

RIVER DEBEN ASSOCIATION MINUTES

Committee Meeting Thursday 22 September 2022 at 6.30pm
at Deben Yacht Club

1.	<p>Present: Jane Haviland, Colin Nicholson (Co-chairs), Robert Simper, Moray MacPhail, Julia Jones, Matt Lis, Caroline Peeke, Liz Hattan</p> <p>Apologies: Caroline Matthews, Sue Orme</p>	Action
2.	Declarations of Interest: None	
3.	Minutes of the meeting of 18 July 2022: The minutes were approved.	
4.	<p>Matters Arising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Insurance CN to arrange - 	
5.	<p>Accounts and Membership Update</p> <p>MM reported: Financial position is healthy No new members since last meeting Bits 'n' bobs going out this week, highlighting events at Whistocks on Sat 24 September organised by Transition Woodbridge.</p>	
6.	<p>Magazine, RDA Journal and Website:</p> <p>JJ reported latest edition of The Deben is out and has been well received. JH thanked JJ for efforts and JJ thanked all who had contributed and those who had helped get it distributed</p> <p>31/1/23 is deadline for the next magazine</p>	All
7.	<p>Report from the Nature and Conservation Sub-Committee:</p> <p>Focus on river health based on both the ecology - fish survey, otter survey etc and water quality.</p> <p>Fish Survey – Richard Verrill has reported that the survey went well. He has written a report summarising the results for the Deben Magazine and a more detailed article for the RDA Journal. Interestingly, other organisations are keen to be able to use the data.</p> <p>Otter Survey – JH (with CN and LH) to discuss potential for establishing otter spotter training with Penny Hemphill and Nicky Rowbottom (Suffolk Otter Group) as part of the RDA Conservation and Water Quality Subcommittee.</p> <p>River Champions – LH is in discussion with SWT regarding river wardens or river champions. This may involve becoming involved with water quality testing. LH to progress. We need to liaise with the AONB who also have river wardens and we would wish to work with the AONB rather than overlap. CP to contact Neil Lister of AONB to discuss potential for coordination.</p> <p>Plastic Prevention Project: The ESRT submitted a proposal to the Rivers Trust (funded by Interreg) for a Plastic Prevention Project. The RDA Committee input to the proposal and confirmed its support. The ESRT</p>	<p>JH to arrange meeting</p> <p>LH</p> <p>CP</p> <p>JH</p> <p>MM</p>

	<p>will confirm the outcome imminently. If successful, a call for volunteers will be sent via Bits' n' Bobs</p> <p>With regard to water quality CN reported he has attended various meetings with Anglian Water (AW):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Initial meeting with AW at Waldringfield to introduce discussions on water quality. 2. Zoom with AW's Lead Academic, a professor from University of Aberystwyth who was a technical expert involved with EU Bathing Water Legislation. 3. Meeting and tour of Anglian Water Treatment works at Martlesham. Which was both interesting and informative for all. CN to summarise the information in an article for the website. <p>Transition Woodbridge "Celebrating the Deben" event at Whisstocks on 24 September, RDA will have a stall. JH/CN/MM/CP /LH will attend</p> <p>QR Codes Need to confirm locations – Melton Boat Club has volunteered for one.</p>	<p>CN</p> <p>JH/MM</p>
8.	<p>Planning Applications:</p> <p>2nd Consultation on old Suffolk Coastal District Council Office development SO/JH to respond</p> <p>As yet there has been no decision on the Wickham Market solar farm..</p>	<p>JH/SO</p>
9.	<p>DEP Update:</p> <p>Dredging - nothing to report</p> <p>England Coastal Path – An update is required to understand any progress with the design and if there are inconsistencies e.g. how close to the riverside does the path need to be and what are the requirements should the path traverse through private gardens. The Committee needs to revisit previous response and feed into the DEP, as a partner, to enable the DEP to submit a comprehensive response when ready.</p> <p>Bawdsey Quay Marine Centre for Deben Soundings - This is reported to have been a success during the summer season and will close end September. No further actions to report – CN to update at next meeting</p>	<p>JH</p> <p>CN</p> <p>CN</p>
10.	<p>AOB</p> <p>CP reminded the committee to submit their profiles for the website</p> <p>Issues with river speed limit not being consistently maintained. JH to check Bylaws</p> <p>Issues with river path between Martlesham and Waldringfield raised. Seem to be 2 issues: Overgrown, just beyond Martlesham boat yard and sea wall broken further towards Waldringfield. Committee to explore options to improve and feed into the AONB if deemed appropriate.</p>	<p>JH/SO/LH/ML/CP</p> <p>JH</p>
12.	<p>Next meetings</p> <p>9 November 18.30 – venue TBC</p> <p>Autumn talk 24 November with Lord Deben. Woodbridge Community Centre</p> <p>2023 AGM 26 April at the Woodbridge Community Centre</p>	<p>JH/CP</p>