



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

Attendees: Helen Kirk (HK), Tim Kohler (TK), Melissa Masserella (MM), Paul Duncan (PD), and Cllr Sue Wilkinson (SW)

Apologies: Tim Allen (TA), James Freeborough (JF), Matt Cox and David Hinchliffe (DNH)

Absent: Roger Mitchell (RM)

Support staff: David Hargreaves (DPH) and Amanda Lane (AJL)

Discussions/Key Points	For Action By
<p>1. Welcome and Introductions - PD</p> <p>PD welcomed members to the meeting. He said that today's meeting would focus on the End of Project Conference. PD noted apologies.</p>	
<p>2. Minutes of Last Meeting and Matters Arising – PD</p> <p>PD took members through the actions from the previous meeting and the following was noted:</p> <p><u>Action 1 – Volunteer base to support the Project's AfterLIFE monitoring works</u> – TK reported that he had made no further progress. PD asked if TK would advise on a date when this action would be complete.</p> <p><u>Action 2 – KPMG mid-term audit results</u> – DPH informed members that the most recent email relating to the mid-term audit, carried out by KPMG, appeared to be embargoed. He reported that from the detail he had seen KPMG had reported back globally on what audit issues had been uncovered from across all the NE LIFE+ Project so findings could not be attributed to individually LIFE+ Projects. DPH is meeting with Julia Richardson, NE Finance lead on Wednesday when he will raise the matter of obtaining individual audit feedback.</p> <p><u>Action 3 – Roger Meade report</u> – TK said this action is ongoing. He informed members that there is a bid to carry on with the Dargie-Tantram element of Roger's report. The remote sensing element of the report is progressing, with Richard Smith (RS) and Lucy Ryan (LR) having undertaken the use of drone aerial photography to derive habitats with some limited success. NE central Services team are also making progress with a comprehensive look at satellite and aerial imaging being used rather than just one set of images as detailed in Roger's report.</p> <p><u>Action 4 – Obtain VAT exemption letter from DE IDB to forward to the EU</u> – DPH reported that he was still awaiting the letter from the DE IDB, despite having sent a reminder to Craig Benson (IDB) last week.</p>	<p>Action 1: TK to update PD on a date when this action would be complete.</p> <p>Action 2: DPH to report back on progress made in obtaining HHP LIFE+ individualised audit feedback.</p>



There was a sense of urgency in obtaining the letter in good time for the next report to the EU, due September 2017.

Action 5 - Management Plan - TK informed members that little progress has been made since the last steering group meeting on completing the Management Plan. He said that he would be working to a new deadline of 31st March 2017.

Action 6 - Radio tracking nightjars – TK reported that he has had a discussion with Kathryn Arnold at the University of York on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR). From his perspective the information required will be in the public domain, firstly as it is what the University have agreed to report on, and secondly it links with the data required by EOn and Doncaster Council, who are funding some elements of this work. TK suggested that maybe not all the raw data will be released pre-publication of Lucy Ryan’s PhD due to the sensitivities attached to releasing information prior to the award of her Post Graduate degree.

Action 7 – Availability of invertebrate assemblage baseline sampling raw data – TK confirmed that the 2015 raw data has been circulated to steering group members. He said that he would make sure the 2016 data comes through to members as soon as it is obtained. TK reported that RS wanted to ensure that any raw data sent to members is accompanied by interpretation. Although he appreciated that members may wish to put their own interpretation of the raw data.

Action 8 – Circulation of socio-economic impact report – DPH confirmed that this report has been ‘circulated in confidence’. He commented that the report headlines that the majority of the project monies have been spent locally.

Action 9 – Obtain the amount of scrub that the estate workers have cleared – DPH apologised for not having provided this information. He said that he would report back at the next steering group meeting in April on the amount of scrub that the estate workers and contractors have cleared.

Action 10 - Circulate radio tracking nightjar report 2016 - DPH confirmed that members had been sent a copy of the radio tracking nightjar report 2016.

