



## Humber Nature Forum

2.00 p.m. Wednesday 16th March 2016  
Humber Room, The Ropewalk, Barton upon Humber

## Minutes

### 1. Welcome, introductions and apologies

Adrian Koster	Royal Geographic Society
Alan Jones	Humber Nature Partnership
Annabel Hanson	Waterways Partnership
Barry Longstaff	Humber Conservation Volunteers
Daryl Burdon	HNF Vice-Chair/IECS, University of Hull
Emma White	North Eastern IFCA
Emma Wilmot	Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust
Ian Jakulis	Trust for Conservation Volunteers
Jennifer Hunt	Hull City Council
Jenny Sharman	Film maker and conservationist
Kevin Lenthall	Total LOR
Mike Coverdale	Humber Nature Partnership
Paula Grant	VANEL
PC 1805 Julie Turrell	Wildlife Officer, Humberside Police
Peter Rogers	Landowner
Sean Kent	Lincolnshire County Council
Simon Wellock	Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust
Tania Davey	Humber Nature Partnership
Tony Edwards	HNP Chair /Humber Environmental Managers Network

### Apologies

Alison Briggs	Shire's Group IDBs
Andrew Gibson	HNF Chair/Yorkshire Wildlife Trust
Andrew Taylor	HERAG Chair. North Lincolnshire Council
Chris Manning	North Nottingham Water Management Board
Clare Langrick	Humber Environmental Data Centre
Cliff Morrison	HNP board member
Darren Clarke	Humber Nature Partnership
Dick Shillaker	Yorkshire Branch of British Dragonfly Society
Gordon Kell	Humber Nature Forum
Lorna Fairclough	Novartis
Phillippa Barron	Canal and River Trust
Sue Manson	Environment Agency
Susan Wilson	Natural England
Tim Smith	North Eastern IFCA
Tom Jeynes	ABP

DB welcomed the group and chaired the meeting.

## **2. Minutes and matters arising**

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved by the Forum.

## **3. Elections of chair and vice-chair**

TD informed the group that AG was happy to continue as Chair and DB as Vice-chair and asked if there were any other nominations. TE proposed the re-appointment of AG and DB and MC seconded this motion.

## **4. Presentation: Practical participation and the benefits of volunteering**

DB outlined that a range of presentations would be given to provide examples of volunteering opportunities on the Humber and the benefits it provides.

- **From an industrial perspective – Kevin Lenthall, Total LOR**

Volunteers work on Total LOR's woodland area, Burkinshaw's Covert. Involving volunteers is a cost-effective option for the business and volunteers enjoy the experience. Biodiversity has been improved, a range of people have been involved including schools and training has been provided. The project would not have been as progressive without the support of the Humber Nature Partnership. [The presentation can be found here.](#)

- **Benefits of volunteering – Ian Jakulis, TCV**

There are a range of benefits from volunteering including gaining experience, getting work done quickly, greater skills and financial benefits. Benefits to business include Corporate Social Responsibility, team building and companies seen as green. TCV (Trust for Conservation Volunteers) is a charity that is funded by delivering practical conservation work. TCV can help organisations apply for funding to deliver volunteer conservation activity and can also provide training. [The presentation can be found here.](#)

- **Volunteer involvement in Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust's work, Simon Wellock**

There is a long history of volunteer involvement in LWT reserve management in North Lincolnshire. In February 2016 volunteers worked over 400 hours on LWT North Lincolnshire reserves. The Trust offers different types of volunteering from regular workdays to a residential volunteer who receives on the job training. It is important to understand why and when volunteers can get involved. [The presentation can be found here.](#)

- **Funding and signposting volunteer opportunities – Paula Grant, VANEL**

VANEL is one of 320 accredited volunteer centres. VANEL brokers opportunities with organisations to develop volunteer opportunities. The Volunteer Managers Network is also run to share opportunities and funding. VANEL also offers training. VANEL is currently undertaking an audit of volunteering across the area to better understand how volunteers operate. VANEL can bid for funding in partnership with frontline groups and is happy to explore funding opportunities.

AJ suggested there are benefits for all in environment sector on the Humber to work with organisations like VANEL to create a volunteer strategy and funding package to pool volunteer interests and take an estuary wide volunteer programme forward. TE suggested identifying needs and opportunities for volunteers around the Humber. PG would be happy to look at this area of work in conjunction with other voluntary action groups around the Estuary.

**Action 1:**

Forum members to contact Alan Jones if they are interested in a collaborative estuary wide volunteer project.

**5. Humber updates**

All attendees were invited to provide a brief overview of ongoing projects or issues relating to the Humber Estuary, and also what volunteering they are involved in or would like to see around the Humber.

