

Meeting of : Fairbourne Project Board	Date: 21/03/2014
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Present: Huw Williams (HW), Gwynedd Council (YGC)
 Huw Davies (HD), Gwynedd Council (YGC)
 Cefin Edwards (CE), Gwynedd Council (YGC)
 Shirley Hughes (SH) Gwynedd Council Emergency Planning (GC)
 Louise Huws (LH) Gwynedd Council Councilor (GC)
 Julian Kirkham (JK), Arthog Community Council (ACC)
 John Smith (JS), Arthog Community Council (ACC)
 Stuart Eves (SE), Arthog Community Council (ACC)
 Peter Cole (PC), Fairbourne Facing Change (FFC)
 Sylvia Stevenson (SS), Fairbourne Facing Change (FFC)
 Kirsty Williams (KW), Fairbourne Facing Change (FFC)
 Gareth Lloyd (GL), Snowdonia National Park (SNP)
 Greg Guthrie (GG), Royal HaskoningDHV (RHDHV)
 Rachel Smith (RS), Royal HaskoningDHV (RHDHV)
 Louise Pennington (LP), Natural Resource Wales (NRW)
 Gareth Evens (GE), Natural Resource Wales (NRW)
 Dafydd Roberts (DR), Natural Resource Wales (NRW)
 Kerry Kierle (KK), Welsh Government (WG)
 Richard Williams (RW), Welsh Government (WG)
 Katherine Jones (KJ), Welsh Water (WW)

Apologies: Nia Davies (ND), Gwynedd Council (GC)
 Gareth Roberts (GR), Gwynedd Council Councillor (GC)
 James Morris (JM), Welsh Government (WG)
 Sue Jones (SJ), Arthog Community Council (ACC)

ITEM NO	MINUTES	ACTION	TARGET DATE
1.0	Introductions		
1.1	HW welcomed all to the meeting and individuals introduced themselves.		
2.0	Minutes and Actions Arising From Last Meeting 28th August 2013		
2.1	The minutes of the meeting dated 28 th of August 2013 were taken as being accurate.		
2.2	HW outlined the formation and structure of the Project Board, emphasising its Multi-Agency composition and highlighting the two main elements of the project, namely: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examining and building on information on the existing and future flood erosion risk management process. • Adaptation and Social Risk Management The 'Management and Project Co-ordination' leaflet was circulated to the meeting. HW emphasised that the 10 year life cycle is not on the agenda and that the actual time scale is 40 years.		

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2.8	(Items 7, 8 and 9) SE stated that existing ditches required clearing. HD agreed and explained that, in some cases, it was landowners who were responsible for their maintenance. GC had identified relevant land owners.		
2.9	(Items 10 and 11) SE stated that there was no solid evidence of proof in obtaining insurance and that reports continued to be anecdotal. KK reported that James Morris (JM) had circulated notes regarding insurance within WG and that there was an ongoing discussion with Central Government regarding flood insurance. JM to provide an update to GC prior to next Project Board Meeting. GG questioned whether this could be included in the Whisper journal. JM to summarise for the Sibrydion (Whisper) journal.	JM	June 2014
2.10	(Items 13 and 14) Fairbourne identified in Local Development Plan as a Coastal Change Management Area. LP explained that these plans exist in England but they have not been rolled out in Wales as yet. GG questions what they would mean from a WG perspective and a consistency and perspective for Managed Realignment. HW stated that the SMP2s have not been signed off by the Minister. KK explained that WG have to consider Environmental Legislation and the effect of Imperative Reasons of Overriding Public Interest (IROPI) as well as Policy requirements prior to sign off. PC/JS asked if the recent flooding would have an effect on the projections within the SMPs. GG stated that those events will not significantly affect the return periods and that SMP2s, which are based on NRW Flood Warning Areas, have been shown to be realistic. HW stated that SMP2s will play a part in formulating Local Development Plans.		
2.11	(Item 15) HD that there was no clear evidence of an effect on house prices at the time of the publication of the SMP2, however events had overtaken actions following the 'Week In, Week Out' programme. Evidence will be collected and collated and will require input by all parties. GG asked how FFC can input information into the Project Board. PC states that in principal FFC are happy to share information but they need an assurance that it is to be used correctly and with anonymity when required.	All	Ongoing
2.12	(Item 16) KK stated that WG's Policy Development Department have an evidence database that could feed into the information pool and vice versa.	All	Ongoing
2.13	(Item 18 and 19) LP reported that Summary Reports of the Pathfinder Projects are available on the DEFRA Website and that all Phase 1 Reports had been published.		

