

**North Yorkshire & Cleveland  
Coastal Forum Meeting (8<sup>th</sup> October 2009)  
Rushpool Hall, Saltburn-by-the-Sea**

**COASTAL FORUM BUSINESS**

**John Beech (Coastal Forum Projects Officer)**

Outlined position of proposed Heritage Coast extension from Holbeck to Speeton

Natural England has the final say. No decision likely soon - awaiting Marine Bill

In response to a question about extending the Heritage Coast northward to Redcar, RCBC would need to put the proposal to Natural England.

**SPEAKERS**

**(1) Jon Club, Regional Climate Change Coordinator (Yorkshire and Humber). The Yorkshire and Humber Climate Change Adaptation Study**

Explanation of terms:      Mitigation = reducing energy / carbon use.  
   Adaptation = making changes, eg planting more trees

Global average temperature predicted to rise to differing amounts depending on different scenarios of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. There is a lag effect.

The Regional Adaptation Study develops a regional approach to identify priorities.

Yorkshire has one of the fastest eroding coastlines.

Hull has the highest risk of flooding after London.

Through the establishment of a baseline, it was found that there have been considerable changes since 1970's. Also several related press stories.

The programme includes modelling future climate using a range of carbon emission scenarios. This assumes sound indicators.

Study looking at 2050 on a medium-high emissions scenario.

Headline results:

- Temperature rise is accelerating
- Summer temperature up by 2.2 degrees C. Winter rainfall up by 16%.
- Sea level rising and risk from storm surges
- Impacts and adaptation of:
  - Flooding
  - Coastal erosion
  - Business and economy
  - Infrastructure and utilities
  - Biodiversity e.g. spread of invasive species.

What's next?

- Leadership from Regional Climate Change Partnership
- Local Authorities working on new National Indicators ie NI 188
- Better communication on adapting to climate change

Examples of adaptation to flooding include Manor Field District Park in Sheffield acting as a flood basin

## **(2) Helen Bloomfield (Newcastle University) re The Fish Effects of Prohibited Trawl Areas**

Prohibited Trawl Areas help to reduce conflict.

They want to 'map biodiversity and habitats and describe how they are related as a basis for future Environmental Impact Assessments, Marine Spatial Planning and Marine Coastal Zones'.

## **(3) Magnus Johnson (University of Hull) re the Inshore Fishing Community)**

Commercial importance: each fisherman maintains 4-7 jobs ashore

Fishermen don't just 'take'. Each one is worth £30,000 to the local economy

There is an impression of lots of space at sea but there are many demands, and fishermen have their own territories.

There is natural variation in fish populations over time.

50% of white fish caught is thrown back into the sea.

There is a steady decrease in the number of inshore fishing vessels.

Human intervention usually means lots of noise.

Threats to fish: Zn, Pb, (10ppm of Pb is enough to kill a fish but it is usually diluted). Pollution is as much a threat to fish as fishing itself is.

Sea Fisheries Committees have been collecting data but it is in different places and Hull University are trying to get it together.

V -notching of lobster is used voluntarily by fishermen and is a good conservation method where fishermen are not allowed to take lobster until the cut notch grows back.

Fishermen have evolved their own management systems covering territorial areas of fishing.

There is a discrepancy between size of boats and quotas. We should support small scale fishermen. 96% of quota is owned by industrial fishing boats.

We need to have a greater understanding of fishing communities to be able to set up effective management systems.

Lobster and crab fishing takes out the larger specimens, leaving an imbalance in the age and size of stocks.

**(4) Stewart Rowe (Principal Coastal Officer, Scarborough Borough Council). The Cell 1 Coastal Monitoring Programme.**

Cell 1 is the length of coast between St Abbs Head and Flamborough Head and the monitoring programme considers change within this cell.

Data management is key to this programme. Data is essential to people and businesses.

All monitoring data is held by the Channel Coast Observatory.

North East Coastal Monitoring Programme (See website).

Monitoring entails a lot of maintenance inspections.

Defence of one stretch of coast affects a neighbour

Programme:

- Topographic surveys, e.g. beach profiles
- Bathymetric surveys
- Aerial surveys
- Habitat mapping

All reports are publicly available

Pathfinder Project: Provides funding to help adapt to coastal change.

## **SOAP BOX SESSIONS**

### **(1) Saltburn Gill Action Group**

Set up in 2005 to address the issue of mine water pollution and its consequences within Saltburn. Saltburn Gill receives over 100 tonnes of ochre each year – the highest concentration of iron in England. Group has earmarked on a series of steps to eradicate the problem.

### **(2) Andrea McMillan – North York Moors National Park**

Government are consulting on a new Planning Policy Statement (PPS) on Development and Coastal Change. This sets out national planning policy in relation to dealing with coastal erosion. Proposals include a requirement for Local Authorities to set out Coastal Change Management Areas (CCMAs).

### **(3) Michael Lime (Durham University) on Monitoring Coastal Change**

A study is underway to monitor coastal change and identify the drivers of change along the North East coast.