



# North Norfolk Advisory Group

The Wash and North Norfolk Marine Partnership

1900-2100 Monday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2018

Sack House, Staithe Street, Wells-next-the-Sea, Norfolk, NR23 1AU

- Welcomes/Introductions

- New Secretary Alison Hallett

- Apologies

- Previous minutes/matters arising

## **1. WNNMP**

- Wild Seas Week
- Tourism and Recreation
- Annual Management Plan

## **2. Eastern-IFCA: Managing Fisheries in Marine Protected Areas**

- Development of fisheries management in Marine Protected Areas
- Community Voice Method project update
- Marine Protection update
- Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning

## **3. Marine Management Organisation**

## **4. Natural England**

- Conservation Advice Package
- Condition Assessment
- English Coastal Path
- Offshore windfarms
- Wildfowling

## **5. Coastal Site Manager's updates**

## **6. Sedimentation Working Group**

## **7. "Agents of Change": working with the Cromer Marine Conservation Zone**

## **8. Date of the next meeting**

## **9. AOB**

## **Eastern IFCA update**

### **MSC Accreditation of The Wash Shrimp Fishery**

The Wash shrimp fishery has applied for Marine Stewardship Council accreditation – an industry-led “sustainable fisheries” initiative. The accreditation auditors visited in May and will spend the next 12 months or so assessing the application. This will include a public consultation period. Further details are available at:

<https://fisheries.msc.org/en/fisheries/wash-brown-shrimp/@assessments>

The impacts of the shrimp fishery on protected habitats and species within the Wash and North Norfolk Coast European Marine Site are considered in the accreditation process. Eastern IFCA is working with the accreditation group to support the development and delivery of appropriate management of this fishery.

### **Shrimp fishery management proposals**

Eastern IFCA are currently developing mitigation (management measures) to ensure the shrimp fishery does not result in an “adverse effect on site integrity” in the Wash & North Norfolk Coast. The measures include *new closed areas* to protect sensitive areas of subtidal mixed sediments and subtidal mud (in addition to the existing closures to protect *Sabellaria* reef, subtidal stony reef and eelgrass beds). Although not strictly required to protect SAC features, we are also considering the restriction of shrimp fishing in areas of saltmarsh and upper estuaries – because of the ecological importance of these areas. In addition to the spatial closures, we are proposing a *permit scheme* that would require shrimp fishers to obtain a permit and abide by conditions relating to gear, effort limits and the use of iVMS (inshore Vessel Monitoring System). The proposals will be taken to the Eastern IFCA Authority meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> July. A public consultation will follow.

### **Cromer Shoal MCZ**

Eastern IFCA have drafted an assessment of the impacts of commercial fishing activities on features of the Cromer Shoal Chalk Beds Marine Conservation Zone. This work is ongoing; we are currently considering whether additional fishery measures are required within that site to protect sensitive habitats. Although final conclusions have not yet been drawn, tentative results suggest that the ongoing potting fishery is compatible with the site’s conservation objectives. If new management is proposed, it will be introduced following engagement with fishery stakeholders as well as public consultation. The Agents of Change project will be holding public consultations in the coming month. Any queries in regard to these consultations will be addressed by Hilary Cox or Alice Tebb.

### **Assessing the impact of our intertidal activities**

Eastern IFCA have assessed the impacts of our own intertidal activities in The Wash, including our research and enforcement work, to ensure they do not cause excessive damage or disturbance to conservation features. Having agreed mitigation (to minimise disturbance to seals and or birds, particularly during more

sensitive breeding periods or cold weather periods), Natural England has provided a five-year assent for Eastern IFCA's activities.

### **The Study of The Wash Embayment Environment and Productivity (SWEEP Project)**

Eastern IFCA are working with King's Lynn Conservancy Board to service our "data buoy" – a monitoring station in the central Wash – results help ascertain food availability (chlorophyll indicator) and water quality in The Wash. We have also obtained a new spot sonde (portable water quality sensor) which will be used for regular water testing during monthly shellfish sample collection (environmental health monitoring).

### **Seed mussel relaying fishery**

A seed mussel relaying fishery has been in operation in The Wash Fishery Order area since April 2018. This was limited to a quota of 1,500 tonnes (from a total stock of nearly 16,000 tonnes), and to particular mussel beds in The Wash. This was the first fishery on the "public" mussel beds for several years. The mussel bed extent has increased beyond the SAC conservation objective target of 500 ha for the first time ever this year. Uptake of this fishery has been very low, primarily because fishers have been engaged in the shrimp fishery and there is currently a low demand for seed mussels.

