

## North Yorkshire Timber Freight Quality Partnership (FQP)

Meeting at Cold Kirby Village Hall, 11:00

12<sup>th</sup> May 2015

# Minutes

| Item | Details                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Action |
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| 1    | <p><b>Introductions and apologies</b></p> <p><b>Attendees:</b><br/>Jeremy Walker (JW) - Chair<br/>Crispin Thorn (CT) - Forestry Commission<br/>Jon Bates (JB) – forestry commission<br/>Will Richardson (WR) - Yorwoods/Norwoods RDI,<br/>Roland Stiven (RS) – Timber Transport Forum<br/>Ian Austermuhle (IA) – UPM Tilhill<br/>Andrew Douglas (AD) – NE Timber Transport Group<br/>Andrew Bainbridge (AB) – NYCC<br/>Laura O'Toole (LOT) - NYCC</p> <p><b>Apologies:</b><br/>Tom Coates – Egger<br/>Brian Nugent – UPM Tilhill</p> <p>Mark Weston - forestry commission<br/>Steve Dresser – Euroforest</p> <p>Please note that Hazel Newman of Egger has stepped down as chair of NE Timber Transport Group, Athole McKillop (Athole.mc@landfactor.co.uk) is now chair and Andrew Douglas (Andrew.douglas2@northumberland.gov.uk) is secretary.</p> |        |
| 2    | <p><b>Review of previous meeting notes and actions</b><br/>Minutes taken as correct.</p> <p>JW is happy to raise any issues regarding Raisedale if they are continuing. IA to work with Nigel Smith in the NYCC Area office regarding hauling in this area and regarding managing the parish councils concerns.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |        |
| 3    | <p><b>Funding the FQP</b><br/>AB outlined potential NYCC cuts and asked the group if they wanted to continue meeting twice a year, or could meetings be cut</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |        |

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|   | <p>to once per year. AB was keen to state that the FQP was important and NYCC want to keep the group going. General consensus was that the meetings were useful, and that meeting once per year may mean that the group loses momentum.</p> <p>JB echoed this and that having a point of contact with NYCC was of value.</p> <p>CT agreed that the group adds value to the county and for managing the timber operations.</p> <p>WR noted that the Routes to Prosperity group have been tasked with investigating finding opportunities and that he would look into how they can support the FQP.</p> <p>JW stated the three reasons that the group exists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain relationships and sort out issues that arise</li> <li>• Keeping the routes map and good practice guide up to date</li> <li>• Responding to consultation, government queries/papers/campaigns, lobby groups etc</li> </ul> <p>It was decided that we should keep having two meetings per year, but that JW, CT, WR would look for additional revenue streams to supplement NYCC's contribution.</p> <p>Other groups:</p> <p>Scotland groups are well funded and hold several meetings</p> <p>Northumberland hold 4 meetings per year but they are still in their infancy and need more input to get the group off the ground</p> <p>Cumbria have 2 meetings per year, and fill in between with emails – much the same as the current North Yorks arrangement.</p> | JW,<br>CT,<br>WR |
| 4 | <p><b>Timber Transport Forum update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NYCC have paid the £350 contribution to the national TTF routes map. RS added that the website maintenance contract will be under re-negotiation in July/Aug 2015. CT noted that the map was a real benefit to the county – both the national one and the North Yorks one. LOT to look for web page hits/stats on the map website and report back.</li> <li>• Forest Industry Safety Accord (FISA) – driver guide and checklist is nearly complete. Timber Transport Website will be on-line by the end of May. The site has a page for each regional group.</li> <li>• Roadside stacking and loading is a major issue therefore there is a plan to produce a good practice guide of do's and don'ts which will address the safety issues.</li> <li>• Thoughts needed regarding formal guidance on exit points onto public highway – should there be a standard for the exit point layout and improvements – potential grants available</li> <li>• Note that HGV speeds in England and Wales have been increased from 40mph to 50mph on single carriageway roads, and from 50mph to 60mph on dual carriageway roads. Note Scotland have not increased their HGV speeds.</li> <li>• RS to reduce his time as TTF officer to 4 days per week.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                        | LOT              |

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| <b>5</b> | <p><b>Government ‘Roots to Prosperity’ initiative</b></p> <p>Fund for Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) supported forestry schemes – The industry led initiative ‘Roots to Prosperity’ has demonstrated the value of collaboration between the forestry industry, Local Authorities and LEPs. To encourage this further, the government will launch a nationwide £1 million fund to support schemes that will promote the growth of the forestry industry in their region and which have the support of their local LEP.</p> <p>WR stated that as part of the Roots to Prosperity forestry sector growth initiative we are involved in across Northern England we are putting together a list of timber hauliers which we will be writing to, to inform of the opportunities for business support under the new Countryside Productivity Scheme (CPS). The CPS can help provide funding for trailers specifically designed for hauling timber or logs and we feel it would be useful to inform all hauliers across the region of this opportunity.</p> <p>Roots to Prosperity team are working on an agreed action plan.</p> |            |
| <b>6</b> | <p><b>Timber routes map updates</b></p> <p>Hauling from Slacks Wood of £2k tonnes to begin in spring 2015, using consultation route through Little Ayton.</p> <p>LOT to remind the FQP group for any updates</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <b>LOT</b> |
| <b>7</b> | <p><b>Issues from Area officers</b></p> <p>Area 4 raised a concern regarding the usage of Laskill bridge near Hownby for timber wagons. They have received a request from UPM for transporting the timber by using Laskill Bridge. Structurally this bridge is only able to carry a vehicular axle load of 1st axle 12T and second axle of 6T, if vehicles exceed these loads, then operators should use an alternative route.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |            |
| <b>8</b> | <b>AOB</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |            |
| <b>9</b> | <b>Date of next meeting – October/November 2015</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |            |