- **Adrian Koster, Royal Geographic Society**

Suggested considering fracking at a future meeting as there is a potential for this activity in the area. Birdlife has reported that storks are no longer migrating as they are feeding on landfill sites. Do we need to consider this in relation to birds on the Humber? Due to a recent incident in shipping, do we need to consider increases in shipping at a future meeting? TE outlined that ABP is closely involved in our work but it might be useful to have a presentation on emergency plans at a future meeting.

- **Tony Edwards, HNP Chair / HEMN**

There will be a free half day conference on 11<sup>th</sup> May at the Guildhall called 'planning for a sustainable Humber Estuary'. Information will be circulated after Easter.

- **Mike Coverdale, HNP Board Member**

A volunteer for the HNP (Board member) and in the Little Tern Protection Scheme at Easington. Permanent Volunteers are in place for 2016 and recruitment is still taking place.

- **Simon Wellock, Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust**

It is nearly the breeding bird season and SW asked for everyone to be vigilant for any impacts on the birds.

- **Julie Turrell, Humberside Police**

JT is now the full time Wildlife Crime Officer covering the whole of the Humber. There are 5 volunteers and the work includes prevention, not just crime.

- **Peter Rogers, landowner**

It would be useful to understand the implications of the EU in/out debate on the environment. SW outlined that EU legislation is enshrined into UK law and any changes would have to be made in parliament following consultation.

- **Jenny Sharman**

Currently undertaking a Masters and volunteering to gain experience. Also creates films to inspire and motivate sustainable living and would be interested in creating something to inspire farmers to work with the environment. It was suggested JS contacted Chris McGregor at Natural England who was involved in a film on sustainable farming practices.

- **Sean Kent, Lincolnshire County Council**

The Greater Lincolnshire Partnership has been announced.

- **Emma White, North Eastern IFCA**

North Eastern IFCA have now completed the assessment of the impact of fisheries in European Marine Sites and now looking at the in-combination effect. A juvenile fin fish survey will be undertaken in conjunction with Yorkshire Wildlife Trust.

- **Ian Jakulis , TCV**

The tree planting scheme is coming to an end and 16,000 trees have been planted since the end of October. TCV is currently establishing a project with Yorkshire Water and Hull City of Culture.

- **Annabel Hanson, Waterways Partnership**

Currently working with the University of Hull to enter an Interreg bid on sediment character. The Project will have a volunteer element linked to citizen science.

- **Jennifer Hunt, Hull City Council**

As part of the emerging Local Plan HCC is proposing to change the designation of a large area of employment land to the far west of Hull's Humber frontage to green space. The site is locally recognised for its mosaic of habitats on former industrial land, this same piece of land is the subject of a multi-agency River Hull Valley and Outer Humber HLF Wet Grassland bid (led by NE, YWT and the EA) that highlight's the site's possible use as a high tide wader roost.

- **Tania Davey, Humber Nature Partnership**

Interested in citizen science opportunities in relation to data gathering on the Humber

- **Alan Jones, Humber Nature Partnership**

HNP recently met with the Natural England Coastal Access Team and will keep the group updated on this. HCV now has charity status.

- **Daryl Burdon, IECS, University of Hull**

IECS has finished the publication 'East Riding, Past, Present and Future' – an electronic version can be shared but funding is still being sought to produce some hard copies of the report. IECS currently has a NERC-funded research placement working on the social and cultural impacts of storm surges in the Humber Estuary. IECS is involved with a number of intertidal ecological surveys around the Humber (e.g. Paull Holme Strays, Welwick, Alkborough, Skeffling, Hull Frontages, etc.) and fish and bird surveys as part of the Humber Gateway offshore wind farm development. IECS have also been involved in a recent bid for Interreg IVB funding to investigate the sustainability and traceability of North Sea Fisheries and a bid under H2020 funding to investigate the co-location of activities in coastal and marine waters.

## **6. Humber Nature Partnership update**

- The Board will be reviewing the business plan at the next meeting.
- The HNP is looking how to incorporate WFD actions into the HMS action plan
- The Humber Nature Partnership app is almost complete
- Bird tagging project: fieldwork complete and analysis to begin
- Humber Hounds bridge walk 22<sup>nd</sup> May. Expecting over 200 walkers
- Undertaking an environmental data audit – questionnaire to be sent out by the end of March
- Woodland management and Burkinshaw's Covert continues
- Continued support for the Barton Claypits Group

## 7. AOB and date of next meeting

<b>Time and date</b>	<b>Presentation</b>	<b>Location</b>
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> May 2016	Joint HNF/Environment Managers meeting	Time and location TBC
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	Site visit	Time and location TBC
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> September	TBC	Time and location TBC