1. Apologies, minutes and actions from the last meeting.

Apologies; Bruce Stockley, Tom Munro, Scott West, Paul Cottington

Minutes of last meeting - no comment received

Summary table from last meeting? 8/12/16

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>IA/FB</td>
<td>IA let FB know when the next planners meeting is held. FB attend the next meeting to promote engagement with catchment partnerships.</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NH</td>
<td>contact DK for the River restoration study for D/S Louds Mill reach (APEM ?) coordinate a working group to consider the floodplain connectivity, SUDs, biodiversity and access that could be linked to the Dorchester extension</td>
<td>Complete – Working group TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>AP</td>
<td>Talk to Maria about getting an agenda item for Catchment Partnerships on the next LNP board meeting on the 11th March</td>
<td>Complete-agenda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BR/JD</td>
<td>Feedback to the CPs on the selection criteria used by the EA for projects to go to the national board to help shape future submissions</td>
<td>Moved to JD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BR</td>
<td>Find out which contract the CFP work was issued under.</td>
<td>Moved to JD</td>
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<td>RB</td>
<td>Circulate the contract form used by water companies and UKWIR and talk to LC?? about progress.</td>
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<td>BR</td>
<td>Talk to Aly Maxwell about the sites selected for the NFM work in Dorset and circulate to group</td>
<td>Agenda item NFM meeting</td>
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<td>RB</td>
<td>To send Doodle poll to arrange the next meeting and venue</td>
<td>done</td>
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- Councillor communication discussed with LNP. CP to liaise with Councillors through LNP contacts
- RB to circulate water / UKWIR standard letter and take common clauses to capture the right milestones and outputs for catchment partnership contracts.
2. Personnel Changes

- EA: Ben R on secondment to Defra working on Brexit and Food and Farming green paper. Kim Goonasekera (KG) is back in Jo's team to take over as first point of contact for Dorset but not a fulltime resource (1-2 days/week). Judith Crompton is retiring at the end of May, working on diffuse pollution programme. KG will pick up some diffuse pollution work around case studies and catchment partnerships but unsure about direct replacement. Julian Wardlaw also to leave and this will lead to some structural changes. Aly Maxwell is on secondment to Flood and Coastal Team as NFM Co-ordinator across Wessex. No backfilling for Aly on river restoration work
- DWT: re-focus and staff chart to be circulated soon. River Catchment Team to be developed, Jake Dew leaving, who will be replaced with a DWR team leader reporting to Andrew Pollard. Post to be circulated to all partnerships to network for a replacement. Team members: Amanda Broome will work in East of Dorset, Emma Tomlin around upper Stour and on woodlands and Amy Corton, Conservation Assistant to strengthen delivery and catchment support. Others within the Trust who can be called upon as required.
- DCC: The reorganisation to reduce 9 councils down to 2, was proposed to Sec of State with Poole & Bournemouth as an urban unitary and remainder of Councils as a rural unitary. SoS will provide an indication of direction in next few days but final decision in c.12 months. Significant changes at senior management levels in next 12 months. 2019 significant restructuring of officers- could be changes around catchment working, planning etc. Duties of the DCC will be incorporated into the Unitary Authorities. Most job losses will be around support structures rather than technical officers.
- NE: Andy McDonald is moving into a national team and so will not continue to lead the Dorset water focus. Jane Wright will sit on delivery group, Charlotte will represent agricultural interests.

**ACTION AP**: Circulate the DWR/DWT staff chart update when complete
**ACTION RB**: to Speak to Fran Davies as to who will be the SG representative for NE.
**ACTION BS**: Circulate update in the fisheries plan for Poole Harbour.
**ACTION BS**: Bruce to provide update at next meeting and explain WRT areas of interest.
**ACTION NH**: Circulate the DWR team leader JD to stakeholders when available.

