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| Natural Cambridgeshire Board meeting | 13/10/15 |
| | 10.00am – 12.00 |
| | The Civic Suite, Huntingdonshire District Council, Huntingdon |

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| Chaired by: | Richard Astle (Chair) | Note taker: | Philip Clark (Coordinator) |
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| Attendees: | <i>Richard Astle (RA)</i> <i>Phil Clark (PC)</i> <i>Mary Sanders (MS)</i> <i>Martin Baker (MB)</i> <i>Roger Mitchell (RM)</i> <i>Kirsten Bennett (KB)</i> <i>John Torlesse</i> <i>David Whiles (DW)</i> <i>Edmund Thornhill (ET)</i> <i>Chris Soans</i> <i>Rob Wise</i> <i>Cllr Nigel North</i> | <i>Chair</i> <i>LNP Coordinator</i> <i>Local Access Forum</i> <i>Wildlife Trust BCN</i> <i>Cambridgeshire Conservation Forum</i> <i>Cambridgeshire ACRE</i> <i>Natural England</i> <i>Health Watch Peterborough</i> <i>CLA/Thornhill Estates</i> <i>National Trust</i> <i>National Farmers Union</i> <i>Peterborough City Council</i> |
| | <i>Guests:</i> <i>Jon Balaam</i> <i>Cameron Adams</i> | <i>Greensand Ridge NIA</i> <i>Environment Agency</i> |

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| Apologies | <i>Cllr Matthew Shuter</i> <i>David Hoccom</i> <i>Oliver Burke</i> <i>Aidan Lonerghan</i> | <i>Cambridgeshire County Council</i> <i>RSPB</i> <i>Wildlife Trust BCN</i> <i>Natural England</i> |
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Minutes

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| Agenda Item: 1 | Welcome, introductions and apologies | Presenter: | |
| Discussion: | A welcome was extended to Jon Balaam from the Greensand Trust NIA and Cameron Adams from Environment Agency. | | |
| Action Items: | | Person Responsible | Deadline: |
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| Agenda Item: 2 | Minutes of last meeting | Presenter: | RA |
| Discussion: | There were no matters arising from the last meeting. | | |
| Action Items: | | Person Responsible: | Deadline: |
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| Agenda item: 3 | Proposal of new Board Member – Carly Leonard, Chief Executive of Peterborough Environment City Trust | Presenter: | PC |
| Discussion: | | | |
| <p>PC gave a verbal briefing on Carly Leonard and reasons for nominating for Board Membership. Recently appointed as Chief Executive for Peterborough Environment City Trust (PECT), previously as a Director at Sustainability East, she will bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to the Board. The nomination was seconded by RA and passed unanimously by the Board.</p> <p>Other potential members for the Board were discussed, including; the need for a developer, a member of CPRE, Matthew Bradbury from Nene Valley Trust and the LEP</p> | | | |
| Action items: | | Person Responsible: | Deadline: |
| | Contact CL and brief her on the Board’s work programme. | PC | By 16/10 |
| | Approach Matthew Bradbury, a Developer from the ‘Developing with Nature’ Group and LEP for Board membership | RA | End of November |
| | Approach CPRE for Board Membership | PC | End of November |
| | | | |
| Agenda item: 4 | Update on Strategic Solutions Group and Greater Cambridge City Deal | Presenter: | CA |
| Discussion: | | | |
| <p>Cameron Adams from the Environment Agency gave an update on the Strategic Solutions Group which is owned and resourced by the LEP. The group has representatives from the following organisations:</p> <p>Natural England Highways England Cambridgeshire County Council Peterborough City Council</p> <p>The role of the Group is to identify potential barriers to the Greater Cambridge growth programme delivery plan and work together on developing solutions.</p> <p>A question was raised as to whether AL is also representing the LNP Board on this group? CA/JT confirmed that was understood and the importance of keeping AL fully briefed on what Natural Cambridgeshire’s agenda is. The Board also requested that it should have opportunities either at future board meetings or by email to feed into AL’s input to the group, so its views were represented.</p> <p>CA also updated the Board on the Greater Cambridge City Deal whose main role is to help Greater Cambridge to maintain and grow its status as a prosperous economic area. Concern was raised that there is no environmental consideration in any of the schemes proposed and that a letter should be written to the City Deal Team, to raise concerns over the lack of natural environment being taken into consideration. For example the proposed routes for the duelling of the A428 would have significant impact on a number of SSSI’s.</p> <p>PC has arranged to meet Tanya Sheridan, recently appointed the City Deal Programme Director, on Friday 13th November. Board members are invited to contribute any agenda items they have over the work of the City Deal Delivery programme.</p> | | | |
| Action items: | | Person responsible: | Deadline: |

