

Notice of Appointments to the Navigation Advisory Committee

The currently appointed membership of the Navigation Advisory Committee and the areas of interest they are deemed to cover in accordance with the Middle Level Act 2018 comprises of the following;

The members were chosen as it was considered that they represented particularly well the local and national interest of users of the Middle Level Navigation.

Chris Howes (Chairman) Inland Waterways Association (a) – (f)

This is an active and well know national membership body with regional branches made up of boaters. It also provides advice and guidance for boaters and navigation authorities and has worked with the MLC in the past to provide navigation improvements.

Alan Wildman Residential Boat Owners Association (b)

This body is a national membership body made up of residential boat owners with permanent mooring and others who are continuous boaters. The organisation has expressed a willingness to work with the MLC to improve the situation for residential boaters.

Nathan Arnold Environment Agency (c)

This person is part of the EA team that operate the navigation either side of the Middle Level Waters. The involvement of this person helps to encourage the development of close working relationships which are targeted at making the best cross border arrangements between navigation authorities possible

Chris Middleton Environment Agency (Fisheries) (d)

As a Technical Specialist this person represents angling interests which are a significant other interest on Middle Level Water. The Environment Agency are the national body in control of rod licencing and also monitor the heath and fish stocks of waters including those within the Middle Level.

Paula Syred Fox's Narrowboats Ltd (e), (a) – (d)

As a marina owner this person has an interest in commercial aspects on Middle Level Waters, is a land owner with relevant interests and has links to multiple vessel owners within Middle Level waters.

Phil Hughes Fenland District Council (d), (f)

This representative from Fenland District Council covers not only vessel owners' interests but those of the wider users of the water, covering amenity and tourism. Fenland District Council are seen as key to delivering increased number of short stay, permanent (and temporary) residential moorings.

Councillor Dee Laws Fenland District Councillor (and Board Member appointed by Fenland District Council) (d), (f)

Mirroring the interests of Phil Hughes but at a Councillor level.

Roger Sexton East Anglian Waterways Association (c)

This body is a regional association who state their aim is to promote access to local navigations for the all in the community. They work with and support many local societies, trusts and other user bodies in the area

Colin Ovenden (youth representative) (a)

Colin is committed to seeking opportunities to get better engagement with young people who use or wish to use the Middle Level waters. There has been an increase in the use of paddle boards and canoes over the last few years and the needs of this sector need to be explored further and catered for.

Councillor Steve Corney – Ramsey Town Mayor (a) (c) (d) (f)

Steve is a Huntingdonshire District Council Councillor, Mayor of Ramsey and a boat owner. His interests include promoting improved navigation facilities in and around Ramsey town, tourism together with boat owner and user interests.

The MLC Chairman, Vice Chairman and Mr S Whittome are Middle Level Board members who sit on the committee so that they can understand what the NAC is looking for and why and to provide good communication links between the NAC and Board.

The Chief Executive, Navigation Officer and Solicitor/Assistant Clerk sit on the Board and report and advise the Board, but are not involved in any voting.

Current as of June 2021