



Thursday 18th January 2018, 13.30-15.30, Humberhead Peatlands, Natural England, Unit 1a, Green Tree Warehousing, Tudworth Road, Hatfield, DN7 6HD

Attendees: Robert Burnett (RB), Andrew Clark (AC), Matt Cox (MC), Tony Devos (TD), David Hargreaves (DPH), Helen Kirk (HK), Tim Kohler (TK), Helen Laycock (HL), Melissa Massarella (MM), *Edward Brightman (EB) for items 1 and 4, Don McQuade (DM) and Nigel Burkinshaw (NB) for item 1, and Richard Smith (RS) for item 4.*

Apologies: Catherine Leonard (CL), Katie McNamara (KM), Martin Oldknow (MO), Tammy Smalley (TS), Cllr Sue Wilkinson (SW) and Tim Allen (TA)

Discussions/Key Points	For Action By
<p>1. Project film preview</p> <p>EB introduced DM and NB who presented a draft cut of the project film. The Steering Group expressed a positive overall reaction to the film but suggested that featuring someone from outside the project, either a volunteer or visitor to the site, to give a third party endorsement would be beneficial. DM confirmed that he will be revisiting the site with JC to film volunteers so will do this then. MM asked if the project partner names and logos could feature during the credits and DPH suggested the Steering Group members could also be featured. TK needs to re-record his voiceover. The group discussed including footage of nightjars being tagged but EB reported that the University of York is not keen as they have experienced protests after using similar footage.</p>	<p>Action 1: EB/HL to coordinate with DM to film a volunteer speaking about the project.</p> <p>Action 2: EB/HL to provide partner and Steering Group names/logos to DM for inclusion in the film.</p> <p>Action 3: TK to re-record his voiceover for the film.</p>
<p>2. 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 the University of York is happy for the project to release data as long as it will not compromise the University’s ability to produce scientific papers, i.e. do not release detailed information that allows specific conclusions to be drawn. The project will consult the University before releasing any data.</p> <p><u>Action 2 – Management Plan feedback meeting</u> – Carried forward.</p> <p><u>Action 3 – End of project conference music</u> – DPH reported that the cost for the Youth Orchestra to perform at the conference dinner was too great as the EU will not provide funding for entertainment.</p> <p><u>Action 4 – IDB overheads</u> – DPH reported that this is still ongoing. The</p>	<p>Action 4: TK to set up a formal meeting to obtain feedback on the Management Plan.</p> <p>Action 5: DPH and AC to</p>



<p>IDB have changed their services provider so the matter will need to be taken up with the new provider.</p> <p><u>Action 5 – Rhododendron control</u> – TK is developing plans for opening dense rhododendron brush that may be delivered by a Defra northern peatland partnership bid if it is successful (a decision is expected imminently).</p> <p><u>Action 6 – Management plan review</u> – TK confirmed that he supplied maps and text to DPH for the EU.</p> <p><u>Action 7 – EU progress report</u> – DPH confirmed that the report was produced and supplied to the EU.</p> <p><u>Action 8 – End of Project Conference promotion</u> – Ongoing.</p> <p><u>Action 9 – Moorspace’s future</u> – AC reported that York St John University Geography department visited (17/01/18) and are interested in offering projects based at the NNR to undergraduates. One suggested project was work to capture the local community’s views on the project in general. The Steering Group suggested asking for feedback in Moorspace and on the project website, explaining that the future of the newsletter depends on that feedback. A poll could also be conducted on the project’s Facebook page. All these elements could provide evidence of Moorspace’s impact to potentially secure sponsorship.</p> <p><u>Action 10 – Moorspace costs</u> – DPH reported that, for a 5000 print run, design costs are £350 and printing/distribution costs are £750-800. TD reported that Cumbria BogLIFE produce an email community newsletter for relatively little cost.</p> <p><u>Action 11 – IDB match funding and new office developments</u> – DPH apologised for not keeping the Steering Group updated. The building costs of the new office will not be eligible for match funding but the EU is happy for fixtures and fittings for the educational lab space to be used as match funding. A list of potential equipment totalling £16-17k has been produced.</p> <p><u>Action 12 – Additional works maps</u> – TK confirmed that he had supplied MC with maps.</p>	<p>meet with the IDB’s new services provider regarding the overhead costs.</p> <p>Action 6: DPH to share EU progress report with the Steering Group.</p> <p>Action 7: DPH to circulate the list of potential equipment to be purchased for the lab.</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 A3</u> – Consents and licences. DPH reported that the EA has rescinded the eel exemption certificate for Thorne. No immediate action is expected to be required but action could potentially be required in the future.</p> <p><u>Actions C1 & C2</u> – Scrub removal. DPH reported that original targets will be exceeded but revised targets may not quite be met. The Estate Team will finish at the end of March and one member has already left the project.</p> <p><u>Action C4</u> – Dam installation. DPH reported that the tender has gone out for only three of the five originally planned dams due to higher than expected estimated costs. However, estimated costs have since fallen so it may be possible to retender for additional dams after the first tender has been awarded. There have been 13 expressions of interest so far but only one contractor has made contact to arrange a site visit.</p> <p><u>Action C5</u> – Plugs/bunds/weirs on Thorne. The extra works have now gone out to tender but may not be awarded until after March so mitigation planning is needed in the absence of the Estate Team.</p> <p><u>Actions D1-4</u> – Monitoring impacts. All final reports are due by the end of March. The carbon storage evaluation tender has been awarded to Dr Frank Worrall of the University of Durham. Hannah Curzon has suspended her PhD due to illness but the University of York has agreed to deliver the socio-economic report as planned.</p> <p><u>Action E1</u> – Engagement with local communities. DPH reported that all targets will be reached by the end of the project.</p> <p><u>Action F3</u> – Audit. DPH reported that the final audit of accounts tender has been awarded to LubbockFine.</p>	
<p>4. End of Project Conference – DPH</p> <p>DPH presented the draft conference programme to the Steering Group for discussion. The Steering Group considered the relative merits of a full day of indoor sessions followed by a day of site visits versus two days of combined indoor sessions and site visits. The Steering Group concluded that, if practicalities allowed, the preferred programme would be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Day 1 – indoor sessions in the morning covering introduction and project achievements, followed by an afternoon site visit to Hatfield Moor. • Day 2 – morning site visit to Thorne Moor, followed by indoor sessions in the afternoon covering conclusions and future 	<p>Action 8: DPH to produce a revised draft programme and circulate to Steering Group w/b 22nd January.</p>



