

River Don Catchment Partnership - Notes

Meeting date: Thursday 22 November 2018

Location: Follingsby MAX Development Site, Follingsby Lane, Gateshead

Purpose – To bring the partnership together to discuss our plans for the catchment.

Objectives:

- Review progress on recent/ongoing studies/reports
- Update the partnership on major development in the catchment
- Update the partnership on current campaigns/actions
- Review funding – current and opportunities
- Think about “What Next” and moving to implementation
- Communications and engagement

Present - Ceri Gibson, Susan Ambrosi, Annie Preston, Jimmy Young, Peter Shield, Gayle Wilson, Terry Robson, Mark Dinning, Elaine Smith, Claire Dewson, Michelle Hogg, Liz Walters, Niall Cook, Claire Rawcliffe, Lynda Kelly, Rob Carr

Communications and engagement:

The CP had a great discussion about how to move the comms and engagement forward for the River Don.

The start of this will be the comms and press release around the Follingsby Max river restoration today that the EA and Highgrove Group will be putting out next week and #tagging partners in. **ACTION Sue Ambrosi to work with Highgrove Group on joint press release.**

The EA have invited their comms and engagement team to help with this work.

The idea was put forward that we should start with a couple of case studies championing the great work happening in the catchment – **ACTION Rob Carr to put this together by end of year.**

The CP also discussed the vision and the reviving the River Don Revival 2 pager – it was agreed that these will be circulated for partners to comment on by the end of the year – **ACTION All by end of year.**

All partners were asked to put forward options for any new comms to be used/publicised. –**ACTION All by end of year.**

Gayle Wilson from GBC had previously circulated some comms channels – **ACTION Gayle Wilson to recirculate.**

The partners also discussed a possible #tag for the partnership

It was noted that there is a river Don in Yorkshire so the #Tag that we will use to distinguish our river Don is #NERiverdon

£8K Northumbrian Water funding

Mark Dinning put a proposal to the CP about how to use this funding – the proposal was to focus on pulling future projects together and look for the most appropriate funding using consultants: Keith Bowey (GEES), Mark Parnell (EN-Mapping).

- bringing in a GIS consultant to map existing data and flag up opportunities
- Identify 5 project ideas based on the mapping
- Develop these ideas
- Select one or more projects to put forward for funding and make funding application
- Final output to be 1 funded project with a delivery partner in place.

After some discussion Mark will refine to proposal after discussing the GIS aspect with ERIC. Mark Dinning to provide feedback in next 2 weeks - output expected to be in the next 6 months. **ACTION Mark Dinning.**

We discussed a central location to hold information?

Elaine Smith suggested hosting info in our SharePoint system as part of the NIDP/Catchment partnership shared area. **ACTION Elaine Smith to arrange setting up a SharePoint folder if the option is available**

International Advanced Manufacturing Park

EA update:

IAMP One is underway after getting permission in the summer. The EA are still waiting for the discharge of conditions applications to come in, however we are currently assessing their flood risk permits.

Scoping report submitted to us September and we have responded. The inspector has now commented on this consultation.

Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) consultation Feb/March 2019.

Submission of the DCO June 2019

River Don and IAMP Two

IAMP Two Scoping Report submitted in September advised that a WDF impact assessment wasn't required as there wouldn't be an impact on the River Don. Something that we don't agree with. In our response we asked for an assessment to be carried out, something the planning inspector has agreed with and IAMP are now carrying out this work through JBA.

We've held a meeting with Systra and WSP about our position on river restoration and flood risk impacts of the development, in particular the bridge and outfall structures.

We have advised that we expect to see reference to some form of river restoration within the PEIR and design of Ecological Land Mitigation Area (ELMA) should include river restoration. We hope to agree to the principles through a Statement of Common Ground prior to the submission of the DCO. However at this stage it is good to see that the inspector is agreeing with our approach and has made reference to the work at Follingsby in their Scoping Opinion letter, see below:

Drainage mitigation should have regard to mitigation measures developed for the South Follingsby development, located upstream of the Proposed Development.

