

RIVER DEBEN ASSOCIATION

Committee Meeting Weds 28 July 2021 at 6.30pm
at Woodbridge Museum

- 1. Present and apologies:** Sarah Zins, Jane Haviland (Co Chairs), Robert Simper, Moray MacPhail, Matt Lis, Martin Waller, Liz Hattan, Caroline Matthews
In attendance: Julia Jones
Apologies: Sue Orme
- 2. Declarations of interest:** Robert Simper declared an interest in the Ramsholt campsite planning application.
- 3. Minutes of AGM and committee meeting on 23 June:** Approved without comment.
- 4. Matters Arising:** Regarding information posts on the riverbank, SZ noted that they require appropriate consultation in sensitive locations e.g. Waldringfield.
- 5. Deben Summer Festival:** MM reported progress, and both weekends are particularly busy. We were most grateful to Claudia Myatt for the use of her artwork for the poster.
Robertson's Boatyard is having two Open Days with a barbecue.
A prize for the best redshank photo was agreed, possibly the "Life on the Deben" DVD.
Moray would write to thank people who had been particularly helpful.
JH referred to Palfreys Butchers, Debenham, offering a voucher in lieu of being able to actively participate on this occasion.
Beachbonkers may be able to participate in future years.
MM hoped a pub in Ufford might brand something for the festival.
It was agreed that the RDA should host an event, a showing of "Life on the Deben". MM and ML to explore venues.
It was agreed that boat trips would currently be outside the remit of the RDA.
We are awaiting a decision from WTC regarding an event in Elmhurst Park.
ML will promote the DSF on Instagram and MW will post on local Facebook groups.
MM will explore hanging a banner in the Thoroughfare with WTC.
- 6. DEP Plan and FC1:** JH reported that the scoping report was now on the DEP website and that our comments had been taken on board.
SZ reported a summary of issues with FC1. (Action: SZ and JH to continue constructive communications with the Adeane Estate.)

7. Nature and Conservation Sub-Committee: LH had attended an East Suffolk Coastal Partnership meeting for the first time, which had been interesting. JH will do a short article on the RDA for their next magazine. They mentioned 10 pairs of spoonbills at Havergate Island (though not on the Deben). Jane Hayward is the RSPB contact for the Deben.

JH reported concerns about weed killing at Ferry Quay and will liaise with the residents in the first instance and encourage alternatives.

SZ reported that she, Richard Verrill and three others went on a SWT Fish Survey at Hazelwood Marshes. Four people are now trained and will do surveys led by RV. Stephen Thompson (EIFCA) will assist and hopefully will supply a portable kit.

ML referred to a lack of fish diversity in the Deben from a previous RDA talk. Discussions are afoot in EIFCA to create a sea bass nursery somewhere on the Deben.

JJ suggested we had a conservation page on the RDA website.

8. Planning: No new applications.

9. Publicity: MW sent a note of the recent publicity meeting -see attached. ML and MW will discuss RDA and local Facebook posts. JH to create Twitter page but will not be responsible for actively maintaining it.

10. Journal, Autumn Edition of The Deben and sales: Sales are going fairly well and articles for the next edition were discussed. Likely contributors will include: MW, ML (wild swimming/electric outboards), RS, SZ/RV (fish survey training) and JH (gig row).

MM and MW will do a round up of the Deben Summer Festival - about 900 words. A forward-looking element will be important.

MW will pursue the RDA photo competition and get some external publicity.

LH will organise an article about the East Suffolk Rivers Trust.

The deadline is 31 August for issue in November, to coincide with the members' meeting.

(Action: SZ/JH to seek a speaker and venue for an autumn meeting)

11. AOB: It was agreed to put wild swimming and kayaking on the agenda next time.

Churches Together are having a climate change day in Kingston Fields on 19 September. We agreed in principle to have a stand (LH possibly to be there but JH and SZ away so cannot be there).

(RS and JJ left the meeting.)

12. Ramsholt Campsite Planning Application: The Co-Chairs, with assistance from a locally-informed Landscape Architect, have drafted the RDA response - a reasoned objection to the application.

(Action: JH to send)

13. **Date of next meeting:** Thursday 9 September at 6.30 pm at JH's house, 4 New Quay Terrace IP12 1BF.