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| | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Draft letter to City Deal Project 2. Remind Board members of agenda items for meeting with Tanya Sheridan. | PC PC | By end of October By end of October |
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| Agenda item: 5 | Bedfordshire Greensand Ridge NIA – Presentation from Jon Balaam of the Greensand Trust, which will just edge into Cambridgeshire near Gamlingay. | Presenter: | Jon Balaam |
| Discussion: | <p>JB, Director of Development for The Greensand Trust and Chair of the Bedfordshire LNP, gave a presentation on the Greensand Ridge Nature Improvement Area (NIA) proposal. The eastern section of the NIA will cover the part of Cambridgeshire around Gamlingay. The Board were asked to give their approval, which was agreed unanimously. There are no implications for the work of Natural Cambridgeshire.</p> <p>JB's presentation to be uploaded to Natural Cambridgeshire website www.naturalcamb.org.uk . Letter of support to be written.</p> <p>There was some discussion around NIA's:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would the Ouse Valley be a good candidate for a NIA in Cambridgeshire? • Do we need to develop planning policy for NIA's? <p>NIA's to be a major item for next agenda. Invite member of Ouse Valley AONB proposal to meeting?</p> <p>Lincolnshire also considering NIA's. PC to contact Fran Smith for an update.</p> | | |
| Action items: | | Person responsible: | Deadline: |
| | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Draft letter of support 2. Upload presentation to website 3. Include NIA's on January Board meeting agenda 4. Contact Fran Smith for update on their NIA work | PC PC PC PC | By end of October By 23/10 By 4/1/16 By end of November '15 |
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| Agenda Item: | Work Programme updates | Presenter: | RA/MB/PC/RM |
| Discussion: | | | |
| <p>Developing with Nature</p> <p>RA outlined the work of the group so far in drafting a 'Developing with Nature Toolkit' proposal. The group involves representatives from a number of local developers, RSPB, Huntingdonshire District Council, Groundwork, Peterborough City Council, Cambridgeshire County Council and Natural England. This now needs more resource to be developed into a working document. Martin Baker from the Wildlife Trusts will now be leading on this work and is putting together a work plan. The intention is to get the developer group together and kick off this new phase of work later this year.</p> <p>Naturally Healthy</p> <p>The Naturally healthy Working Group is now working towards the development of a funding bid for a pilot project.</p> <p>A web-based page has been set up on which proposals will be developed. A project tool website has been created for uploading potential naturally healthy project, the link is: http://naturalcambshealthy.ideascale.com This is being populated with proposals for inclusion in the bid funding. The group will review, make suggestions and answer questions raised in the funding bid application document.</p> | | | |

A final bid writing workshop will be arranged for November.

As part of the development of the project a mapping/audit was proposed to identify the range of 'nature services' already operating in the County. These will be uploaded to a pinterest site which can be found here <https://uk.pinterest.com/naturalcambridg/naturally-healthy-cambridgeshire/>

The development of the bid would also benefit from the involvement of a GP(s).

As a means of raising the profile of the project it was agreed to organise a "Naturally Healthy Week" in 2016.

State of Nature Report

RM gave a brief summary of the outputs from the CCF Symposium which happened on the 21st September. A meeting of the sub-group on Tuesday 20 October will finalise a delivery plan for taking this work forward and will be used as a document to engage key audiences on the Vision, highlights the value of the SoN and be used to attract support and resources for a more comprehensive SoN report.

The idea of harmonising our SoN work with that of the NGO's 'Response for Nature' report launched recently, was discussed, and will also need to be included in any communications strategy.

Communications Strategy

Kirsten Bennett from ACRE has agreed to take a lead on this Theme. She is currently reviewing the Comms Strategy and will produce an updated draft before the end of November '15.

In the meantime there is a need to get our message out there and as a means to do this a number of opportunities were identified and are contained in the Communications Work Plan.

| Action Items: | Person Responsible: | Deadline: |
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| 1. Delivery plan to be produced for each Theme | MB/PC/RM | By end of October. End of November for Communications. |

| Agenda Item: | Presenter: | |
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| Natural Cambridgeshire Business Plan & Options- discussion and agreement. | RA | |
| Discussion: | | |
| This item was covered earlier in the agenda. Following discussion and feedback from the August meeting a final draft has been prepared and any last minute points are to be sent to PC before final completion in November. | | |
| Action Items: | Person Responsible: | Deadline: |
| 1. Circulate final draft of Business Plan | PC | By 20 th October |

| Agenda Item: | Presenter: | |
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| AOB | | |
| Discussion: | | |
| RM mentioned the possibility of Student Placement for working with the LNP and will circulate the information. | | |
| Action Items: | Person Responsible: | Deadline: |
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| 1. Student placement to be sent to PC | RM | By 23 October |
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| Agenda Item: | Date and venue for next meetings | Presenter: | |
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| Discussion: | | | |
| <p>Next meeting is to be held on Tuesday 12th January 2016 at Gt Fen, 10-12.</p> <p>Tuesday 12th April 2016 Thornhill Estates Tuesday 12th July 2016 – Wicken Fen Tuesday 11th October 2016 – TBC</p> | | | |
| Action Items: | | Person Responsible: | Deadline: |
| Confirm that Gt Fen meeting room is booked for January meeting | | MB | ASAP |