<p>directions.</p> <p>DPH reported that the conference will open with Richard Lindsay (IUCN Peatland Programme expert) introducing peatland restoration and end with Greta Gaudig (Director of Greifswald Mire Centre) discussing future directions, including Shagnum farming. The Steering Group felt that the conference should be an opportunity to agree the foundations of the next stages for peatland restoration. Presentations should be delivered by keynote speakers and international/national experts. Workshops should cover more detailed results of specific areas of the project for delegates to choose the topic that interests them most, e.g. nightjars, carbon sequestration, socio-economic impact. All speakers should be invited to take part in the panel discussion session. DPH asked the Steering Group to suggest any potential external speakers they felt should be approached.</p> <p>The Steering Group agreed that site visits should focus on the techniques used and the results visible in the field, reinforcing what has been discussed during the indoor sessions. Site visits will need to be managed carefully to stick to timings by using waypoints.</p> <p>DPH reported that delegates will be invited to display posters in the venue's exhibition space. Project partners and contractors will also be invited to exhibit. The project film will be running in the venue as well as being shown during the indoor sessions. MM asked if anybody would be speaking at the conference dinner to pull the event together since the Mayor of Doncaster may be attending and DPH agreed to act as compere.</p> <p>HL presented a demonstration registration site. The conference booking system will collect details on any delegate access and dietary requirements, menu choices for the conference dinner along with payment, and workshop choices. There is no charge for attending the conference itself but a warning will be added that non-attendance may attract an administrative charge. Delegates will book their own accommodation with recommendations available on the registration site. The number of Natural England staff able to register will initially be limited but could be relaxed nearer the registration deadline depending on the strength of external attendance. Steering Group members may need to register to select their menu choices for the conference dinner but this will be confirmed. The registration site will hopefully go live in early February.</p> <p>The Steering Group suggested conference titles, including 'Moor Space Made' and 'A Little Bit Moor Space'. They agreed that the delegate pack should include presentation abstracts, speaker biographies and</p>	<p>Action 9: HL to add details of the panel discussion to the speaker invitation.</p> <p>Action 10: ALL to forward suggestions for external speakers to DPH.</p> <p>Action 11: HL to check with NH if speakers/Steering Group members/LIFE staff need to register.</p>
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<p>site information.</p> <p>DPH reported that there will be an additional End of Project Celebration event in June timed to coincide with the opening of the new reserve base building.</p>	
<p>5. AOB</p> <p>Nothing to report.</p>	
<p>6. Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>The next meeting will take place at the Humberhead Peatlands office on Thursday 12th April 2018 from 10:30 – 12:30.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 15:45.</p>	