



Monday 2nd October 2017, 10.30-12.30, Humberhead Peatlands, Natural England, Unit 1a, Green Tree Warehousing, Tudworth Road, Hatfield, DN7 6HD

Attendees: Tim Kohler (TK), Melissa Masserella (MM), Andrew Clark (AC), David Hargreaves (DPH), Matt Cox (MC), Cllr Sue Wilkinson (SW) and Helen Laycock (HL)

Apologies: Helen Kirk (HK) and Tim Allen (TA)

Discussions/Key Points	For Action By
<p>1. Minutes of Last Meeting and Matters Arising - AC</p> <p>AC took members through the actions from the previous meeting and the following was noted:</p> <p><u>Action 1 – Radio tracking nightjars</u> – TK reported that this is still ongoing. He has meetings with Kate and Lucy over the next month and will continue to pursue agreement on the level of data that can be released.</p> <p><u>Action 2 – Management Plan feedback</u> – Carried forward.</p> <p><u>Action 3 – Management Plan feedback meeting and E1 target</u> – DPH confirmed that the Management Plan feedback meeting can contribute towards Objective E1 ‘Planning for Real’ community engagement events.</p> <p><u>Action 4 – End of project conference music</u> – DPH advised the new LIFE+ Administration Officer (HL) to contact Ash Hill Academy, Hatfield regarding the Youth Orchestra performing at the conference dinner.</p> <p><u>Action 5 – Drone provision for filming</u> – MC confirmed that he has forwarded drone contact details to AC and DPH.</p> <p><u>Action 6 – IDB overheads</u> – DPH informed that this is ongoing and he will confirm a figure following discussions with the IDB.</p> <p><u>Action 7 – Rhododendron control</u> – Carried forward.</p> <p><u>Action 8 – Install weirs on Hatfield Moors</u> – DPH confirmed that analysis work has been completed and the results have been sent to Mott MacDonald for final specifications to be produced.</p> <p><u>Action 9 – Peat plugs and bunds on Thorne Moors</u> – TK reported that the replacement of the dam on Crowle Moor was not in the original JBA contract so will need to be put forward as additional works (see item 4).</p>	<p>Action 1: TK to have further discussions with the University of York on the level of detail that can be released to suit all parties.</p> <p>Action 2: TK to set up a formal meeting to obtain feedback on the Management Plan.</p> <p>Action 3: HL to contact Ash Hill Academy, Hatfield regarding the Youth Orchestra performing at the conference dinner.</p> <p>Action 4: DPH to confirm a ballpark figure from the IDB to cover their overhead costs.</p> <p>Action 5: TK to speak to Lucy regarding more optimal habitat for nightjar and develop a plan to ensure potential nesting sites are available in rhododendron brush.</p>
<p>2. Introduction – Helen Laycock – AC</p>	