Action 11 - Science ToRs to be reported back to next meeting of steering group - PD said the ToRs from the science sub group would be reported back to the next steering group meeting in April.

Action 12 – End of Project Conference - source and visit other venues and obtain quotations – AL said that this would be covered in item 3 on

Action 3: DPH to obtain VAT exemption letter from IDB, as a matter of urgency.

Action 4: TK to complete Management Plan by 31st March 2017.

Action 5: TK to have a further conversation with the University of York on what information can be released to partners without infringing IPR.

Action 6: DPH to provide details on the amount of scrub that the estate workers and contractors have cleared.



<p>the agenda.</p> <p><u>Action 13 - Steering Group members to read through the draft conference programme</u> - DPH said that this would be covered under item 2 on the agenda.</p> <p><u>Action 14 – Hen Harriers</u> – PD confirmed that a precise form of words to support the decision made by Natural England on Hen Harriers located on Hatfield Moors had been completed and published, e.g. NNR Facebook page. This action is complete.</p> <p><u>Action 15 - Deer Riding flailing</u> – TK confirmed that the scrub contractors have completed their works and that flailing works on Deer Ride had been fixed. This action is complete.</p>	
<p>2. End of Project Conference programme - DPH</p> <p>DPH took members through the draft end of project conference programme. He said that the intention was for a two day, mid-week conference to be held in Doncaster, potentially May 2018, dependent on the acceptance by the EU of an extension to the project. He also suggested that Day One of the conference is venue based with delegates being treated to guest speakers providing the European/national perspective, the afternoon given to workshops covering topics on restoration, monitoring and community – the three main themes of the LIFE+ Project. He said Day One would conclude with a networking event, Dinner and guest speaker. Day Two would start at the venue with delegates travelling to the Humberhead Peatlands to take part in onsite workshops, a similar format to the mid-term workshop, concluding proceedings back at the venue.</p> <p>DPH asked members for suggestions on the focus that the conference should take. MM suggested that it should be about setting the context of the project within Natura sites. PD went on to say that another context should be about how multiple projects fit and come together. MM asked if each workshop e.g. scrub clearance could have a European flavour, in terms of sharing best practice and lessons learned. HK suggested a returning focus on Brexit, its challenges and implications, particularly as Britain will be over 12 months on from having triggered Article 50 to leave the EU. HK suggested a working title for the conference “Bye, bye Brexit” – what next and the challenges.</p> <p>Building on what others had said AL suggested each workshop should have a mix of European, national and LIFE+ project speakers, focusing on each other’s perspective, concluding with the implications post Brexit. HK asked what the intentions were with regards to conference papers. AL said that technical papers would be produced to</p>	



<p>accompany/feed in to each workshop. In addition, a conference proceedings report would be produced.</p> <p>HK asked if a speaker from Defra could be invited to “point us on the way”, providing an update on Brexit negotiations, the challenges and what the sector might look like once Britain is out of the EU.</p> <p>MM asked whether a film capturing the Year in the Life of the Moors (a compilation of shots from each season), as discussed at a previous steering group was being pursued. She went on to suggest producing a film for Day One of the conference to capture the spirit of the Humberhead Peatlands, maybe with a celebrity providing an introduction to inspire delegates. She said the film would be useful, particularly as some of the speakers may not attend Day Two and will miss the opportunity to get on to the Moors. TK said that there were a number of still images that could be used in production of a film. HK said that a film will put a different spin/perspective on the Moors. AL suggested maybe approaching the local high school to assist in the production of a film and SW suggested approaching the College. DPH reminded colleagues that the production process may cross a school/college year so may not be a feasible option.</p> <p>HK said that there were a number of films on YouTube which could help in sourcing a suitable production company, citing a film the “Spirit of William Bunting”, produced by a company called Serendipity. HK went on to say that references should be made to William Bunting, in terms of the legacy he has left. SW suggested looking at a Thorne connection in terms of a celebrity to front the film. She cited Lesley Garrett as a possibility and whether she could talk about her recollections of the Moors whilst growing up in the area.</p> <p>DPH said that he and AL would explore the feasibility of producing a film for the conference, identifying where the monies would come from within the community engagement aspects of the budget and the timescales.</p> <p>Members felt that a film to support of the End of Project Conference would be a lasting legacy for the Project and the Humberhead Peatlands. It could be used to support community engagement activities and promoted via social media.</p>	<p>Action 7: DPH and AL to explore the feasibility of producing a film of the Humberhead Peatlands to support the End of Project Conference.</p>
<p>3. End of Project Conference venue options - AL</p> <p>AL referred colleagues to the End of Project Conference venue options paper that she had prepared to aid a decision on a suitable End of Project Conference venue. She informed members that ten suitable venues had been selected and eight had been visited. The paper provided a comparison of each venue, based on a set of criteria. A</p>	



