
Minutes of the meeting of the Essex Flood Partnership Board (Private Meeting), held Online on Tuesday, 23 November 2021**Present:****Members of the Board:**

Cllr Mark Platt	Essex County Council
Cllr Nigel Avey	Epping Forest District Council
Cllr Gary Collins	Thurrock Council
Jonathan Glerum	Anglian Water
Cllr Simon Hart	Castle Point Borough Council
Rachel Keen	Environment Agency
Cllr Richard Moore	Basildon Borough Council
Cllr Carole Mulrone	Southend-on-Sea Borough Council
Cllr Richard Pavitt	Uttlesford District Council
Cllr Wendy Schmitt	Braintree District Council
Cllr Dave Sperring	Rochford District Council
Cllr Nick Turner	Tendring District Council

Also present:

Alison Bielecka	Essex County Council
Dave Chapman	Essex County Council
Graham Brown	Environment Agency
Trudie Bragg	Castle Point Borough Council
James Ennos	Tendring District Council
Laura Driver	Environment Agency
Damien Ghela	Maldon District Council
Chris Holmes	Essex County Council
Tom Moat	Essex County Council
Tom Palmer	Southend-on-Sea Borough Council
David Prudence	Essex Highways
Lee Sencier	Essex County Council
Dave Chapman	Essex County Council
Tim Simpson	Essex County Council
Lisa Siggins	Essex County Council – Democratic Services
Jeff Stacey	Rochford District Council
Mandy Thompson	Epping Forest District Council

1 Online meeting protocol and software functionality

Councillor Platt 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:

Councillor Lee Scott– ECC- Cllr Mark Platt acted as chair in place of Cllr Scott

Rachel Keen- EA – Graham Brown substituting

John Meehan - ECC

Lucy Shepherd

No declarations of interest were made.

3 Minutes:18.02.21

The Minutes of the meeting held on 18th February 2021 were approved as a correct record.

4 Flood Risk Management Plans

The Board received a presentation from Florence Lovatt, Environment Agency on the second cycle of the Flood Risk Management Plans (FRMP) 2021-2027

This was followed by a presentation from Lee Sencier, Surface water engineer regarding the latest update on regional Flood Risk Management Plans Cycle 2.

In response to a question raise by Councillor Turner, Ms Lovatt explained how the FRMP ties in with the Shoreline Management plans.

Board Members were asked to submit any comments/ suggestions regarding FRMP Measure 0208805002, relating to the future updating of the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy and what should be included in this. Following the meeting the contact details for this were shared with Members.

The Board proceeded to discuss the importance of maintenance of drains and watercourses.

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

The presentation from Lee Sencier can be found

5 Catchment to Coast Project Update

The Board received a presentation from Tom Palmer, Southend on Sea Borough Council, regarding the Catchment to Coast Project which was awarded approximately £6 million from the Flood and coastal resilience innovation programme.

In response to a question raised by Cllr Hart regarding incorporating a water butt scheme, Mr Palmer advised that this may be considered. He confirmed that the project is at an early stage and it is hoped that a local engagement officer will be engaged.

Cllr Collins advised that there had been recent changing regarding insurance policies with increases to excesses. He stressed the importance of maintenance in all areas. Dave Chapman mentioned to the existence of a Government run scheme. Following the meetings details and the [link](#) were provided to Members.

The presentation can be found [here](#)

6 Essex Floods Capital Programme

The Board received a report (**EFPB/03/21**) from Dave Chapman, Project Delivery Manager, on the progress of schemes in the Capital Programme. This was followed by a presentation on the progress of the Essex Forestry Initiative (EFI)

Mr Chapman advised the Board of the good news in that funding for 2022/23 had been approved, additionally for the following two years the request to make savings of 20% was no longer necessary.

Following the presentation in respect of the EFI, Cllr Platt enquired as to the success rate regarding the trees already planted. Mr Moat advised that the planting at each site is bespoke, but that approximately 20-30% of trees planted do die which is to be expected when there is planting in such large numbers. Cllr Hart pointed out that smaller trees are more vulnerable- It was confirmed that the planting of semi mature trees was being looked into.

The presentation can be found [here](#)

7 Essex Climate Action Commission: Research Findings

The Board received a presentation from Chris Holmes, Commercial Research Analyst, on the findings of a research project led by the Essex Climate Action Commission.

Councillor Moore thanked Mr Holmes for his presentation and stated that unfortunately many residents do not feel that climate issues are their responsibility.

It was confirmed that relevant contact details were contained in the presentation.

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

8 Local Nature Partnership

The Board received a presentation from Tim Simpson, Green Infrastructure and Sustainable Drainage Manager, on the progress of the Local Nature Partnership development.

Cllr Mulroney stated that she was very keen on the partnership but felt that it was very important that the public were educated on key issues such as keeping lawns clipped.

In response to a question from Cllr Schmitt, it was confirmed that the partnership should commence very soon with the aim being to have the first meeting in January. There was a list of key contacts already in place and it is proposed that there will be general representation which would include both an online Forum and representation at a senior level.

The presentation can be found [here](#)

9 Any Other Business

Councillor raised the following issues:

- He requested a more concise leaflet on riparian owner responsibilities – Dave Chapman confirmed that he would look into this and contact Cllr Turner
- He was experiencing issues with Anglian Water, who were not responding to contact made by him. Jonathan Glerum confirmed that he would provide specific contact details to Cllr Turner
- He requested that an update on Water Recycling Centres be provided to the Board in the near future.
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10 Date of Next Meeting

The Board noted that the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 26th January at 10am, to be held online.

The meeting closed at 12.12 pm

Chairman