was decided to evacuate 3,000 households at potential risk from flooding. Thankfully no flooding occurred. However, there was <u>very</u> low uptake of the provided rest centres (<10), highlighting potential future risk if the public are ignoring evacuation orders. The Cabinet Office is now taking this forward.</p> <p>There was broadly positive feedback but it was felt that better use could have been made of the local media and of social media.</p>	
6.	Review of Minutes from last meetings	<p>The minutes were reviewed. Only response from AW were outstanding.</p>	
7.	AOB	<p><u>EA Update</u></p> <p>WT thanked TM for his work on the prioritised projects and PAFS.</p> <p>WT informed the group that the EAs 'Whats in your backyard' mapping service, is being decommissioned as of 27 July. Flood maps will now be held on the national gov.uk website.</p> <p>GB feedback that the flood maps were using 'blue on blue' which made boundaries very hard to recognise. He also requested that the statutory IDB maps be included as a layer.</p> <p>WA highlighted the current issue of low flows in rivers and the risk of fish kills / distress.</p> <p>WA recommended the EAs Farm Business Updates (a forward looking 12 month programme) as a tool for the group to use to access landowners. Work will start in Sept 17 for the Jan / Feb 2018 updates.</p>	<p>WT to feedback to EA about mapping colours & to investigate possibility of IDB maps</p>

		<p><u>SCC Flood & Water Team update</u></p> <p>The SCC team is going to pilot a new project called 'Our Water' in September which will be enabling communities to investigate and provide resources for local flooding issues. It is hoped the project will raise the profile of water use management.</p>	
8.	Date, venue and content of next meeting	31 October 2017 1330-1600 venue tbc	