

## **Fens Reservoir Community Liaison Group**

### **Summary of meeting**

**Date: 25 March 2024**

**Location: Wimblington Parish Hall**

#### **Attending organisations:**

|                                    |                                           |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Cambridge Valley Forum             | Fenland Bridleway                         |
| Cambridgeshire ACRE                | Fenland District Council                  |
| Cambridgeshire County Council      | Ramblers: Cambridgeshire and Peterborough |
| Chatteris Town Council             | The British Horse Society                 |
| Doddington Parish Council          | The Chatteris Feoffee Charity             |
| East Anglian Waterways Association | Wimblington Parish Council                |

### **Summary of the meeting**

#### **Review of previous CLG meeting**

The agenda and actions from the last CLG meeting were reviewed. All actions had been completed.

#### **Identifying a Chair**

Anglian Water (AW) recapped on the actions taken to elect a chair since the first CLG meeting and noted that, despite opportunities for applications, no formal applications had been submitted. Next steps for electing a CLG Chair, as per the group's terms of reference, were presented to the group.

Members suggested that councillors should be able to be considered for the role of Chair. Councillors felt that their political affiliations would not affect their abilities to Chair in a neutral manner. They also commented that they had been elected to represent the views of their constituents and so would be well placed to chair CLG meetings in a way that would be beneficial to members.

Anglian Water suggested that the decision to allow councillors to apply for the role of Chair should be decided through an online vote, to allow all members to engage. However, the group expressed a desire for a decision to be taken in the meeting regarding councillors' opportunity to apply for the role.

Consequently, it was put to the group to indicate whether they were in agreement that councillors should be able to apply for the role of Chair. The majority of the group agreed through a show of hands. A subsequent second round of voting took place to elect a Chair, as it was felt by the group that it would be best to address the matter immediately and avoid further delay and continued vacancy of the role.

A member put themselves forward for the role and was successfully voted Fens CLG Chair.

Anglian Water continued to chair the current meeting.

#### **Project update**

Anglian Water provided members with a project update by mapping out and talking through the project's progress to date and future key milestones.

Since the last CLG, AW has been progressing the project's masterplan, continuing to engage with stakeholders and landowners, carrying out environmental assessments and assessing associated water infrastructure options.

#### **The plan for engagement**

Anglian Water presented their plan for engagement during the second phase of consultation to the CLG.

Questions posed to the group for discussion and consideration were:

- Are there any additional methods for engagement that AW should consider?
- Who/which groups do you think are seldom heard?
- How could Anglian Water make the consultation easier to engage with for these groups?

The group engaged with the subject and provided Anglian Water with a number of suggestions to consider.

Suggestions included:

- Opportunities to engage young people
- Anglian Water's presence or involvement at a number of events or festivals
- Facilitated trips to see the reservoir
- Groups and clubs to engage, who work with seldom heard groups
- Working with larger employers in the area
- Utilising social media
- Publicity in local community publications to ensure the local community is updated on the reservoir's proposals.

### **Human Health Assessment**

Anglian Water outlined the purpose of the Human Health Assessment, which forms part of Anglian Water's Environmental Impact Assessment, and encouraged the group to share their thoughts on potential health impacts and opportunities as part of the project.

The group shared their insights on the subject, and the Human Health Assessment team will incorporate the feedback from CLG members as they refine the assessment.

### **Close**

Anglian Water thanked members for attending and the meeting came to a close. The next meeting is expected to take place in July 2024.