

Civil Contingency Consultation Group

Minutes

Tuesday, 13 January 2015 at 12:30

Present:

Jan Davies (in the Chair), Jane Beck (Director of Customer Services), James Palmer (Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service), Glen Buck (Environmental Services Manager) and Karline Smith (Senior Member Services Officer).

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

2 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Welcome and introductions were carried out.

3 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence received.

4 FURTHER UPDATE ON FOLLOW UP FROM THE TIDAL SURGE EVENT OF DECEMBER 2013

(i) Bellwin Scheme - Recovery of funds and consultation feedback

It was reported that the Council was eligible to claim for £196,675. The threshold to claim was over £24,209 and that the Council claimed for £172,466.

(ii) Flood Support Schemes - Repair and Renew Grants

The Flood Support Scheme is a repair and renew grant for properties and businesses that were flooded, with grants available of upto £5,000. Two applications had been received which were rejected. £33,222 was paid out of a total of £43,411. 75% of residential properties that were flooded have now been flood protected. The Government has extended the deadline for the claim period to September 2015.

(iii) Promoting flood resilience

It was suggested that the Resilience team work with the Norfolk County Council Flood Water Management team and Fire Service to promote flood resilience to properties. The July surface water report for Great Yarmouth would be due out in the near future, following this it is then envisaged to encourage residents to protect their properties and external funding is available for this.

Flood Plans would go out for consultation at the end of the week which included the new 7 flood warning areas. A discussion then ensued around the flood warnings issued at the weekend and an area that was not issued with a warning where water came through a porous sea wall.

(iv) Floods Plans, including revised Flood Warning Areas

5 INCIDENTS SINCE LAST MEETING

(i) Paget Road Fire 19 September 2015

There had been a fire at a property in Paget Road at 3.00 am which resulted in 16 single people needing accommodation. The Marina Centre was opened as a rest center within 15 minutes, although the police were not able to provide anyone for security at the Marina Centre. Housing attended the Marina Centre the next morning to assess the residents for re-homing. There were lessons to be learnt after the event such as the fire was at midnight and the residents had to stand outside for two hours before going to the Marina Centre and it was felt that the Council should have been informed earlier to open the rest center as this would have reduced the residents agitation.

(ii) Flood Warnings at the weekend

It was reported that the 7 new flood areas had been used and whilst it was acknowledged that this was an improvement there was more detail needed to look at specific addresses. Also there was not a need for the TCG to be set up as the police could have managed the situation.

6 COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

(i) GYBC Community Resilience

Great Yarmouth Borough Council Resilience group met yesterday and talked about how to build a sandbag wall properly and how difficult this is to do correctly and how there were other more suitable alternatives such as flood gates and flood walls.

(ii) UEA student work experience scheme

It was agreed at yesterday's meeting that the UEA student work experience scheme would run again this year and it was hoped to extend this to Norfolk County Council.

(iii) Norfolk Resilience Forum Community Resilience Group

It was reported that the Norfolk Resilience Forum Community Resilience Group were working on a resilience strategy. Fire Service Volunteers could be involved in this.

7 NORFOLK RESILIENCE FORUM UPDATE

It was reported that the Norfolk Resilience Forum (NRF), Annual General Briefing Day would be held on Thursday 26th February 2015 and would be held in the Abbey Conference Center in the old Coleman Building. Councillors were invited to attend.

It was reported that a First Aid course had been run on Saturday by the British Red Cross which has lasted for four hours.

A Water Safety training course was being held at Gorleston Fire Station on 12 February 2015 at 6.30 pm.

8 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Director of Customer Services reported that the Council was looking to carry out the Emergency Planning Officer's role in partnership with Norfolk County Council.

9 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that a date would be set for the next meeting in the near future.

The meeting ended at: 13:17