### **Marine Protected Area byelaw 2016**

Eastern IFCA's Marine Protected Area Byelaw came into effect in February 2018 – this renews protection for intertidal seagrass beds, subtidal *Sabellaria* (ross worm) reef and subtidal stony reef within The Wash and North Norfolk Coast SAC, in the same areas initially protected in 2014. Eastern IFCA remains committed to reviewing these restricted areas to ensure that all closures are still appropriate for purpose. The review will be conducted in conjunction with other work to ensure The Wash and North Norfolk Coast SAC habitats are protected from fishing impacts (including a focus on the shrimp fishery).

### **Crab and lobster management measures**

Eastern IFCA are starting pre-consultation regarding crab and lobster fishery sustainability measures, with a full public consultation to follow in due course. The stock assessment for 2017 was finalised and published on the Eastern IFCA website in May. If anybody has any questions or queries regarding the report, please contact [tombridges@eastern-ifca.gov.uk](mailto:tombridges@eastern-ifca.gov.uk).

### **Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning on the North Norfolk and East Coast**

In the wake of the deaths of two dogs thought to be caused by toxins in dead marine organisms found on beaches, further testing has been carried out by the Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (Cefas). The crabs, whelks and shrimps that have been tested have shown either very low levels of PSP

(Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning) toxins (well below the regulatory limit) or no toxins at all. However, further tests on starfish samples have found extremely high levels of toxins.

PSP toxins are typically associated with bivalve molluscs (e.g. mussels, clams, oysters and scallops). These are filter feeders and can accumulate PSP toxins, which are produced naturally by certain species of microscopic algae. Bivalve shellfish (e.g. cockles and mussels) within designated shellfish areas (e.g. The Wash) are monitored routinely on a monthly basis for shellfish toxins and *E. coli* bacteria. This monitoring in The Wash has not revealed any issues with cockles or mussels.

Owners of pets that have become ill after consuming items on a beach are asked to report the matter to the District or Borough Council for the area where the incident occurred. Whilst it is thought unlikely that starfish with high levels of PSP toxins pose a health risk to humans through handling them, as a precaution people should refrain from handling any starfish they might find on the beach.

Cefas has produced further advice to pet owners and vets, available at: <http://www.eastern-ifca.gov.uk/paralytic-shellfish-poisoning-information-vets-pet-owners/>

The CEO of Eastern IFCA, Julian Gregory, said, 'Any risk is only because of ingestion so our advice to the public remains the same. There is a low level of risk to beach users and their pets but as a precaution it is suggested that dogs are kept under close control, on leads or muzzled and people should avoid handling starfish. There is no risk to people or pets from seawater.'

Analysis of the fish (a dab) associated with the incident at Cley indicates that it was contaminated with PSP, albeit at a level below the regulatory maximum allowed. Recreational sea anglers, who often fish for this species at this time of year, may wish to return their catch to the sea and avoid retaining it for consumption as a precautionary measure.

A multi-agency partnership has been established to deal with the response to PSP contamination. Known as operation Blake and co-ordinated by Eastern IFCA, a sampling regime has been established to monitor and assess any risk to fisheries and to try to identify the source of the contamination. A bid for EMFF funds is being considered to support a sampling regime in the longer term.

### **Community Voice Method**

Eastern IFCA's primary focus for communication and engagement this year is to communicate how we have addressed (or have active workstreams) relating to the actions highlighted through the Community Voice Method project. The actions related to what people said they **value** most about their local coast and seas the **issues** they felt needed to be address and role they felt Eastern IFCA should play.

Initially we will be Tweeting short messages with the #EIFCACVM plus an additional '#' referring to which CVM 'Action Category' the work relates to, e.g. #jointworking or #localdata. This format will allow us to periodically report on our progress. We'd like to invite you to follow us on Twitter (if you're not already) to keep an eye on how we're doing!

For those not in a position to follow us on Twitter, printed updates can be provided upon request. We would welcome other suggestions from stakeholders.

### **Wash Fishery Order: Cockle Fishery 2018 - 19**

The intertidal flats in The Wash cover approximately 30,000 ha. Eastern IFCA surveys in early 2018 indicated that this year some 2,514 ha of these intertidal flats support commercially viable densities of cockles. Stock levels are estimated from the surveys; these are set out below:

Total Adult Stock ( $\geq 14$ mm width)	13,386 tonnes
Total Juvenile Stock ( $< 14$ mm width)	16,490 tonnes
Total Stock (all sizes)	29,876 tonnes

The overall stock biomass has declined by 5,782 tonnes during the past year. Stocks are still above average but beginning to normalise following two exceptional years.