3. Funding

**PH and Stour CaBA Partnership reporting and evaluation Forms.**

- These provide a good insight into the level of funding, delivery and match funding. Purpose to justify to Defra the £15k catchment funding. Previously not asked for match funding info. Sent to the CaBA steering group who will amalgamate details from all 108 catchment partnerships. Doesn't include info a Km of rivers enhanced which CP's have been asked to report on- CaBA felt not sufficiently well developed. FB reported that at the National Steering Group. The EA confirmed that they believe that catchment partnerships are a cost effective way of delivering projects, giving an estimated a 1:2 cost benefit ratio on project delivery, but no mention of further evaluation process was discussed at that stage.
- In completing the form the question of how much benefit the catchment partnership enabled. The role of CPs in influencing the delivery of the partners is difficult to quantify.
- 25-year plan does have catchment partnerships and natural capital at its heart. Catchment partnerships also included in flood risk discussions but FRCM need to be convinced of benefits.
- What do we want to do with this data? Use to engage better with LNP and LEP. Alison Moore is the new LEP rep, sits on Dorset AONB and Leader Board.
- Spreadsheet did highlight some gaps in the monitoring of benefits of projects.
- As a CP we need to capture outcomes- what difference are we making and the evaluation may need to consider more emphasis on how we change the effectiveness of partners delivery to the common goals possibly less around monitoring which is a significant aspect of the spreadsheet requirement but more around collating and reporting? What level do we want to report down to- can we get some proxies? Amount of the people engaged or policies influenced rather than the environmental benefits delivered

**ACTION**: NH to provide some feedback on gaps in monitoring columns (km rivers improved) spreadsheet which will be fed back to national CaBA group by FB.
**ACTION**: FB to feed back to national CaBA group to develop the spreadsheet to be more useful to catchment partnerships as well as meeting ensure meets EA and Defra needs.
**ACTION NH**: Send reporting spreadsheets to strategy group and LNP.
**CaBA Hosting Fund**

- DWT will apply for the £15k hosting fund according to the strict guidelines. Seems more certainty that we will get the funding but question around the feedback which is required. The CaBA reporting form is a requirement for this year but there is some confusion at the WRT whether this is the only reporting required. Hosts may also need to complete the EA form.
- There seems to be more certainty over a 3-year catchment hosting agreement which will be focussed on project delivery - needs clarification as to whether this is the hosting funding or capital delivery. EA reported both at the NSG.
- Therese Coffey announced £6m total fund for 2017-8 to cover CaBA support, catchment partnerships and Water Environment Improvement fund - this is the total GIA fund.

**ACTION JD:** Confirm requirements of the 3 year hosting fund when available.

**Water Environment improvement Fund and Catchment Partnership fund – Jo Diamond**

- £300k across Wessex Area, funding has been confirmed prior to the 2017-8 financial year. Funding not as much as anticipated so need to go back to re-assess but two Dorset projects were strong- Gillingham Upper Stour and Corfe River. EA PM in place for the Gillingham project but no person in post for Corfe. Needs catchment partnership to help work up these projects, providing a business case.
- EA have developed a new process from April including the business case to develop projects for GIA funds which is more streamlined with standard documents- Gillingham & Corfe will need to go through that process. Any EA funding can go out through this process irrespective of whether capital or revenue.
- Fisheries Improvement Fund is administered through rod licences so can’t go through this new funding process.
- Gillingham project will be delivered through Dorset Wild Rivers and CSF. Corfe River will be through NT and FWAG.

**ACTION NH:** Find out from EA/ CaBA if hosts need to complete both reporting spreadsheet and CPF form.

**Water Industry National Environment Programme**

- The first iteration of the NEP will be available later this week. There will be further revisions in September 2017 and March 2018. There will be continued focus in Dorset on the Catment schemes and investigations.
- Potential for partnership working in the Fleet- possibility of a workshop.
- Areas of concern: Fleet, Stour and Poole Park Lake, looking for catchment approaches to combine with STW improvements, different mechanism for P.
- Interested in collaborative partnership projects to deliver multi-benefits- P, N and soil runoff reductions. The Catchment Management team may be looking at the further offsetting for N and P.
- There is also the need to determine the natural capital benefits and ensure the best use of the customers money. This could start with knowing where the natural capital assets are.
- There is developing understanding of the contribution of Wessex assets to the nutrient load in the Stour. This is through the Managing Uncertainty investigation. DTC work suggests that the source-pathway-receptor model could be applied in the Stour catchment.

