

## Useful Links – July 2018

*“Useful Links” is a regular update for project managers seeking information about stakeholder engagement. Inclusion of a link should not be taken to mean endorsement of a site or publication.*

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*It’s nearly August, time for some R&R and summer reading. For many of us it’s an opportunity to catch up on some of the business books, publications and podcasts that we don’t have time for in the office. If you’re interested in learning more about people in projects, then here are a few bookmarks to add to your iPad before you head off to the beach.*

### Articles

#### APM website:

#### [“Stakeholder Engagement, and why it’s important to project management”](#)

One of the key skills of a project manager is prioritisation: understanding which activities are most important, and where to allocate time and resources to be most effective. Where does stakeholder engagement fit on your prioritisation list?

A whitepaper by major programmes manager Benedict Pinches, sets out the case for why the success of projects and programmes is inextricably linked to our stakeholders; and why stakeholder engagement is not only a necessary part of project management, but also positively beneficial for the effectiveness of the project team.

To accompany this whitepaper there is also a [webinar](#) recording on YouTube and [slides](#) on Slideshare.

#### [Project journal, Summer Edition p20:](#)

#### [“Do we engage stakeholders effectively?”](#)

*“Setting and monitoring the trajectory for key stakeholder engagement in among a project sponsor’s leadership responsibilities ... but do we truly understand what is required to keep all stakeholder satisfied?”*

Danny Trup, project sponsor and stakeholder manager, provides five approaches to stakeholder engagement for project, programme and portfolio managers.

*Project* is the official journal of the Association for Project Management (APM) and is available to [read online](#) for APM members.

#### [Project journal, Spring Edition p56:](#)

#### [“Starting a new project: creating a great team”](#)

*“Many project managers are so busy focusing on the deliverables that they forget the importance of forming a team.”*

Your team members are critical stakeholders in your project and the kick-off meeting may be your first opportunity to engage with them and to give them a stake in the project. Susanne Madsen, project leadership coach, suggests three tactics for creating a great team feeling right from the start. APM members can [read Project online](#).

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### Podcasts

#### [APM: "The art & science of winning the SE snakes and ladders game"](#)

*"Sharing case studies of how to deliver programme success by managing the ups and downs of 'real people' – perceptions, realities and damn lies!"*

This series of podcasts was recorded by Paul Mansell, who specialises in aligning strategy with exceptional delivery of transformational projects. The case studies are taken from his early days as the head of stakeholder engagement of the London Boroughs for the London Congestion Charging Project, through the myriad of dependencies as Programme Director on smart metering and most recently, as the Strategic Advisor on the post Grenfell Buildings Safety Programme.

[Podcast 1 - Setting the 'Stakeholder' scene](#)

[Podcast 2 - The Case tool](#)

[Podcast 3 - Case studies](#)

[Podcast 4 - Reflections](#)

### Blogs

#### [APM: "Team conflict? 5 Steps to restoring order"](#)

*"Complete project success is difficult enough to achieve – the last thing the project manager needs is a team in conflict with each other. What do you do?"*

This five-step approach to conflict management is by Brad Egeland, a Business Solution Designer and IT/PM consultant and author.

#### [APM: "5 ways to control your stress levels"](#)

When we think about project stakeholders, we're usually talking about 'everyone else' involved in the project. What about the project manager? *"Managing multiple clients and multiple projects can at times feel overwhelming and see your stress levels sky rocket."* The health and wellbeing of the project manager can have a significant impact on productivity, the quality of decisions and the people they're working with.

In this blog post, coach Kelly Swingler suggests five ways to "claim control" to prevent stress getting in the way.

#### [APM: "Stakeholder engagement – let's start with why"](#)

When faced with an ever growing and complex set of issues, how does the project manager approach the challenge of engaging effectively with stakeholders? In this blog, stakeholder engagement specialist Fran Bodley-Scott suggests that *"the best way to work out how to do something is to start with why you need to do it."*