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| **Name of meeting: Water Management in Lowland Catchments**  **Venue: Foss House, York** | **Date:** 18 July 2019  **Time:** 10:00 – 13:30 |
| **Chair:** Jessica Moloney (outgoing) Ian Benn (incoming) | **Minute taker:** SR, IB |
| **Present:**  Jamie McEwan (JMc) *Yorkshire Wildlife Trust*  Claire Sterling (CSt) *Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust*  Amanda Jenkins (AJ) *Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust*  Jon Traill (JT) *Yorkshire Wildlife Trust*  Chris Skinner (CSk) *University of Hull*  Joanne Clark (JC) *University of Reading*  Steve Rose (SR) *JBA Consulting*  Ian Benn (IB) *Shire Group Internal Drainage Boards*  Ben Kirby (BK) *East Riding of Yorkshire Council*  Jessica Moloney (JM) *Hull City Council*  Amanda Foster (AFo) *Environment Agency*  Lydia Burgess-Gamble (LBG) *Environment Agency*  Andrew Barron (AB) *Environment Agency*  Adella Buckland (AB) *Environment Agency*  Chris McGregor (CM) *Natural England*  Sue Plaxton (SP) *Natural England*  Charlotte Simons (CSi) *Yorkshire Dales Rivers Trust*  Seonaidh Jamieson (SJ) *Royal Society for the Protection of Birds*  Bill Symons (BS) *York Consortium Internal Drainage Boards* | **Apologies:**  Joanne Cooper (JC) *Environment Agency*  Michael Rogers (MR) *Yorkshire Wildlife Trust*  David Macdonald (DM) *British Geological Survey*  Katie McNamara (KM) *Environment Agency*  Alex Nicholson (AN) *Arup*  Lucy Harper (LH) *Environment Agency*  Anthony Blanchfield (ABl) *Albanwise Farming*  Alys Farndale (AFa) *Environment Agency*  Claire Bell (CB) *Environment Agency*  Martin Spoor (MS) *Shire Group on IDBs*  Paul Jones (PJ) *Shire Group of IDBs* |

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| **Agenda Item** | Actions | Action By | **Deadline** |
| **1.** | **Actions of the last meeting**  None outstanding. |  |  |
| **2.** | **Agenda items**  Four presentations were given to the group, each followed by a Q&A session:  Gaps in knowledge from the WwNP evidence base  Lydia Burgess-Gamble (EA)  NERC LANDWISE NFM Project  Jo Clark (Reading University)  River Hull NFM Feasibility Project – A new NFM Evaluation Matrix  Jess Moloney (Hull CC)  Should be available to test in late Summer 2019  A Practical Guide for Farmers: NFM in Lowland Environments  Charlotte Simons (Yorkshire Dales RT)  In final review stage prior to publication  BS stressed the need to not over-emphasise the potential benefits of NFM in a lowland context where water level management for agricultural production continues to be important, but which is faced with future complications in terms of climate change induced sea level rise whereby the period of time for gravity driven drainage to sea will diminish.  Key Stakeholders who should have an interest in the remit of this working group, and who should be actively encouraged to attend future meetings:  Water companies  iCASP (possible funding source for convening meetings of this group)  IDBs  Coal Authority  Farmers/Landowners  Farmer reps (e.g. Innovative Farmers Group, NFU, CFE)  Interesting recent initiative with linkages to NFM:  EA Humber Carbon Offsetting Scheme – Jenny Connell  Quintimial review of Flood Risk – importance of the need to address more frequent, lower magnitude flood events rather than focusing solely on less frequent more extreme flood events - Ben Kirby |  |  |
| **3.** | **Any other business**  JM stepped down as Chair of this group and the post was taken up by IB. IB will be supported by SR in terms of minute taking and organisation of future meetings. JM will continue to be an ordinary member of the group.  IB proposed that the title of this working group be modified to “Water Management in Lowland Catchments”. This was agreed by attendees. This title recognises the multiple benefits that water-based and land-based features provide for the environment and society in the lowland context.  Improvements to communications within this group could be achieved by the creation and use of a Twitter account. New publications could be circulated/shared via a group email.  The shortage of feedback to the EA Flood Risk Strategy Consultation is disappointing and somewhat worrying to the EA. This may well be hampered currently by the on-going unfortunate/unresolved situation regarding both Brexit and the determination of the new leader of the Conservative Party/Prime Minister.  Possible presentation at next meeting:  Kate Kipling (EA) – Adaptation to Climate Change and the communication of key messages |  |  |
| **4.** | **NFM awareness raising**  Dom Martin (EA) has organised a number of webinars, delivered by NFM specialists, covering specific NFM topics |  |  |

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| **Date and time of next meeting: 30th Jan 2020**  **Venue: JBA Doncaster** |