<p>ranking of venues was carried out based on their quoted costs and their suitability to host the requirements of our End of Project Conference. Two venues were shortlisted which could meet our needs. The merits of the two venues were discussed by members and an agreement was reached to host the two day time events at Doncaster Racecourse and the day one evening event at the Earl of Doncaster, with delegates staying at three hotels within walking distance of the hotel – St Ledger, Earl of Doncaster and Regent hotels.</p> <p>AL asked members whether they felt a disco should proceed the Dinner as some venues had offered this service. SW suggested having live music maybe in the form of a local Youth Orchestra or band.</p> <p>AL suggested that the next steps would be to agree a date for the conference, approach each venue to agree a final price and secure hotel accommodation for delegates.</p> <p>DPH said that he would need to check with the EU Monitor whether delegate accommodation costs could be covered and from what category of the budget.</p>	<p>Action 8: AL to source suitable local live music options.</p> <p>Action 9: DPH to check whether delegate accommodation costs can be covered.</p>
<p>4. End of Project Conference after Dinner speaker – DPH</p> <p>DPH explained that the intention was to host a Dinner on Day One of the conference with an after Dinner guest speaker. DPH took members through a suggested list of speakers asking for thoughts on who could be shortlisted and approached to attend. Members suggested the following should be approached:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gordon Buchanan • Simon King • Chris Packham • Professor Alice Roberts • Sir David Attenborough • Bill Bailey • Stanley Johnson • Steve Bagshaw • George McGavin <p>In addition, they suggested approaching Jo Brand and others from the list to see if they could do a vox pop to appear at the start of the 'A Year</p>	



<p>in the Life of the Moors' film.</p> <p>HK asked AL whether she could produce a grid of speakers' availability, once approached and circulate to members.</p> <p>AL suggested approaching the hotel where the Dinner was being held to see if they could provide a free room for the after Dinner speaker.</p> <p>MM asked what provision was being made to promote the conference. DPH said that discussions would be held with NE internal communications team. In addition, the recently published report from the Mid-Term Workshop held in September would be sent out to delegates that attended asking them to 'save the date' for the end of project conference. HK suggested that it might be useful to produce a one-page synopsis of the report and attach that to an email to delegates, along with a link to report on the Project website.</p>	<p>Action 10: AL to produce a grid of after Dinner speakers' availability.</p> <p>Action 11: DPH to produce a one-page Mid-Term Workshop report synopsis.</p>
<p>5. End of Project Conference next steps and actions – PD</p> <p>PD provided a recap of the next steps and actions. In addition, to the actions detailed he asked DPH and AL to check availability at each venue, negotiate on price and book the venues.</p>	<p>Action 12: DPH and AL to check availability at each venue and negotiate on price, and then book the venues.</p>
<p>6. Any Other Business – PD</p> <p>PD invited members to raise any other items of business. Colleagues said they did not have any further items to discuss.</p>	
<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>PD thanked members for their attendance and valuable contributions. He asked members if they could meet next month when the focus would be on project action updates, outcomes from the Science and Monitoring sub group meeting held in January 2017 and the EU project extension.</p> <p>The next meeting will take place at the Humberhead Peatlands office on Monday 3rd April 2017 from 10:30 – 12:30.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 12:20</p>	