**ACTION JD:** check if NEP funded projects count as match funding for EA funding streams.

**Win Update**

- Funding bid was unsuccessful with Magnox but within Viridor corridor but unsure about funding criteria, whether they will fund a study or not?
- Unsure whether NE have any project plans for Winfrith decommissioning funding.

**ACTION:** FB to take this forward. – Action complete; Win Win does not meet Viridor (ENTRUST) criteria which is primarily capital expenditure.

**ACTION CW:** Charlotte to ask Ian Alexander if NE is developing projects to apply the Winfrith Decommissioning fund.
Current Dorset Catchment Partnership Funding bids

- **Natural Flood Management.** There are 2 NFM funds. Local FRCM fund covering Aly Maxwell’s post and funding pilot on Frome & Hooke in Dorset, second is a £1 million National pot seeks bids from Catchment Partnerships and landowners. Up to fund 3 projects will be put forward in Wessex area, therefore EA recommended CPs to put in a priority project and a back up within Dorset.
- Aly is building up a wider programme for NFM, not all projects will be successful under £1m fund but there is also the local levy to fund other projects over a longer time period.
- A CP priority for NFM projects workshop held, well attended, came up with 3 priority areas for Dorset Moors River (including Holt Heath), West Dorset Coastal Streams (Bridport Cluster) and the Hooke. These offer equitable, capacity delivery and opportunity to enhance projects. Would be useful to share the prioritised list with the Strategy Group
- Suggested that the priority areas are communicated through the next newsletter. These are priorities based on a narrow set of criteria but need to be identified as project areas of low/no regret.
- DWR are collating data on the Hooke about previous woody debris and NFM projects
- Somerset have a similar proposal to evaluate NFM measures which have been delivered 5-10 years ago. Could be the possibility to combine with Somerset and could be delivered through Local Levy.
- WDR&CS used data from communities to highlight where people felt that there was the most need for NFM and cross checked around EA lists.
- **Fisheries Improvement Fund:** INNS project developed between the DWR officer and FP&WDRA to remove Himalayan Balsam across Piddle & Upper Frome and bagging the projects was submitted when?. Prepared by Jake and Dominic.
- **TRAC- Wareham Shellfisheries** submitted by the EA to undertake MST analysis.
- Phase 1 Catchment Fisheries Plan- no feedback, data etc. WRT has received the EA's funding from Redd counts. Options are that the project goes forward in 2017-8 or ask for 50% funding back. Reason for the slippage reported is that Scott has not had time to proceed due to other comitments.

**ACTION:** RB draft a letter asking for their progress against the deliverables identified in the project bid. If this is not provided by 30th April then ask for 50% funding back.

**ACTION NH:** include NFM and other priority areas and projects in the next newsletters.

**ACTION NH:** Meet with Somerset Coordinator to discuss the opportunities to collaborate on projects in the upper Stour waterbodies

**Interreg Soils Project- Iwan Jones**

Healthy and functioning transitional and coastal water (TAC) ecosystems are essential to growing a sustainable blue economy (e.g. fisheries, tourism), meeting conservation objectives (e.g. protecting habitats/birds) and improving public health (e.g. shellfish consumption). However, all urbanised TAC waters have elevated nutrient levels leading to poor water quality. Large inputs of agricultural fertilizers, livestock and human waste increase nutrient concentrations resulting in the excessive growth of plant life (termed eutrophication). Coastal eutrophication results in the rapid growth of green seaweeds which settle on the intertidal mudflats forming mats 10 cms deep and covering thousands of hectares. These have significant ecological, economic and human health impacts. The RaNTrans project will develop and then test innovative, sustainable and cost-effective methods that will rapidly reduce algal mat coverage and contribute to reductions in nutrient levels.

