



**Broads Angling Services Group**

# **A Sustainable Future for The Broads Fishery**



## A Sustainable Broads Fishery 5<sup>th</sup> October 2021

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**Broads Angling Services Group**

### **Attendees**

Duncan Holmes	Director
Kelvin Allen	Director
Martyn Page	Director
Tim Colman	Director
Allan Kirby Colin	Member
Howlett David	Member
Todd Steve Lane	Member
Martin Burgess	Member

### **Apologies**

Andy Hindes	Director
Andy Feetham	Member
Steve Burgess	Stakeholder
Cass Singleton	Member
Nick Simpson	Member
Nick Cheeseman	Member
Richard Ayers	Member

### **Attendees**

Steve Burgess	Stakeholder
Paul Rice	Broads Society
George Elliot	Broads Society
Lewis Treloar	Broads Authority
Nick Beadmore	Environment Agency
Paul Thomas	Angling Trust
PC Paul Bassham	Broads Beat

Mike Brown	Stakeholder
Tom Humphreys	Angling Trust

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# Achievements 2018-2021



1 2 3 4 5

Refreshed Angling Strategy

**LET'S TALK**  
20<sup>th</sup> May 10am – 4pm

**WHERE**  
**The Forum Norwich**  
FATVING - Broads Angling - Past - Present - Future - Angling issues - Local Angling clubs - Broads Tourism - Environment Agency - Broads Authority - Martyn Page - Steve Harper - Roddie Burgess - Charles Jordine

1 2 3 4 5

BASG  
Public Launch Event



2 1 7 6

Wensum Flow and Abstraction



2 3 4 5

Understanding Broads Fish Stocks and Behaviours



1 4 2 7

Understanding of Saline Incursion



2 3 4

Prymnesium Causes, Impact & management



1 2 3 4

Broads Local Plan  
Protection of Angling  
Access to water



2 3 4

Angling Strategy linkages defined within the Broads Plan

# Achievements 2018-2021



1 2 2 1

Challenging NE on Policy with Hoveton GB



1 2 1 1 2

Reinstated EA Fishery News Letter



2 3 1 2

Opened Discussions on formalising Angling



2 1 3

Lease agreement Rollesby Broad Platforms



2 3 1 2

Wensum Past Present and Future consultation



2 3 1 2 1

Wensum Governance structures



2 3 1 2 1

Wensum Catchment Partnership Formed



2 3 6 2 2

Wensum Himalayan Balsam



2 2 1 1 2 7

Broads Pike Welfare in warm weather

# Achievements 2018-2021



1 2 2 1

2019 DEFRA Landscapes Review Recognition of Broads Angling



1 2 2 1

1<sup>st</sup> Legal JR won with Hoveton Great Broad



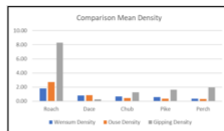
2 1 2 1

River fly accreditation for Volunteers completed

Greater Norwich Local Plan

1 2 3 1 1

Raising awareness of environmental harm due to unsustainable growth



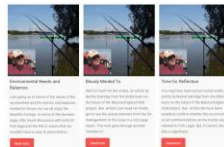
2 1 1

Wensum comparable stock density report and analysis



2 1 2 1

£16k grants secured  
Headwater Water Quality Study  
Catchment Monitoring Plan



Improved Communications  
<https://basg.online/chairmans-page/>





# Accounts Y/E 2020

## BROADS ANGLING SERVICES GROUP CIC

### Management Accounts

For the year ended 31st December 2020

	£	£
<b>Income</b>		
Donations	117.50	
Deductions	<u>2.91</u>	114.59
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Admin Costs	129.99	
Subscriptions	403.00	
Venue Rents	96.00	
Bank Fees	<u>3.00</u>	<u>631.99</u>
Profit/(loss) for the year	-	517.40
Opening Bank Balance		5,256.00
Closing Bank Balance		<u><u>4,738.60</u></u>

No Staff Costs Included

Average 30 Director hours week

5200 hours since CIC Formed

Circa £175,000 costs in the private sector

## Challenges for 2022 and Beyond

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- HGB battle has damaged the relationships BASG had maintained with EA, NE and BA
- Lost direct influence within EA and BA
- Clear from the absence of representatives here, perception of Angling
- The Broads Fishery isn't being looked after in way a £120m resource should
  - New Broads Fishery Officer based in Essex, not even here tonight
  - One part time bailiff
  - BA Rangers that don't know what fishery laws are in their remit
  - Woeful population monitoring and reporting
  - Inadequate Incident response
- Offloading of access by EA, BA and Landowners
- Aging Angler User Base
- Falling Behind other stakeholders
- Prymesium
- Salt Incursion
- Perception of Angling to the General Public and Stakeholders

BASG doesn't have the resource or the Funding to tackle these issues.

Too important to rely simply on a handful of individuals to solve this.





### EA Funding for The Broads Fishery

- Kelvin met with the EA recently and looked at Rod Licence Income and Spend
- Financial year 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021 1,090,068 fishing licences were sold,
- Generating an income of £24.5m across England. (up by some 15.8%)
- 2020/21 East Anglia 13% of sales = £3.1m
- They actually received £887,000 back
- That's an increase of £134,000 from 2019/20.
- But still short by £75,000 from the national average
- And its Shared across Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, Bedfordshire, Cambs.
- £887,000 over an area of 17000 km<sup>2</sup>
- £51/km<sup>2</sup> or £15,000 for the Broads 303km<sup>2</sup>
- But is this enough for what we expect EA to provide?

