

Note of Meeting

27 May 2010

Venue: Lisbarnett and Lisbane Community Association

Attendees:

1. Claire Vincent Head of Marine Assessment & Licensing, NIEA (Chair)
2. Helen Nutt Belfast and Lagan Catchment Management Officer
NIEA
3. Kevin McGlynn Water Quality Inspector, NIEA
4. Bridgeen Magorrian North Eastern River Basin District Implementation
Manager, NIEA
5. Aideen Kelly Strangford & Lecale Catchment Management Officer,
6. Judith Bankhead Conservation Officer, Rivers Agency
7. Keith Bradford Friends of the Earth & Lecale Conservation Society
8. George Butler Northern Ireland Water
9. Declan Magee Northern Ireland Water
10. Justin Forsythe Northern Ireland Pike Society
11. James Kennedy Sandycove Holiday Homes
12. JJ Kennedy Sandycove Holiday Homes & Armagh & Down
Regional Tourism Partnership
13. Brendan Kerr Natural Living Assets
14. Tony Morgan Water Quality Inspector, NIEA
15. Alan Morrow Countryside Management Branch, DARD
16. Kevin McGrady Regional Operations, NIEA
17. John Peacocke Lecale Conservation Society
17. Brian Black Council for Nature Conservation & the Countryside
18. Emma Kelly Strangford Lough Management Committee
19. Ian Kittle Enler Angling Club
20. David Thompson National Trust
21. Michael Oliver DARD
22. Jim Haughey Ulster Angler's Federation

Apologies:

1. John Clementson Newtownards Sailing Club
2. Conor Mallon Rivers Agency
3. Stephen Kennedy Dibney River Trust

1. **Welcome, outline of agenda and introductions**
 - 1.1 Claire Vincent opened the meeting. Round room introductions.

2. **Minutes & Update on Matters Arising from last meeting**
 - 3.1 Helen Nutt (NIEA) gave an update on matters arising from the Autumn 2009 meeting.

 - 3.2 NI Water reported that there was an estimated 1685 CSO' in Northern Ireland. 751 were CSOs and 934 were overflows from sewage pumping stations.

 - 3.3 NI Water hosted a tour of Downpatrick STW for Lecale Conservation Society and extended an invitation to other interested parties.
ACTION: Anyone interested in touring Downpatrick STW to contact Aideen Kelly who will liaise with NI Water.

 - 2.4 The Marine Monitoring Team monitor Gibbs Island every 2 months during the season and have found nothing unusual. They have offered to give a talk to any interested groups during their next monitoring round. Foaming on Dibney River was discussed. NIEA staff confirmed this was a natural phenomenon and was not toxic.
ACTION: Anyone interested in attending a talk given by the Marine Monitoring Team should contact Aideen Kelly.

 - 3.4 An update from the Quoile Catchment Working Group was given regarding the 'real time' telemetry buoy. If Dissolved Oxygen values change uncharacteristically then a call is automatically logged on the Water Pollution hotline. A link to the data is given below:
www.afbini.gov.uk/index/services/services-specialist-advice/coastal-science/coastal-monitoring/services-coastal-monitoring-data-archive.htm

 - 2.5 The minutes were agreed and will be posted on the Strangford and Lecale Catchment Stakeholder Group (CSG) website.
ACTION: Aideen Kelly to add agreed minutes from the Autumn 2009, and the presentations from the Spring 2010, meetings to the Strangford and Lecale CSG website.

3. Catchment Case Study

3.1 David Thompson (National Trust) and Judith Bankhead (Rivers Agency) gave a talk on Coastal Erosion and its management.

3.2 Concern was raised regarding the overfishing of periwinkles, whelks and other shellfish. It was acknowledged that this was an unregulated activity although a study has been carried out and can be accessed by the following link:
http://www.ni-environment.gov.uk/shellfish_harvesting.pdf

ACTION: Claire Vincent to raise the issue with DARD Fisheries.

3.3 It was noted that there didn't seem to be a policy for defending agricultural ground from coastal erosion.

ACTION: Claire Vincent to raise the issue within the Coastal Forum.

4. Operational Actions

4.1 Kevin McGlynn (NIEA) gave an update on Pollution Response within the Strangford and Lecale catchment.

4.2 NI Water explained the prioritisation process for upgrading the NI Water sewerage system and warned that they had to work within the funding they were allocated.

5. Local Management Area (LMA) Overview and Workshop on Strangford LMA

5.1 Bridgeen Magorrian (NIEA) gave an overview of the Strangford LMA and explained the format of the workshop. Comments generated by the workshop will be used to help develop an Action Plan to implement the LMA plan.

6. Close

Claire Vincent thanked all for attending and for their input.

Summary of actions from the meeting:

Ref	Action	Update
2.3	Anyone interested in touring Downpatrick STW to contact Aideen Kelly who will liaise with NI Water.	There was no further interest in this, however NI Water have left the invitation open.
2.4	Anyone interested in attending a talk given by the Marine Monitoring Team should contact Aideen Kelly.	No expressions of interest were received.
2.5	Aideen Kelly to add agreed minutes from the Autumn 2009, and the presentations from the Spring 2010, meetings to the Strangford and Lecale CSG website.	Strangford and Lecale CSG webpage was updated with links to Autumn 2009 note of meeting and Spring 2010 presentations
3.2	Claire Vincent to raise unregulated shellfish fishing with DARD Fisheries.	CV raised this issue and will continue to liaise with DARD and provide updates at the next CSG meeting.
3.3	Claire Vincent to raise defence of coastal agricultural ground within the Coastal Forum.	CV raised this issue within the Coastal Forum.

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