Based on the level of adult stocks present and the well proven model (“one third for the birds, one third for breeding and one third for the fishers”) for calculation of the Total Allowable Catch (TAC), the TAC for the 2018 fishery has been set at 4,462 tonnes. Whilst lower than the exceptional fisheries of the last two years, this is above average for the size of fisheries since 2000.

Conditions under which the fishery will operate –

- Hand work only (allows for “prop washing” - “Bags” to be permitted as sea anchors during prop washing)
- Opening date 25th June 2018
- Daily quota of 2 tonnes / vessel
- No need for closures to protect areas of high abundance of small cockles (low levels of small cockles this year)
- Open four days / week, Monday to Thursday where possible, on tides equal to or greater than 6.0 m.
- Catch returns to be completed weekly
- No transshipping allowed
- Landings to be in “standard bags”, with requirement to land daily – one landing per day, and only from the WFO fishery OR outside the WFO fishery – no fishing from both on the same day

It is anticipated that the majority of the fishing activity will be concluded by the end of October 2018. A low level of cockle fishing could continue over the winter months. The formal closing date of the fishery will be immediately prior to the commencement of the 2019 cockle survey in March, unless there is a requirement to close the fishery due to cold weather considerations, based on the approach used for wildfowling. Such considerations will be based on reports from local weather stations.

18 of the 50 seal haulout site areas in The Wash coincide in part with the commercially viable cockle densities within the proposed 2018/19 WFO cockle fishery. Following analysis, it was proposed that two haul-out areas, on the Breast and the Hull sands be closed to the cockle fishery to the fishery during the most sensitive moult and breeding season (June to end August). These areas combined supported 22.88% of the Wash population of seals older than 1 year and 19.79% pups in 2017.

## Minutes 16<sup>th</sup> July 2018

Sack House, Staithe Street, Wells-next- the- Sea, Norfolk, NR23 1AU

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<b>Attendees</b>	<b>Apologies</b>
Sam Lew - WNNMP PM	Victoria Egan - NT
Kevin Thatcher - Chairman	Fiona Tibbett - NE
Estelle Hooke - NCP	William Coulet - Exo Environmental
Kerys Whitton - NNDC	Brian Everett - Common Rights
Hilary Cox - Agents of Change	Marie Strong - NCC
Angie Fitch-Tillett - NNDC	
Andy Millar - NE	
John Ebbage - NE	
Heather Johnston - MMO	
Peter Conor - Common Rights	
Stephen Bocking - Common Rights	
Jonathan Webster - ex-mussel fisherman	
Chris Cotton - Common Rights	
Willie Weston - fisherman	
Julian Gregory - E-IFCA	
George Baldock - NWT	
Sarah Henderson - Holkham	
Cyril Southerland - fisherman	
Geoff Needham - Common Rights	
Rosemary Thew – Blakeney Parish Council	
Robin Harrison - Fisherman	
Peter Terrington - local resident and sailor	
Mark Randell - bait digger	
Robin Owen - wildfowler	
Peter Bickle - ex-fisherman	
John Hall - bait digger	

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### **Previous Minutes/Matters Arising**

PT – A series of questions were put to NE at the previous meeting. Have they been considered?

JE – Yes, we are still compiling them and they will be returned in due course

CC – Does the Bass Byelaw affect Holders of Rights in Common?

JG – Yes, the Byelaw affects everyone

SB – My Common Rights state that I have the right to take fish and I will continue to do so. If I am breaking the law then come down and arrest me.

JG – we have taken legal advice from Defra and all E-IFCA work is in accordance with this advice. However, we have given an exemption to in the MPA Byelaw for Holders of Rights in Common, which was in fact against Defra advice.

SL – if there is a genuine reason for the Byelaw being in place, can there be an agreement between Holders of Rights in Common and the E-IFCA to not take bass until numbers stabilise?