<p>AC introduced the new LIFE+ Administration Officer, HL, to members.</p>	
<p>3. Progress Update: Key Milestones/Operational Activities – DPH</p> <p>Project Performance Report</p> <p>DPH took members through the LIFE+ Project Performance Report for the most recent reporting period, providing an update on progress.</p> <p><u>Action A2</u> – Management plan review. DPH reported that the EU has asked for the plan as part of the progress report. TK can supply text and maps.</p> <p><u>Action A3</u> – Consents and licences. DPH reported that the eel exemption/consent for Hatfield is still awaiting the design.</p> <p><u>Action C1</u> – Scrub removal on Hatfield Moors. DPH reported that targets will be exceeded by the end of the winter season.</p> <p><u>Action C3</u> – Control rhododendron. DPH reported that the revised target of 110ha will not be reached but the original target of 96ha will be reached.</p> <p><u>Action C4</u> – Dam installation. DPH reported that the Hatfield dams are taking longer than expected.</p> <p><u>Action C6</u> – Thorne Moors pumping station. DPH reported that NE will not accept handover of the pump until all the snags have been resolved.</p> <p><u>Action E3</u> – End of Project Conference. DPH reported that the venue is booked, along with the main speaker, Greta Garding. A range of additional technical speakers would be desirable to attract a wider audience. SW informed that sending details to the member services inbox (Member.services@doncaster.gov.uk) would allow events like the conference to be publicised around local councils.</p> <p><u>Action E4</u> – Project website and publications. DPH informed that there is no budget for Moorspace beyond the end of the LIFE+ Project. TK reported that Moorspace has been well received and there would be a negative impact if it was discontinued. Members discussed reducing the frequency and moving more of the process in-house to reduce costs. AC suggested that Innovation funding or obtaining funding from project partners may be possible solutions.</p> <p>DPH reported that the NNR’s own webpage is currently under development. The project website will be maintained for five years after the end of the project but will not be updated. However, it will include a link to the Facebook page, which will be updated, and any new editions</p>	<p>Action 6: TK to send text and maps for management plan to DPH.</p> <p>Action 7: DPH to complete and send EU progress report.</p> <p>Action 8: DPH to send details of the conference to the member services inbox so that it can be publicised around councils.</p> <p>Action 9: Steering Group to discuss Moorspace again in a couple of months.</p> <p>Action 10: DPH to obtain a breakdown of the costs of Moorspace.</p>



<p>of Moorspace can be added.</p> <p>Project Progress Report</p> <p>DPH reported that the mid-term report to the EU is due in mid-October. DPH needs to edit the current report to fit the length requirements. It should answer any queries raised by the EU in response to the previous progress report. The EU may raise questions in response that will need to be answered in the final report. The match funding issue will need to be flagged in this report as it may lead to a project amendment due to a change in the project objectives.</p>	
<p>4. Additional Works by Doncaster East IDB – TK/DPH</p> <p>TK reported that these works will contribute to the project plan but were not explicit in the original plan and presented a document detailing proposed additional works and associated priorities.</p> <p>Existing permissions will cover most of the works. The available budget is approximately £225,000 after the £100,000 compensation claim against JBA due to costs arising to the contractor as a result of the delayed pumping station works. The IDB will go to tender for the appointment of a project manager and will then put the additional works out to tender. Following this, the additional works will be selected in order of priority though it is likely that only two or three items will be achievable within the budget. This will cover the majority of the match funding shortfall with the remainder to be covered by fixtures and fittings for the new NNR office building (see item 5).</p>	
<p>5. Match Funding – DPH</p> <p>DPH reported that to mitigate the match funding shortfall, the total project could be cut to match or additional match funding could be sought. It has been proposed to the EU that the fixtures and fittings in the classroom of the new NNR office are used as match funding and the space is named the 'LIFE Lab'. The EU have responded positively. Vehicles and a chipper could also be bought from the project for approximately £70,000 rather than entered as a depreciation. DPH intends to complete a single amendment including budgetary changes and an additional objective for the LIFE Lab once all costs are available after Christmas. Spending on the new office base needs to be complete by the end of the financial year although items do not have to be on site until the final three months of the project. Planning permission has been deferred after the EA concerns were dealt with. It is hoped the new office base will be running by July. The lab space will be available for bookings from community groups and schools.</p>	<p>Action 11: DPH to forward any match funding and new office developments to the group.</p>



<p>6. AOB</p> <p>MM reported that a speaker to give a welcome speech at the end of project conference on 15/16 May is being sought.</p> <p>MC asked for a map/plan of the additional works and TK reported that JBA have provided a paper map.</p> <p>HK sent apologies for the meeting as she has changed her working pattern and can no longer make Mondays. The group agreed to change the day on which meetings are held to Thursdays to allow HK to attend.</p> <p>Roger Mitchell, one of the IDB reps to the Steering Group, has resigned from the IDB and therefore from this Group. An IDB meeting is taking place in November to assign a replacement.</p>	<p>Action 12: TK to provide a copy of the additional works map to MC.</p>
<p>7. Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>The next meeting will take place at the Humberhead Peatlands office on Thursday 18th January 2018 from 10:30 – 12:30.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 11:30.</p>	