

RIVER DEBEN ASSOCIATION

**Minutes of committee meeting held at 83 Ipswich Road  
at 7.30pm on 6th July, 2017**

1. **Present:** Sarah Zins (Chair), Peter Clay, Veronica Falconer, Jim Goldsworthy, Sam Jennings, Richard Verrill, Robin Whittle  
**Apologies:** David Bucknell, Alan Comber, Anne Moore, Robert Simper, James Skellorn and Chris Woodard.
2. **Declarations of Interest**  
No additional declarations of interest.
3. **Minutes of the meeting of 11<sup>th</sup> May, 2017**  
The minutes were agreed and approved.
4. **Matters arising**  
Noted and/or covered below
5. **Accounts to date**  
JG noted that total subscriptions to date amount to £2635 and further subs are anticipated in the remainder of this year. Total subscriptions received in 2016 amounted to £2852.
6. **Membership**  
SZ had nothing new to report on membership, but will chase up the members whose subscriptions are overdue.  
**ACTION: SZ to chase non-payers**
7. **Autumn Edition of *The Deben***  
In addition to the various articles proposed at the previous meeting, RW said that he would be happy to do an article on his recent voyage to Ireland. Robin also noted that he was trying to arrange a chat with Roger Kaznica to gain information for an article in *The Deben* about George Turner (an amazing local character in the Deben dinghy and yacht fraternity).  
**ACTION: DB to let writers/commissioners know what articles he would like them to prepare.**
8. **Autumn Meeting**  
SZ reported that the Bawdsey Radar Trust would be prepared to do a talk to the autumn meeting, but that although PGL were amenable in principle to holding the meeting at Bawdsey Manor, they were refurbishing during the winter and it would not be available. It was agreed that we would therefore defer the talk until Spring and other suggestions were mooted. The committee suggested that we ask Sam Newton to talk on Sutton Hoo and the finds at Rendlesham and we should enquire whether we could hold the talk at Sutton Hoo.  
**ACTION: SZ to talk to Sam Newton and Sutton Hoo**
9. **Saltmarshes**  
RW noted that Karen Thomas has submitted an application to Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB for the funding of a project 'Suffolk Saltmarsh Pilot – Deben Estuary'. The proposal was made by the East Suffolk Coast Internal Drainage Board acting on behalf of the DEP and RDA and a project board had been set up to oversee the Sustainable Development Fund bid outline and put together a clear project plan. SZ will attend this meeting and report back. RW agreed to prepare a proposal for the RDA involvement in this project.  
**ACTION: Robin Whittle to prepare proposal.**

## 10. Planning Applications and new construction.

- **Candle Road:** SZ had drafted a letter in response to a communication from the Secretary of State inviting comments following new evidence (the SCDC Housing Land Supply Assessment demonstrating a housing land supply that more than meets the requirements of the NPPF including the necessary buffers). The draft had been circulated and was approved.

**ACTION: SZ to submit by e-mail cc SCDC**

- **Cross Farm:** VF introduced this application for a 1 bedroom annexe and extensive extension to the house overlooking the river and said that she would prepare a letter for the RDA to send asking for a Flood Risk Assessment and pointing out their failure to submit a Design and Access Statement.

**ACTION: VF to draft letter and SZ to send.**

- **Melton Hill:** It was noted that the application for planning permission had now been submitted and was being analysed by VF, with input from other interested parties, and the RDA would make its comments after that. It was agreed that SZ would look at the view of the buildings from the river and from the Sutton Hoo bank and consider liaising with the National Trust as owners of Sutton Hoo.

**ACTION: VF to draft letter and committee to approve before submission; SZ to liaise with NT**

## 11. Wildlife

RV said that he had looked at the wildlife on the River Deben and considered that birds were well represented but other animals less so. He proposed to start his investigations at the top of the food chain with seals and, following work done by the Zoological Society of London, to record sightings of seals during the August moult. He will put a call to action for RDA members to report sightings on the website.

**ACTION: RV to liaise with AC re website notice**

## 12. Footpaths and Access

AM made a written report that the DEP Access Group is working with Highways about forming links from the Adastral development in the form of cycle routes and safe footpath connection to the river to encourage people to leave their cars at home (but with no intention of enabling cycling along the river paths).

## 13. Sailing Clubs

No report.

## 14. Maritime Woodbridge Weekend – 9 & 10 September, 2017

A draft rota for committee members to set-up and man the RDA stand was prepared and committee members signed up.

**ACTION: ALL- Please sign up for a session if you have not already done so.**

## 15. Website

SZ had circulated a proposed new format prepared for the website by AC, with the catalyst for a new format being that the current one did not work well with mobile devices. The points which DB had made in writing were discussed but the new format was greeted with unanimous approval by the meeting and AC was thanked for his work.

**ACTION: SZ and others to update content and communicate this with AC**

## 16. AOB:

- There is a Suffolk Coast and Estuaries conference focussing on valuing our coast to be held on 6 October 2017 from 9.15 to 4 p.m. at Trinity Park Ipswich, and there are still some places left for those who would like to book. SZ has booked 3 places, RW asked for one and there is one spare,

**ACTION: Contact SZ if you would like a spare ticket for the conference**

**17. Date of next meeting:** Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September, 2017 at 7.30 p.m at Little Red House, Blacksmith's Road, Hasketon, IP13 6JA by kind permission of RV.