



TODMORDEN TOWN COUNCIL

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| REPORT AUTHOR | Nicola Pugh, Administrative Officer and Mayoral Support |
| TEL NO | 0792 325 7878 |
| EMAIL | admin@todmorden-tc.gov.uk |
| Date | 27th October 2021 |
| SUBJECT | Natural Flood Management Open Evening Progress Report |

PURPOSE

To inform Members:

1. That plans for the Natural Flood Management Open Evening on Monday 1st November are progressing well.
2. That following a request by members at the meeting on 01 September 2021, the Environment Agency and Yorkshire Water were both contacted and invited to participate. Yorkshire Water were unable to provide a speaker but hope to send a representative on the evening.
3. That Sally Kelling, the NFM lead in the Calderdale Partnerships and Strategic Overview team at the Environment Agency has joined the speaker panel. The biographies of all speakers are appended to this report.
4. That All organisations involved in the open evening are currently promoting the event through their own networks and channels using print and digital material designed by Todmorden Town Council (appended). The Town Council has provided information on the event on its website and social media, the latter will be reinforced regularly up to the date of the event. The Town Council has also promoted the event via email to local contacts including the Calderdale Council Eye on Calderdale and Upper Valley Neighbourhood/Ward Forum contacts, the Todmorden Learning Centre and Climate College, we have also contacted the NFU with a view to them sharing the information with members in Todmorden. Posters will be displayed in the Town Hall noticeboard, TIC, Post Office and Library.

5. That the Town Council is currently in contact with Calderdale Council with a view to issuing a targeted mailshot to landowners in Todmorden. The mailshot would comprise a letter of invitation from the Mayor to the event.
6. That a run of 1,000 postcards on eco-friendly cardstock is proposed. These will be produced and distributed in batches to shops and other public locations with a request that they are displayed for customers to collect.
7. That it is proposed the event be filmed to produce discrete films of each speaker presentation that can be uploaded to the Town Council website and/or YouTube channel to extend the benefit of the event.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

8. The Town Hall has now been paid for at a cost of £253.73. A print run of 1,000 postcards will cost in the region of £45.00. At the time of writing a brief is being for the filmmaker to obtain a cost for filming the event and editing the film for display.

APPENDIX 1 – SPEAKER BIOGS

Stuart Bradshaw and Adrian Horton – Slow The Flow

Stuart Bradshaw and Adrian Horton are founding members and Trustees at Slow The Flow. They set up Slow The Flow with other members of the community in 2016 to look at why the Calder Valley floods and to explore how natural methods can make a contribution to reduce flood risk. Their work is now recognised throughout Yorkshire and around the UK as purveyors of good practise and other communities are building upon this practical work and analysis which has been developed by Slow The Flow. They work closely with The Environment Agency, Calderdale Council, Yorkshire Water and many other organisations and charities around the UK to develop ideas, strategies and practical applications for Natural Flood Management.

Stuart Bradshaw is a Civil and Structural Engineer and Adrian Horton works for a vehicle leasing business providing mobility solutions to companies and individuals.

Ben Fenton – Calderdale Council

Ben Fenton is the Natural Flood Management Project Officer at Calderdale Council. A graduate of Environmental Science at Leeds University. Prior to his time at the council, he managed environmental projects at environmental charities, including the official river improvement project for the London 2012 Olympics, and a mile of new reedbed in one of the UK's most polluted river's London's River Lea. He has worked in partnership with Enfield Council to deliver the CIRIA case study Firs Farm Wetlands and is a Winston Churchill Fellow for his study of sustainable drainage in Seattle and Portland, USA.

Sally Kelling – Environment Agency

Sally Kelling is the NFM lead in the Calderdale Partnerships and Strategic Overview team at the Environment Agency. Her work focuses on strategy, project management, technical support and research. Prior to the Environment Agency Sally has worked in the water industry, local and central government, universities and charities in Yorkshire and internationally using her degree in environmental chemistry and masters in water management.

The Environment Agency works to create better places for people and wildlife, and support sustainable development. Within England the Environment Agency are responsible for: regulating major industry and waste; treatment of contaminated land; water quality and resources; fisheries; inland river, estuary and harbour navigations; conservation and ecology. We are also responsible for managing the risk of flooding from main rivers, reservoirs, estuaries and the sea.

Christina Hooley – Treeresponsibility

Christina has a lifetime concern and love for the natural environment. Born and raised in Hampshire, she fell in love with the Calder Valley at first sight in 1981. The valley worked its magic on her and has been her adopted home since 1997. She had planned a career in the field and began a degree in Botany, but, as is often the case, life took her on a different path. This lead eventually to a BA in creative arts and ten years working in community theatre.

After discovering Treesponsibility in 2000, she became its number one volunteer. She joined Treesponsibility in 2005 as coordinator for both Volunteer engagement, and its tree planting holiday initiative, 'Holidays that don't cost the earth', launched that year. When Treesponsibility's founder, Dongria, was diagnosed with cancer in 2017, Christina was appointed coordinator. When Dongria sadly passed away earlier this year, Christina took the reins as Treesponsibility's sole coordinator.

Sarah-Jayne Robins – Todmorden Flood Group

Chair of Todmorden Flood Group, EA flood warden and vice chair of the Community Resilience Operational Group.

SJ is a founding member of TFG and has worked in partnership with all flood groups in the upper Calder Valley, EA, CMBC, Todmorden parish council and the local third sector since 2012. She regularly gives educational talks regarding how flooding affects Todmorden on both a macro and micro level. SJ has lived experience of flooding in Todmorden and the impact it has on a personal level. SJ has also trained as a mental first aider in order to help her community during flooding events.”

Dr Jane Rowling – Calder Rivers Trust

Jane is the Farm and Rural Liaison Officer for Calder and Colne Rivers Trust. Her work focuses on helping farmers and rural landowners, however large or small, to improve their carbon capture and water quality, while working with nature to support the sustainability of farms and rural businesses. Jane has been working on building the Trust's capacity for confidential farm advice and soil testing.

Calder and Colne Rivers Trust is a registered charity which cares for the River Calder and its tributaries, covering the Calderdale, Kirklees and Wakefield areas. The Trust's activities include working closely with other partners and communities in the Calder catchment to protect and improve waterways. We are one of sixty local organisations which make up the Rivers Trusts Network, a group of environmental charities in the UK and Ireland dedicated to protecting and improving river environments for the benefit of people and wildlife.



TODMORDEN

NATURAL FLOOD MANAGEMENT OPEN EVENING

TODMORDEN TOWN HALL | 1 NOVEMBER 2021 | 18:30-21:00

Join the Mayor of Todmorden, Slow The Flow, Calderdale Council, Treesresponsibility, the Todmorden Flood Group, the Calder Rivers Trust and the Environment Agency at this free open evening to explore how Natural Flood Management can help to reduce flooding in the Upper Calder Valley and how you can make a contribution to reducing flood risk.



TODMORDEN

NATURAL FLOOD MANAGEMENT OPEN EVENING

TODMORDEN TOWN HALL | 1 NOVEMBER 2021 | 18:30-21:00

Join the Mayor of Todmorden, Slow The Flow, Calderdale Council, Treesponsibility, the Todmorden Flood Group, the Calder Rivers Trust and the Environment Agency at this free open evening to explore how Natural Flood Management can help to reduce flooding in the Upper Calder Valley and how you can make a contribution to reducing flood risk.

