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**Minutes of the meeting of the Essex Flood Partnership Board (Private Meeting), held Online on Wednesday, 6 July 2022****Present:****Members of the Board:**

Cllr Lee Scott	Essex County Council
Cllr Gary Collins	Thurrock Council
Jonathan Glerum	Anglian Water
Peter Massie	Essex County Council
John Meehan	Essex County Council
Cllr Richard Moore	Basildon Borough Council
David Orrin	Environment Agency
Cllr Nicky Purse	Harlow District Council
Lucy Shepherd	Essex County Council
Cllr Dave Sperring	Rochford District Council
Cllr Sue White	Maldon District Council

**Also present:**

David Chapman	Essex County Council
Chris Coode	Thames 21
James Ennos	Tendring District Council
Josie Falco	Braintree District Council
Damien Ghela	Maldon District Council
Steph Kober	Basildon Council
Michael O'Neill	Thames 21
Joanne Matthews	Southend-on-Sea City Council
David Prudence	Essex Highways
Lee Sencier	Essex County Council
Tim Simpson	Essex County Council
Lisa Siggins	Essex County Council – Democratic Services
Mandy Thompson	Epping Forest District Council
Nuvtej Tung	Thurrock Council
David Uncle	Essex County Council

**1 Online meeting protocol and software functionality**

Councillor Scott explained the online meeting protocol and software functionality.

## **2 Membership, Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest**

The report of the Membership, Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations was received.

Apologies had been received from:

- Graham Brown - Environment Agency
- Cllr Schmitt – Braintree District Council
- Cllr Williamson- Epping Forest District Council
- Cllr Mulroney Southend on Sea City Council
- Cllr Pavitt – Uttlesford District Council
- Marc Inman – ECC
- Cllr Turner – Tendring District Council
- Mark Eaglestone Essex County Fire and Rescue Service

No declarations of interest were made

## **3 Minutes: 27.04.22**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 27th April 2022 were approved as a correct record.

## **4 Climate Focus Area**

The Board received a presentation from John Meehan, Head of Sustainability & Resilience regarding the Climate Focus Area (CFA).

The presentation can be found [here](#).

Following the presentation, Jonathan Glerum of Anglian Water enquired as to the opportunities for partner organisation involvement. John Meehan explained that whilst it was still early days plans were in hand for this to be done through the communications procedure.

Cllr Collins asked for some explanation of some of the technical terms which were provided by Mr Meehan.

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## **5 Building Resilience in Communities Project**

The Board received an update from Michael O'Neil, Thames21 regarding the Building Resilience in Communities (BRIC) project on Canvey Island.

Key points included:

- Engagement with the public on Canvey Island
- Different approaches to the dealing with Flood protection including the use of "rain gardens" which involve community engagement and maintenance

- Difficulties encountered with public engagement- looking at different forms including regular litter picking events

Jonathan Glerum advised that Anglian Water have experienced problems with public engagement in the area. He offered to look into the opening of the water recycling centre to combine it with one of the litter picking events and advised that he would make contact following the meeting.

## **6 Essex Property Flood Resilience**

To receive an update, including a presentation from David Uncle, Flood Investigation Engineer in relation to the new Essex Property Flood Resilience (PFR) contract.

The presentation can be found [here](#)

Following the presentation Josie Falco queried the effectiveness of protection being offered. It was explained that it is not a 100% guarantee against flooding but other 'non grant' options may be available. A survey is undertaken which highlights all available options.

## **7 Planning for Climate Emergency**

The Board received a presentation from David Orrin, Environment Agency regarding the role of Town and Country Planning in Flood and Coastal Resilience.

The presentation can be found [here](#)

Cllr Collins stated that much of what was highlighted in the presentation was "common sense" and enquired as to whether there was a suitable guide available to provide to planning committees rather than scientific evidence.

Mr Orrin advised that unfortunately no such guide was available but suitable tests are incorporated in the planning process.

Tim Simpson confirmed that developers have to comply with SuDS and that ECC work with relevant officers in this regard.

Michael O'Neill enquired as to whether issues shown in the presentation regarding sustainable drainage were mandatory or just guidelines. It was confirmed that whilst there are legislative requirements, there are often loopholes which are used.

## **8 Essex Capital Flood Programme 2021-22 update**

The Board received a report **EFPB/03/22** from Dave Chapman, Project Delivery Manager, on the progress of schemes in the Floods Capital Programme

The Board noted the report.

**9 Partner Updates**

Jonathan Glerum, Anglian Water gave an overview/update presentation regarding Anglian Water.

Presentation can be found [here](#)

**10 Any Other Business**

There was none.

**11 Date of Next Meeting**

The Board noted that the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 19th October, to be held online.

The meeting closed at 12.35 pm

**Chairman**