Or is our expectation part of the problem?

We need to rethink this.....

Year End 2020/21	Sales	Income '000
West Midlands	154,520	£3,417
<b>East Anglia</b>	<b>136,607</b>	<b>£3,106</b>
Yorkshire	106,848	£2,384
Kent South London and East Sussex	97,339	£2,134
Greater Manchester Merseyside & Cheshire	87,679	£1,980
Hertfordshire & North London	83,516	£1,877
Derbyshire Nottinghamshire & Leicestershire	73,868	£1,655
West Thames	65,562	£1,510
Wessex	56,586	£1,303
Lincolnshire & Northamptonshire	57,363	£1,295
Cumbria & Lancashire	46,041	£1,154
Solent and South Downs	51,868	£1,154
Northumberland Durham & Tees	39,154	£851
Devon Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly	23,030	£562
Unknown	10,087	£203
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,090,068</b>	<b>£24,583</b>



## An example of a very current issue.

BASG agreed to take ownership of these platforms on Rollesby Broads from the BA in 2019.

After a protracted legal transfer lasting nearly two years. The landowner Northumbrian Water via Norfolk Wildlife Trust and Savills have issued a licence for BASG to sign off against all liabilities and repairs.

These assets used by anglers and the public for the last 20 years for free come with some significant liabilities. (around £10k in maintenance)

Many other assets across the Broads all have the same issues, it's one of the reasons these are being lost.

As Parish Councils, the EA and Landowners are seeing these liabilities and taking action to remove these.

Currently the EA manage 5.5km of bank access, with 70 platforms or headings, at a operational cost of £9k per annum and a depreciation of £14k per annum.

With inflation that's £370k of funding required to maintain these assets, and its not in any budget. There is no funding.

This is addressed elsewhere outside the broads through clubs and associations members fees. Why should the Broads be any different?

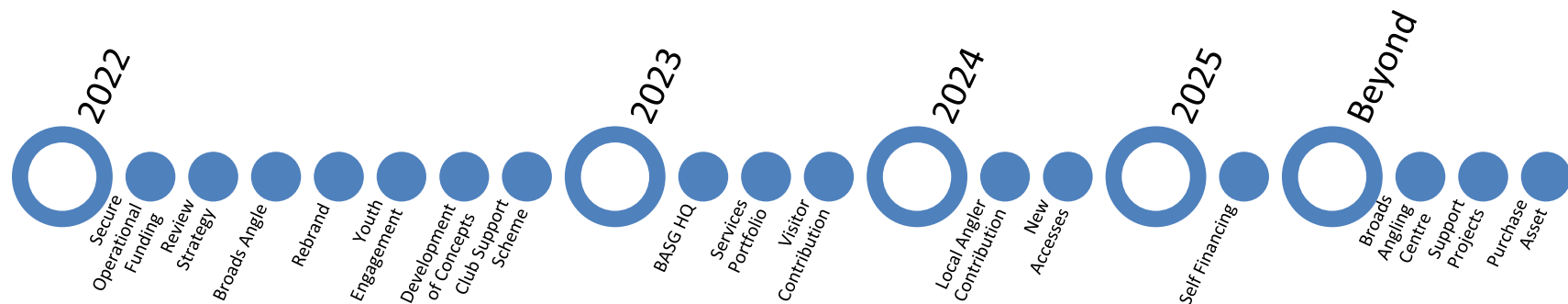


# Solutions

- The Fish and the Fishery need to be separated.
- Broads Authority need to take responsibility for the FISHERY,
  - tourism, recreation, business aspects
- Image change, anglers have long considered themselves guardians of fish, lets tell the world that
  - 1m fish lost to prymesium is 1 million lost meals for grebes, kingfisher, heron's, otters
  - Not just reduced match weights
  - 200,000 lost fish on a salt surge, means kingfishers relocate or Die
- Better Branding, marketing, youth engagement
- The visiting angler needs to contribute to the broads,
  - Just like on the Lochs, the Wye, Canada, etc, etc
- Capture some of the £120m + angling generates and put it back in to the Broad's Fishery
  - Stakeholder value not Shareholder value
- Anglers need to pay there way like other stakeholders and other models in other areas
  - 58 pence a week rod licence isn't enough
- Funding pays for projects, secures access, and protects
- Development of Broads Angling Clubs and combined role
- Stronger links with other resources such as Broads Watch Safety and Rescue
- Angling needs Professional full time people to stand alongside professional full time stakeholders
  - Angling Trust and Fish Legal HGB
- BASG needs more resource
- Platform for volunteer / member engagement
- Duncan full time



# Timeline





### How do we fund this ?

- Overhead funding grant to fund next three years of growth
- Create revenue streams from angling and angling tourism
- Create a services portfolio to deliver failing services and statutory requirements by EA, BA, NE.
- Create a platform where anglers are taking care of anglers and angling interests



**Growing Great Ideas**



*Supporting transformational, long-term change*

*We're looking to invest in different combinations of people, communities, networks and organisations that demonstrate an ability to seed and grow alternative systems, accelerate the deep transition of 21st-century civil society, and to learn and adapt as they go.*

*Paid over 2-10 years Grants of over £150,000*

## What do we need from Members?

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- Open Floor Discussion
- Member Endorsement of the Vision
- Member meetings