JG – agree we are all working to the same end, which is a sustainable fishery

WW – EIFCA should consider the impact of the increasing seal population on bass declines as they must be having an impact on bass numbers

HJ – MMO are very happy to discuss these issues with fishermen directly after this meeting

**Action:** survey to understand bass/fishing interactions sent out to Advisory Group

AFT – A query was raised about a property levy to mitigate new visitor pressure to protected sites in North Norfolk District and SL met with NNDC Planning to discuss

SL – a levy is raised in NNDC and KLWNDC for the monitoring and mitigation of new visitor pressure to European sites via the HRA process. £50 is raised per house and compliments other mitigation strategies such as alternative green space. Currently NCP manage the account for KLWNDC and there are discussions underway to link it to NNDC. WNNMP have successfully raised money from this fund, to be discussed later in the meeting

AM – a similar scheme exists in Suffolk called RAMS

SL – correct but the money is raised through CIL and S106 agreements, which are slightly different

KT – two issues prior to starting the Agenda

1. The Secretary couldn't make this meeting. Is anyone in the room prepared to take minutes? [*Silence falls upon the room*]
2. The NNAG needs to recruit a Vice-Chairperson, could anyone interested in the position please get in touch?

## **1. WNNMP**

### **Chairs meeting and the Advisory Group Terms of reference**

SL – various concerns expressed over the Advisory Groups and way-forward including attendance at meetings, roles and duties, how we communicate. Three AG Chairs and senior NE and E-IFCA staff met to discuss ways of working to align perspectives and ensure we know what to expect from one another.

SL – A ToR reference is being written for the AGs, with associated role statements for all participating organisations. ToR will be sent to WNNMP for open public consultation.

GN – AG function is to review RAs work and keep them in check and provide expert community advice

KT – the ToR and meeting was useful to clarify roles and responsibilities. The AGs connect otherwise disparate groups and are a useful tool for the free flow of information between the local community and coastal managers

KW – should this have gone through the FMB?

SL – FMB will have opportunity to comment on the ToR

AM – all interested groups should be represented in role descriptions

JG – a key part of the meeting was also to ensure appropriate representation from RA officers

### **Wild Seas Week**

SL – A week-long series of events celebrating local maritime natural and cultural heritage of the region. Please take some flyers with you and distribute them. WSW is not only for public awareness of marine nature and culture but also to aid engagement for the management of recreational pressures and promotion of best practise

### **Tourism and Recreation**

SL – a lot of recent success in funding projects that will help to monitor and mitigate recreational pressures to the coast. Three funded through the KLVNDC HRA levy including:

1. To renew the Incident Recording Process started by Peter Rushmer in 2004. It will be moved back online to a simple reporting tool, using the same framework as the original IRP. The online tool will allow for automatic processing of information so we can see the breadth of issues on the coast as they are reported. A full training session will be given for each AG.
2. New recreation best practise guides for the region. The previous ones are very outdated. Full Advisory Group participation is essential for the new BPG. SL will be in touch.
3. Funding for Litter Free Coast and Sea website. LFCS is a central campaign brand within which all litter management work can sit

AM – can North Norfolk litter picks bet part of it?

SL – yes this is exactly what LFCS is for. Not just litter picks but approaching businesses and councils to improve litter management

### **Annual Management Plan**

SL - A synthesis of all monitoring for protected ecological features, human activities, HRAs impacting the site and other associated management plans. It has been sent to all Relevant Authorities and conservation NGOs. The report will be available for everyone to use to help deliver coordinated management.

## **2. Eastern-IFCA: Managing Fisheries in Marine Protected Areas**

*Please see associated summary for a written update on all recent and relevant E-IFCA activity*

## **MSC Accreditation of The Wash Shrimp Fishery**

JG – The Wash shrimp fishery has applied for Marine Stewardship Council accreditation – an industry-led “sustainable fisheries” initiative supported by E-IFCA

JG – there has been a recent assessment and the auditors will spend the next year considering the application. The impacts of the shrimp fishery on protected habitats and species within the Wash and North Norfolk Coast European Marine Site are considered in the accreditation process.

Further details are available at:

<https://fisheries.msc.org/en/fisheries/wash-brown-shrimp/@assessments>

## **Shrimp Fishery Management proposals**

JG – E-IFCA are currently assessing the impact of the shrimp fishery on the site features through the HRA process. This has taken a very long-time.

JG – two measures are being considered for to manage the impact of the shrimp fishery

1. Byelaws in place to create closed areas to protected sensitive SAC features
2. Permitting scheme for shrimp fishers with conditions applied including specific gear use, effort limits and the use of inshore vessel monitoring systems

All management measures will be discussed with the industry.

SB – what is the current situation with the new E-IFCA MPA Byelaw? SB has written to E-IFCA regarding any restrictions to Holders of Rights in Common. Can SB have a written answer from E-IFCA?