The ES should provide details of any proposed mitigation measures for the River Don and the ELMA, and explain consistent with local planning policy, to maintain its current classification and to support the WFD objective of Good potential by 2027.

We hope to be working closely with IAMP and their team on the DCO and design of the ELMA to look at the impacts of WFD and flood risk and come to a position where all parties are in agreement prior to the DCO submission.

It was agreed that it would be beneficial for the IAMP Environmental Group which IAMP have previously held to be reconvened. **ACTION Rob Carr to discuss with James Hudson (EA) and Paul Armin (SCC)**

Testos/A19 improvements by Highways England

£950k earmarked on a recent update from HE for Don improvement but no specific details have yet been received. Vortex separator proposed, at one location but this is a minimal contribution to catchment improvement /protection. EDF fund is currently open for applications.

ACTION Rob Carr will ask for a webinar from Highways England to explain what they plan to do on the Don with the funding

River Don Improvement Projects: fish obstructions / land management and bankside erosion project

Liz Walters from Tyne RT update on the Obstructions/land management project- 10 obstructions reviewed and detailed designs produced report has been produced which includes mapping of all problem locations.

Application made this year for WEIF (water environment improvement funding) funding.

This year, delivery of 4 muck bays at livery stables (essentially, constructions to provide a muck storage location which doesn't leach animal waste into the river), at present Mill Dene and Bowes meadows are underway Newton Garth and Low Meadows to be delivered by March.

Obstruction at Hedworth Dene (opposite side of road to Mill Farm Cottage) – landowner discussion is in progress.

Action Rob Carr arrange for land ownership requests to be submitted obstruction through the Dene

NWG update – assets/misconnections/obstructions

Misconnections – see end of notes for details supplied by NW

We briefly discussed NWs assets, obstructions and the Northumbria Integrated Drainage Programme. Rob Carr said it would be good to start and take a closer look at these in a way that we did on the Twizell burn. **ACTION Rob Carr to discuss with Elaine Smith**

Gateshead salt store update

Gateshead Council update from Peter Shield – Salt store is to remain in current location and a funding application proposed for a roofed salt barn – On drive by inspection today the salt store was predominantly uncovered. **ACTION for Peter Shield to ask where the tankered off salt store drainage is disposed to**

Future plans, projects and funding.

2019-20 £75k - EA WEIF funding submission – waiting allocation confirmation

2020-21 £100k - EA funding WEIF submission - waiting allocation confirmation

NWL £500k WES (water environment scheme) in AMP7 2020-2025- opportunity for seed funding perhaps?

UK Prosperity Fund post Brexit (Replaces European funding)

Highways England funding opportunities via their EDF

EA's strategic monitoring review

Rob Carr advised that he has submitted an application to have the water quality monitoring sondes reinstalled in 2020/2021 to assess the impact of all of our actions.

AOB

Mink have been identified on the River Don near IAMP location - Impacting on water vole populations so mink management currently ongoing.

Water vole survey catchment wide to be repeated by STC in 2019.

Greggs community funding applications to be made by Tyne Rivers Trust (5th December deadline)- Don is a key area for this proposal. Links with NWL water rangers.

Follingsby MAX site visit and photo opportunity

The CP stayed for a site visit:



Misconnections update:

