



North Thames Fisheries Local Action Group Board

7th December 2018 | Leigh Community Centre Room 6

Attendees

CDM Claire Dumontier- Marriage – Leigh resident	AR Andrew Rattley – NTFLAG Chair
AM Cllr Andrew Moring – Portfolio Holder	CR Caroline Reynolds – SBC
CM Cllr Carole Mulrone – Leigh Society/LTC	JS Jonathan Sedgewick – Mike’s Boatyard
Anna Anna Patel – NTFLAG	JS (Seafish) Julie Snowden - Seafish
Amy Amy Pryor – NTFLAG/TEP	Giles Giles Tofield – NTFLAG/Cultural Engine

Apologies

Cllr Bernard Arscott – Leigh Ward	Andrew Lawrence – Osbornes
Richard Eves – Leigh Fishing	Mick Sharp – Watermans Assoc Shoeburyness
Tanya Ferry – PLA	Matthew Smith – MWS Shellfish
Daryl Godbold – Trawlerman	Cllr Peter Wexham – Leigh Port Partnership
Cllr John Lamb – SBC Leader	

11:00 – 11:05 Chairman’s Welcome, October Minutes

All agreed and no comments.

11:05 – 12:25 Projects

Many of the projects listed in the agenda will require reallocation of the current priority budgets. The projects listed cannot all be FLAG funded but can be chosen for other funding sources and whether the team should allocate efforts for the development of that project. This is also an opportunity to decide on some reserve/pipeline projects.

If all projects are approved the FLAG team will need to submit an LDS review to the MMO to approve rearrangement.

1. Leigh Infrastructure Feasibility – Stage 2 surveys:

The total project cost is higher than available funds in priority 1 and would need to be spread across the first two priorities. The feasibility study would align with Priority 2 as well as as most the surveys are monitoring of the environment.

If this is funded and carried out soon then the current Shoreline Strategy contractors (Mott Macdonald) can be used without going out for tender and will ensure the local authority are ready for the capital project once funding has been sought for it at a later stage.

Discussions around the total cost of the project but recognition of being the only forward for the port to stay open and viable. Comments were made about the importance of stable infrastructure at ports.

2. Intertidal Monitoring

Waiting on final cost but likely to be more than FLAG has available. The surveys will apply to the entire Thames and therefore suggestions of using the core fund to submit this.

3. Thames Estuary Data – phase 2

This project will also run across the entire Thames, speaking to fishermen working on the Essex, Suffolk and Kent coast. It could then be submitted through the core EMFF fund.

Amy: If surveys from the Stage 2 feasibility study were shared this would decrease the total cost as data such as sediment surveys and EIA's could be used again. TEP can take both the Thames Estuary Data and the Intertidal Monitoring project forwards if this data is made available.

Agreement for these to be submitted under the core fund by Amy and Anna.

4. Lights on Two Tree Island Slipway

Southend Borough Council Foreshore Dpt suggested installing lights on the slipway at Two Tree Island which several representatives from the fishing industry have agreed with. No response yet from the foreshore department, which will need to make the application.

CR – Action to follow up with the foreshore department on new lights. This can be taken as full project to the final, February board meeting.

5. Appraisal of energy requirements for Old Leigh/Two Tree Island

This project arose from the separate Two Tree Island meeting, following the previous board meeting covering development at Two Tree Island. A brief has been written and liaison with Southend Borough Council's energy department is ongoing. An estimated £30,000 for the total project cost has been suggested.

AM suggested a lower cost through his experience of UKPN, although the project would span larger than Two Tree/Old Leigh, to include Chalkwell and some wider economy analysis.

JS suggested that it is a local authority responsibility as lights and power are extremely unreliable for a business paying rent. In response, it is very possible that the local authority can fund most of the appraisal, as it is not specific to the maritime/fisheries businesses, but a small contribution may push it forwards faster.

Once the team has a figure for the cost of the appraisal work this can be sent out to all board members to approve in an email or in the next board meeting.

6. Safety equipment

Previously mentioned working with the industry to fund joint safety equipment, however these joint safety projects can be only be submitted through the FLAG funding, not core. Therefore, looking to buy around 20 EPIRBS at £600 each and funded at 50%.

The applicant will be the new fishermen's association.

Queries regarding different equipment, Anna explained that only non-mandatory items can be funded and as EPIRBS will be mandatory for all next October let's get them funded now.

All approved.

7. Two Tree Island Bridge

The bridge onto Two Tree Island has had the weight restriction checked and the current sign of 7.5tonnes is correct. If there is any small-scale maritime or fisheries development on the island or there is a need to remove waste from the island a stronger bridge will likely be required.

Southend Borough Council will now prioritise this bridge and the FLAG could fund a small amount of match to help push the survey and design forwards.

This would require reallocation of funding as it would come out of the infrastructure priority. £5000 approved.