GN – where are the closed areas for shrimping going to be?

JG – all closed areas will be on the E-IFCA website.

SB – not always easy for people to use your website and many members do not have a computer

JG – always happy to send information out to people in the mail

**Action:** SL – happy to send closed areas information out to GN in the AG correspondence

GN – does legislation on fisheries management apply to private fisheries

JG – yes if it is in an MPA

## **Seed mussel fishery**

JG – (as written update) A seed mussel relaying fishery has been in operation in The Wash Fishery Order area since April 2018. This was limited to a quota of 1,500 tonnes (from a total stock of nearly 16,000 tonnes), and to particular mussel beds in The Wash. This was the first fishery on the “public” mussel beds for several years. The mussel bed extent has increased beyond the SAC conservation objective target of 500 ha for the

first time ever this year. Uptake of this fishery has been very low, primarily because fishers have been engaged in the shrimp fishery and there is currently a low demand for seed mussels.

CS – provided a history of mussel fishing in the region

CS – E-IFCA are right to open the fishery in April/May, however, you need to be careful and ensure tight regulation and do not dredge for export in the winter

CS – modest removal to allow for effective recruitment is essential

JG – thank you, that is very useful information

JG – there is also an issue with mussel mortality. We are not sure of the causes but we are investigating options for starting a research project to understand why this is happening

*Other E-IFCA updates are in accordance with the written summary*

### **3. Marine Management Organisation**

KT - Welcome Heather Johnston to the NNAG

HJ – MMO regional area of jurisdiction is from Hornsea to Wells. Has recently moved to the area and is keen to get to know the local community through the AGs. I have my contact details here to give out so please forward any questions and queries to HJ.

PT – has an interest in sediment movement and the influences. Has questions with regard to recent changes on the NN coast

HJ – please get in touch. Although not her area HJ has knowledge and can assist

AM – would very much like to discuss marine licensing at a later date please

GN – concerns of MMO related issues in his Parish and would like to discuss

WW – are you the new Grimsby rep? Have been trying to get in touch for a while.

HJ – yes for all intents and purposes

WW – very glad to be in touch. I have a number of things to discuss with you

### **4. Natural England**

AM – I am here to sub for Fiona Tibbett who cannot make this meeting

#### **Condition Assessment**

AM - Condition Assessment is currently being undertaken for The Wash and North Norfolk coast EMS and two offshore MPAs. Condition assessments will be publicly available and we are happy to share with the group

SL – will publish on the WNNMP website and send to FMB and all three AGs

### **Offshore Windfarms**

AM – all OWF are applying for extensions. Key issue is with regard to the laying of cables through the coastal MPAs: EMS and MCZ

MR – windfarms cause serious damage to the seabed and also to the livelihoods of local people, particularly the fishing industry

JG – E-IFCA are activity engaging with the windfarm developers to ensure industry viability continues

Rob – important to state that the government asks the developers to create these windfarms. It's not the other way around

### **Wildfowling**

JE – a subgroup met before last season at Wells Police Station and we will meet again before the next season

JE – key issue is with regard to visiting clubs bringing wildfowling into disrepute. Tied up with issues related to the sale of Common Rights

JE – NE are concerned with the biological impact of wildfowling and are keen to meet wildfowlers again to ensure good continuing working relationships

KT – many clubs are still waiting for leases. Should clubs be concerned?

JE – no need for concern, leases will be in place for the start of the season

### **England Coastal Path**

AM – public consultation has now closed. Over 70 objections and many representations have been made. All will be sent to government.

AM – there have been exclusions made based on health and safety reasons. Advice was given by RNLI based on people getting stranded in certain areas

AM – Holders of Rights in Common are not affected by ECP exclusions

AM – there is a strong need to define the difference between legal access and permissive access. If a landowner is happy for people to be on the marsh then access won't change

AM – ECP Team have learned key lessons. Language is very important and how safety is assessed.

KT – the NNAG is a conduit for these issues. We could have been consulted and we would have flagged major issues but we were not consulted. Left many of us feeling "what is the point?"

AM – correct, lessons have been learned for next time

GN – has been involved in RNLI since 1979 and does not agree with advice that has been given. Can you let us know who gave the advice?

JE – maintaining privacy is essential and NE cannot give out private and confidential information

PB – lots of misleading information has been given out. E.g. ECP in intertidal region on NN coast

PT – Concerns at Wells include; very little public consultation and the plan was not representative and based on very limited opinions. There also seems to be little consistency between exclusions based on safety and conservation

WW – Holkham are stopping samphire collection on the coast

SH – that's not true. Holkham and NE are not stopping samphire collection

Rob – makes a living out of collecting samphire and Holkham staff have said no to collection to him

SH – there is a fine line between responsible collection and damaging collection and there is evidence of entire areas being cleared, which is not acceptable.