PSWO Ref.No.	L.G. Area	Survey Status	Location	S.W.O Node Ref.	Watercourse	Waterbody ID	GPG3 score	No.Props	Surveys	Fails	Outstanding
PO18-043	GD	Not started	Gateshead - Follingsby Avenue	NZ3161 1004	Monkton Burn	Don from Source to Tidal Limit / GB103023075690	0	1	0	0	n/a
PO18-026	SUN	In progress	Washington - Essex Drive	NZ3158 1304	R.Don trib.	Don from Source to Tidal Limit / GB103023075690	50	66	59	9	3
PO16-027	GD	In Progress	Gateshead - Whitehouse Crescent	NZ2859 7302	R.Don	Don from Source to Tidal Limit / GB103023075690	50	689	648	37	18
PO16-004	STY	In Progress	Boldon Colliery - Cheltenham Drive	NZ3462 2713	R.Don	Don from Source to Tidal Limit / GB103023075690	0	138	128	6	0
PO16-003	STY	In Progress	Boldon Colliery - Berkley / Evesham Close	NZ3462 4704	R.Don	Don from Source to Tidal Limit / GB103023075690	50	59	52	3	0
PO16-002	STY	In Progress	Boldon Colliery - Langford Drive	NZ3462 5707	R.Don	Don from Source to Tidal Limit / GB103023075690	50	62	60	12	5
PO15-061	STY	In Progress	Fellgate, Jarrow - Limecroft	NZ3362 3106	Calfclose Burn	Don from Source to Tidal Limit / GB103023075690	15	Included in PO15-060 numbers			
PO15-060	STY	In Progress	Fellgate, Jarrow - Truro Way	NZ3361 2904	Calfclose Burn	Don from Source to Tidal Limit / GB103023075690	15	298	298	10	4
PO14-036	STY	In Progress	Jarrow - Fellgate Estate	NZ3362 1702	Calfclose Burn	Don from Source to Tidal Limit / GB103023075690	25	893	882	97	25
PO15-017	SU	Not started	Washington - Urban Gardens	NZ3158WC03	R.Don trib.	Don from Source to Tidal Limit / GB103023075690	35	0	0	0	n/a
PO14-039	STY	In Progress	Jarrow - Regent Road	NZ3364 3606	R.Don	Don from Source to Tidal Limit / GB103023075690	47	84	80	10	3

- PO18-043 Gateshead - Follingsby Avenue This misconnection is one commercial property within a small area of the industrial estate and on its own is having little to no effect on the water course. The misconnection was noticed as part of a wider pollution investigation. We are yet to gain access into the property to locate the source of the misconnection.
- PO18-026 Washington - Essex Drive We have surveyed 59 of the 66 properties identified and found 9 to have misconnections. From those 6 properties have corrected their drainage and 3 are currently still outstanding.
- PO16-027 Gateshead - Whitehouse Crescent We have surveyed 548 of the original 689 properties identified and found 37 to have misconnections. From those 19 have corrected their drainage and 18 are currently still outstanding. We are experiencing difficulties getting access to the outstanding surveys and we are currently considering our next steps to try and gain access.
- PO16-004 Boldon Colliery - Cheltenham Drive We have surveyed 128 properties out of 138 and found 6 properties to have misconnections all of which have been corrected. At last inspection in June the outfall was showing signs of recovery.

PO16-003	Boldon Colliery - Berkley / Evesham Close	We have surveyed 52 out of 59 properties and found 3 properties to have misconnections all of which have been corrected. At last inspection the outfall was not yet showing signs of recovery, we added 12 properties for survey in August 2018 but have not found any misconnections so further investigation is required to identify the source of contamination.
PO16-002	Boldon Colliery - Langford Drive	We have surveyed 60 of 62 properties and found 12 properties to have misconnections. From those 7 have corrected their drainage and 5 are still outstanding.
PO15-061		
PO15-060	Jarrow – Fellgate Estate (Limecroft, Truro Way)	Across the three outfalls we have surveyed 1181 properties of 1192 and found 107 misconnections. From those 78 have corrected and 29 are still outstanding. We have just met with representatives from the EA and STC to consider enforcement on the outstanding misconnections.
PO14-036		
PO15-017	Washington – Urban Gardens	Property surveys have yet to commence.
PO14-039	Jarrow – Regent Road	We have surveyed 80 of 84 properties and found 10 properties to have misconnections. From those 7 have corrected their drainage and 3 are still outstanding.