8. Resurfacing of Cockle Wharf

There is a possibility that some preparational design work could be done and cockle wharf – contributing to the ‘pipeline of projects’ that Southend Borough Council are keen to see emerge. Projects that have designs, costs and business cases will stand a much better chance of securing funding.

The example was given of Eastbourne Under10’s that is in the line-up for SELEP funding due to their business case and plan for their quayside.

The need of resurfacing cockle wharf has been present over the last few years, in light of flooding and safety for unloading catch and as a turning circle, this came up several times during the Spatial Plan. The design would complement other projects for Leigh and could be held as a reserve project for funding.

JS agreed that at some point a plan and survey will need to be done and it is a good opportunity.

Amy mentioned the use of SUDs (Sustainable Urban Drainage) for the area, which was originally outlined in the LDS. The Green Bank have a good relationship with Southend Borough Council so could be a possible way forward.

All agreed for a reserve project and for Giles to work with Southend Borough Council to take it forwards with constant liaison with the fishermen associations.

9. Economic Analysis of the fishing industry

This project was turned down in the May meeting due to high costs. It could now be taken forwards by the local authority, looking at the wider impact of the fishing/maritime activities in Leigh, with or without FLAG funding.

JS (Seafish) mentioned that Seafish carry out economic analysis of fishing fleets and this could be carried out next year pending availability. Amy later suggested including natural and social capital analysis of the area too.

Giles, Anna and Julie to discuss and set out the context for such a study.

10. Marketing and branding for Leigh on Sea

Thames Estuary Partnership have selected the items and services they believe are suited to the area and relevant to the context of other work. The board have approved MWC to go ahead with a pre-brand study but required approval for the next stage of the work, the full brand.

Questions regarding looking for a local company or tendering the work. MWC designed a package they felt was relevant to the area which is likely to benefit the industry more due to their experience with fishing communities. It was suggested that MWC could engage with local organisations during their work.

It was noted that the industry will need to engage if they want to go forwards with this. JS suggested making the surveys relatively easy and not time consuming.

JS (Seafish) suggested that Shellfish Week is in March 2019 and there may be something the industry could do and something JS (Seafish) can help with regarding marketing.

Uncertainty over the perception of the Thames and current Southend water quality, this needs to be addressed during the study.

It was suggested that MWC will meet with the Board and industry after a pre-branding study to decide if the industry want to go forwards.

Approved.

SEE UPDATED BUDGET – PAGE 5

Please note: there are several red notes that have been changed or come to light after the board meeting.

12:25 – 12:35 Updates: Ongoing projects

Anna ran through all project updates, including the change that the maritime interpretation project is to be carried forward by Leigh Society, with Cultural Engine project managing.

12:35 – 12:50 Leigh Port Partnership

Essentially, LPP and the fishermen's association will be the future of FLAG funding and will need to become sustainable if the FLAG is to have a lasting legacy.

CM and AR explained there are capacity issues at LPP and ideally need a paid member of staff. Giles/Anna can help with fundraising for LPP to continue the case, supported by local partners.

Suggestions that people are happy to volunteer for specific roles or jobs.

Anna to send CDM examples of local maritime partnerships.

12:50 – 13:00 Any other Business

JS (Seafish) Responsible fishing port scheme in July, now ready to roll out one for small ports – will need to be taken forwards by the land owner (Southend on Sea Borough Council). Agreed for JS (Seafish) to investigate and connect her with Cllr John Lamb or other appropriate contact.

CDM - Great British Spring Clean in March, Claire taking it forward

Agreed to investigate a natural and social capital analysis/account for the area.

Budget allocation and approval

Priority	1	2	3	4	5	Core EMFF	Notes (from and since 7/12/2018)
Budget remaining	£163,990	£86,698	£41,060	£51,815	£975		
Project applications							
Leigh feasibility stage 2 surveys	£141,990	£86,760					All of priority 2 was used before using the remaining priority 1 funds as this project is primarily environmental surveys
Intertidal Monitoring						£60,000	Submit to Core funds
Thames Data Phase 2						£40,000	Submit to Core funds
Slipway lights				£3,000			Moved to Priority 4 for fishermen's safety
Energy appraisal	£17,000						Reduction from £20,000 to £17,000
Safety equipment				£5,000			
Two Tree Island Bridge	£5,000						Contribution
Economic Impact of fisheries			£5,000				EFTEC consultancy could add Natural and Social capital analysis for the area on top of Seafish work
Marketing, branding project			£31,000				
Total of project applications	£163,990	£86,760	£36,000	£8,000	£0		
Remaining funds	£0	-£62	£5,060	£43,815	£975		
Reserve Project: Design for resurfacing cockle row	£10,000						Contribution
Reserves to keep for last minute projects			£5,000	£15,000			Training – JS (Seafish) and JS suggested reserving for last minute projects. Anna to develop with JS (Seafish). Funds for marketing projects kept, however must be allocated by March, therefore not possible.
	+£10,000			-£10,000			£10,000 reallocation from Priority 4 to Priority 1
Remaining funds	£0	-£62	£60	£18,815	£975		