SH – Holkham support local collection but need to manage large groups coming in a collecting for largescale resale.

WW – the press are saying that samphire collection is a bad thing and it is giving us a bad reputation. NE and Holkham need to do more to communicate the realities of responsible collection and what the big issues really are

PB – ECP proposals will restrict access to important parts of the coast. How will people move around in areas that have been traditionally been used for access?

JE – again this comes down to a need to define access and what restricted access means in real terms.

SL – made a representation on behalf of the NNAG and stated three issues:

1. 'No public access' needs a clearer definition. A request has been made to ECP Team and we will hopefully have a definition soon
2. Safety vs conservation as the reason for 'no public access'. A request can be made to the ECP for the rationale behind the decisions stated in the ECP consultation
3. NNAG wasn't noted as a conduit for public engagement. It was surprising given that NE fund the NNAG for exactly that purpose. After having discussions with the ECP Team they see the value in the AGs and intend on engaging with the KLAG for the Sutton Bridge to Hunstanton stretch of the ECP.

### **Natural England Coastal Site Manager**

AM – Tom Bolderstone (NE NNR Manager) has been approached and he is not at present intending on coming to NNAG meetings

GN – NE NNR always used to attend. All others (NWT, RSPB, NT, Holkham) attend

SB – TB is a good guy and I wouldn't like to see him harangued at these meetings

PB – can NE NNR remove the fencing at Holkham as the nesting season is over and they don't need to be there

JG – it is important to say that no member of staff should have to come to a meeting and face aggressive behaviour and often things are said a received better when said calmly.

WW – attends to communicate information back to the public and often gets grief from people, which is why he gets emotional in the meetings.

### **Coastal Site Manager updates**

#### **Norfolk Wildlife Trust**

GB – not much to update the group on. We have a new CEO at NWT

#### **Holkham**

SH – getting ready for the summer and the new centre is to open in September

SB – where do the profits from the new centre go?

SH – they go to Holkham as Holkham have provided 100 % of the funding to have it set up.

### **Sedimentation Working Group**

SL – a working group has been set up to try and understand what is driving what is observed to be large increases in sand in and around Blakeney and Morston. The SWG, working with Exo Environmental, have submitted an expression of interest to the Coastal Communities Fund to raise funds to quantify changes to intertidal seabed structure (marsh, mud, sand) since 2008. The project intends of using a combination of satellite and EA on-the-ground data via the coastal trends reports. We will hear back in September whether the expression of interest has got through.

### **Agents of Change**

HC – the “discovery” of the chalk beds has caused a lot of controversy. However, the AoC is in place to promote good will around the MCZ at Cromer. Many knee-jerk reactions to the MCZ have been negative, however, with time there have been many positive reactions to the MCZ, e.g. potting is conducive to conservation measures and protection of the area under the MCZ designation ensures it will continue.

HC – there have been three AoC events at Cromer, Mundsley and Sheringham all with good reports back.

HC – NNAG and AoC have similar disagreements. We need to work together as we do actually have a common voice around the use and protection of the seas. This was shown brilliantly with the Common Ground documentary that many NNAG members participated in.

HC – there will be a public feedback document available soon and I will send it through to the group via SL

HC – AoC are putting on a Wild Seas Week event. The event is about people's stories and connections with the sea so if you would like to speak then please get in touch.

JW – there was previously a lot of conflict with spear-gunners at Blakeney and we're very glad it doesn't happen anymore

HC – need to protect local stocks for local people and culture and that is exactly what AoC is about

PB – how much tax payer's money was spent on the MCZ project

HC – no idea but I didn't get paid and most of the work I do on the coast is volunteer-based

## **AOB**

PB – NE have said they cannot interfere with Common Rights. E-IFCA should do the same

JG – we have on occasion defended access for Holders of Rights in Common against Defra advice. We have stuck our neck out for you before, which should be recognised

EH – NCP are putting in a representation on Hornsea 33 and we are happy to discuss it with local people. Please get in touch.

MR – I previously asked for help accessing the EA Coastal Trends reports. Can you send me something through?

SL – apologies this must have slipped through the net. I will research and send through the information asap.

Date of next meeting: 12<sup>th</sup> of November