- Iwan updated on the INTERREG soils project bid. Interreg have not had enough applications for this call so facilitator has encouraged putting a bid at this stage irrespective. Phase 1 bid currently open and bid to be submitted in a few weeks. Phase 2 has to be submitted within 12 months, so looking for an April 2018 start date
- The focus will be on soils and sediment and build on DTC work in upper Avon, focussing on Christchurch Harbour, Poole Harbour and the Fleet with 2 equivalents in France. Build on modelling and monitoring approach which has been developed on each side of the channel to look at P, N, sediments and include faecal coliforms and pesticides. Looking for funding to extend the monitoring networks to areas where they don’t exist, e.g. the Fleet.
• Rothamsted will lead the modelling on UK side, based on Farmscoper and allow mitigation costs to be included to understand the impact and consequences of options to reduce loads.
• Projects will need to include ecosystems services / natural capital accounting
• Would like to include the Dorset catchment partnership to help dissemination of results and information exchange.
• Would like input from agricultural group
• Budget c. £6m but no cap, lots of money in the pot which has not been bid for. 69% funding, needs match funding
• No-one from EA tied in yet but has some support from Russell Spencer. Would be useful to link in with the other diffuse projects within this area. Sounds as though there is an overlap with both the Diffuse Pollution Plan capture of progress and Judicial Review which uses Farmscoper to review scenarios with different measures
• Micro projects fund also available- which provides 80% funding launched up to £500k with 2 partners minimum including an EU partner.
• Core funding agreed from BBSRC to enable DTC to continue.
• UK Project team (QMUL and Rothampsted) Would like to work with Dorset and Hampshire Avon catchment partnerships around mapping and the effects of delivery measures

ACTION NH: suggest an update on Iwan's project at the next agricultural group meeting. (Deferred to July meeting)
ACTION IJ: circulate Interreg application form to the Strategy Group
ACTION JD: decide who will be the main contact on the Interreg project at EA?
ACTION NH: send the Interreg bid to the Catchment Management team and facilitate the link between DTC mapping and delivery bodies in the Catchment Partnerships in Avon and Dorset.

DCF coastal Communities Fund bid and Fisheries Local Action Group

• KB reported Partnership bid covering c.18 projects around access to the coast, improvements to the coast and infrastructure, beach huts, promenades, Bournemouth pier approaches, West Bay, coast paths etc. If it is successful will be managed by DCF.
• Still thinking about taking the 'Out of the Blue' Marine Protected Area bid forward for re-submission.
• KB reported Dorset & East Devon fisheries and Local Action Group- £800k over 2 years, 2 officers in place and launched on 13/03. Paperwork on line for fisheries, aquaculture etc for submission of project ideas. FLAG Board will determine whether projects go forward.
• Dorset & east Devon £600k to use on projects and release additional funding. Work with development projects to guide them through the MMO funding, e.g. large port developments.
• Set of criteria to assess whether projects are deliverable from an economic and environmental perspective

4. Mapping

LNP Mapping - Maria Clark

• Suite of ecological network maps, including 22 layers with DERC. Doesn't split into specific habitats but covers a LA area with the ecological network as it is and the opportunities for enhancement which will inform Local Plans. Maps doesn't highlight the quality of the networks.
• WENP Ecosystem service maps, for individual services and then brings them together, illustrating where wouldn't build.
• £20k per LNP area to deliver same as WENP, but looking to include recreation, amenity, carbon, coastal zones, pollination etc. Unsure what the revised quote is. Should be slightly less for Dorset as Environment Systems have already done some work for Dorset.
• This also fits with the AONB Natural Character Area mapping needs which IR is looking at.
• Need to factor in the maintenance costs for show change over time.
• Public Health England have someone in place looking at the public health need and relationship with green spaces.
• CEH currently releasing annual field scale crop data from satellite data and agricultural census data- seems to be quite up to date.
• LNP is developing a framework on how the compensation funding is spent, will be discussed at the next LNP meeting.