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5.2	<p>The format of the public meeting scheduled for the 25th of April 2014 was discussed.</p> <p>JS the style and type of information that would be presented, in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The facts that will be presented and what exactly will be explained? • What is the scientific background? • Clarification is key • That information should be circulated to the community beforehand to allow the community to respond in an informed position <p>It was agreed that, rather than a surgery type format, that 3 formal meetings should be held on the day and that they should follow the pattern that FCC followed for their community meeting i.e. attendance of each meeting would be based geographically. Each meeting would follow the same agenda so that there would be a consistency in presenting information.</p> <p>FCC reported that they were in the process of collating potential questions.</p> <p>GG requested that these questions be provided to the Project Board prior to the meeting</p> <p>JS stated that response to questions needed to include time scales.</p> <p>HW informed the meeting that the FAQ brochure would be circulated to all residents and holiday home owners. The delay had been due to translating.</p> <p>GG stated that the FAQ document was a living document and that it would be updated following the community meeting.</p> <p>PC stated that there was an urgent need to provide a Public Statement prior to the 25th of April to explain the timescale issues i.e. not 10 years, it is 40 years or more.</p> <p>It was agreed that a group be set to discuss and arrange the meeting on the 25th of April and that it would consist of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACC, SE • GC, 2 people • NRW, 1-2 people • LH 	<p>ACC/GC/ FCC</p> <p>FCC</p> <p>GC</p> <p>GC</p> <p>GC</p> <p>ACC/GC/ NRW/LH</p>	<p>April 2014</p> <p>ASAP</p> <p>ASAP</p> <p>Post April 2014</p> <p>ASAP</p> <p>ASAP</p>

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5.2	<p>HW explained that a further 3 Project Board Meetings had been arranged with 3 Public Meetings to be arrange between them.</p> <p>HW asked FFC to advise on appropriate means of communication e.g. IT/Newsletter/letter drop/Whisper journal</p> <p>FFC currently circulate a newsletter and it was agreed that this could be utilised by CG.</p>	<p>GC</p> <p>GC/FFC</p>	<p>June, September November 2014</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
6.0	Emergency Response Plans		
6.1	<p>It was agreed that a working group be created to discuss emergency response plans and would include representatives from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACC • NRW • GC • LH • Flood Wardens <p>HD to arrange initial meeting.</p>	<p>ACC/ NRW/ GC/LH/ Flood Wardens</p> <p>HD</p>	April 2014
7.0	Definition and Responsibility for Maintenance of Existing Defences and Ditches		
7.1	See Item 2.8 above.		
8.0	Reducing Property Values, Insurance Availability and Long Term Planning Policy		
8.1	<p>It was agreed to create a Working Group to collect and collate information, representatives to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACC • CG – HW/ND • SNP – GL <p>JS is collecting information on behalf of FFC and includes effects on property values and work load of local businesses and would be willing to forward to GC.</p> <p>PC emphasised the sensitive nature of its use and that anonymity was important.</p> <p>KK stated that WG can provide a national perspective as regards policy developments (insurance etc.) in relation to flood risk.</p>	<p>GC</p> <p>FFC</p> <p>KK</p>	<p>ASAP</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
9.0	Socio-Economic Consequences of Climate Change/What will Change Look Like?		
9.1	<p>It was agreed that the management of social issues will become increasingly important. How will a community change and adapt? How will social issues be issues be managed? How can the vulnerable be identified? What will be the effects on the health of residents?</p>		

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9.1	<p>PC stated that needs to be addressed now; there are empty properties, there are health issues.</p> <p>The evidence gathered at Fairbourne can be used to influence policy and change management at a national level.</p> <p>WG would welcome an exchange of information and KK will discuss further with Policy Groups.</p> <p>GC to discuss social and health issues with Social Services Department.</p>	<p>KK</p> <p>GC</p>	<p>June 2014</p> <p>June 2014</p>
10.0	Compensation and Funding		
10.1	<p>GG informed that, based on the 1949 Flood Control Act, compensation is currently not available.</p> <p>PC questioned the policy of 'No Compensation' and that due to future changes, and as more information is gathered it will require caveats.</p> <p>HW stated that the group could be an instrument for change and that the group has the potential to influence future policy.</p> <p>KK stated that WG are open to views and that he can discuss with policy groups.</p>	All	Ongoing
11.0	Learning From Others Pathfinder Projects		
11.1	GC/NRW to investigate Pathfinder Projects to find out what has and what can be done. Can Fairbourne become a pilot for learning important lessons that can be fed into National Policies?	GC/NRW/ GG	Ongoing
12.0	Any Other Business		
12.1	<p>SE stated that the capping wall above the shingle bank was being undermined and if it was possible to place sheet piles in front.</p> <p>DR stated that short term repairs had been carried out but that a longer term solution required further investigation.</p>		
12.2	The SMP2 policy for Friog Cliffs, which support the railway, is 'hold the line'. HD reported that the problem at Friog was that all the shingle is moving north and because it is not being replaced from the south the shingle bank had become depleted.		
12.3	<p>SS commented on the shingle that has been thrown over the capping wall and whether it can be removed.</p> <p>GC to assess possibility of removing shingle.</p>	GC	April 2014
13.0	Date of Next Meetings		
13.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 27th June 2014, 10:30 AM at Gwynedd Council Offices, Dolgellau • 25th September 2014, 10:30 AM at Gwynedd Council Offices, Dolgellau • 26th November 2014, 10:30 AM at Gwynedd Council Offices, Dolgellau 		