**ACTION IR:** Ian Rees to set up a joint meeting with Environment Systems to understand the needs of the users, and the datasets available. Factor in the Natural Capital accounting and the need for maintenance of the system once delivered by a contractor.

**ACTION RB, IR, KB:** confirm potential funding sources from AONB, DCC and WW.

### Catchment Mapping and Natural capital – Fiona Bowles

• The Mapping Workshop Agreed to include ecosystems services / natural capital rather than just water quality etc.
• So far WQ, NFM and biodiversity mapping has been proposed by others (EA and DERC) which can contribute to Catchment mapping
• Office of National Statistics is developing habitat by habitat / system by system valuations, including one for water. Plan is to produce a standardised methodology later this year. Pioneers are testing this at different scales.
• Biodiversity fund and mechanism has been established with clear ground rules for developers. The metric has been designed to deliver enhancement over and above mitigation for individual developments.
• Biodiversity Mitigation Protocol- plan is submitted as an application with the planning application and is paid for by the developer. Approved by planning team and development goes ahead. Compensation framework is separate and based on value of certain habitats, it is then decided by the LNP where that money is spent.
• Mapping could provide the starting point for this to understand the natural capital assets and the current beneficiary flows are.
• Map boundaries would need to be both County and Catchment
• EA national waterbody prioritisation tools which is being run and will develop a set of maps, using WFD status, designations etc. This will be used to develop catchment based priority mapping to include EA, NE and FC data which will inform the integrated action plan.

**ACTION NH:** Send the notes from the mapping workshop to IR

### 5. Communications

• Soils summit- good idea to raise up the political agenda and to have a consistent plan which reinforces a message around soil husbandry, given its contribution to reducing WQ pollution etc.
• Maria to speak to LNP/LEP and industry to see whether there is a link with strategic outcomes on soil summit
• Need to get representation from the right organisations e.g. NFU/CLA.
• Poole Harbour Protected Area conference on 16th May- Charlotte and Fiona both speaking- FB circulate talk before and ask if there is anything specific to be included.
• DWT hosting water festivals- Blandford, Sturminster Newton and Swanage, opportunity for displays and messaging. Gillingham festival in Feb was cancelled due to poor weather.

**ACTION:** RB to develop further and speak to Maria.

**ACTION all:** respond to Nicola with comments on Local plan draft by 12pm Friday 31st.

**ACTION FB:** Share Poole Harbour presentation to CW suggest change or order on agenda.

### 6. West Dorset Rivers & Coastal Streams Update

• Multiple opportunities meeting set up by Charlotte which highlighted Bridport Cluster as a priority for efforts
• Proposal from 8th Dec to be taken forward to engage with communities, favourite is R Asker due to WFD status and lack of previous work. Possibly linked to NFM project. Link with CSF infrastructure visits by FWAG.
• Link through Bridport Sustainable Food and Roger Guppy’s ‘friends of river’ (Brit Asker and tribs) project.
• Char always misses out unfortunately, but needs greater level of funding.
• Stewardship event planned for Litton Cheney which will be delivered by FWAG to kick off engagement.
• Needs to involve DCF in the proposals going forward. Will involve parish councils and flood wardens.
• Uses £6k from current Catchment Hosting funding as a pilot. There are measurables identifiable, e.g. uptake of measures, people engaged EA will require Km of river enhanced metric..
• 18/04/17 in Bridgwater Ally Maxwell NFM meeting.

ACTION: RB / NH to develop a pro-forma for the project to identify aims, deliverables, milestones and financial. Send to Ian

ACTION IR; Ian Rees to speak to Dominic Stubbins at FP&WDRA about how to integrate fisheries and flooding options in the West dorset (Bridport cluster)

AOB

• River Restoration Plan on the Frome and reduced flow over EA flow gauging weir, EA team would like to see this reverted to allow flows over the gauging weir.

ACTION: Jo to have a look into this issue of RRP and flow gauging weir

DONM 5th July 10-1pm and 27th Sept 10-1pm

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