

RIVER DEBEN ASSOCIATION

Committee Meeting Wednesday 21st June 2023 at 6.30pm
at Deben Yacht Club.

1.	<p>Present: Jane Haviland, Colin Nicholson (Co-chairs), Moray MacPhail, Caroline Peeke, Caroline Matthews, Robert Simper, Liz Hattan, Sue Orme</p> <p>Apologies: Matt Lis, Julia Jones</p>	Action
2.	<p>New Declarations of Interest: None</p>	
3.	<p>Minutes of the meeting of 5 April 2023: The actions from the previous meeting were reviewed and the minutes were approved.</p>	
4.	<p>Matters Arising As discussed as items on the agenda</p>	
5.	<p>Accounts and Membership Update MM circulated a report and latest membership numbers during the meeting. Slight drop in membership numbers due to removing those who declined to renew their membership through no longer paying. Account healthy and it was agreed explore using a high interest account for reserve funds. Unity Trust Bank was suggested.</p>	MM
6.	<p>Magazine, RDA Journal and Website: JJ reported: Deadline for next magazine 31/8/23. SO to write My Deben JJ is now in contact with Simon Ballard at the Tide Mill to provide a feature on the Tide Mill Initial Journal article with profiles of 1st 3 people who make a difference to the Deben now or in the past has been published</p> <p>Need to bring the website up to date following which CN will start a review with CP as a 2nd opinion when required. However, before this happens the website needs to be migrated to a new platform. Bertie When has offered to write a proposal for this including costs and this will then need to be actioned.</p>	<p>SO</p> <p>CN/CP</p> <p>MM/AC/BW</p>
7.	<p>Report from the Nature and Conservation Sub-Committee: Anglian Water – CN/ JH gave update on activities; prolonged discussion.</p> <p>Map of tank emptying facilities, public toilet and shower facilities on the river so gaps are visible and can be discussed with Anglian Water – in progress</p> <p>JH went on a tour of Martlesham treatment works and has written a separate note about this</p> <p>CN reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He attended a lunch with AW along with Ruth Leech, Eamonn O’Nolan and various others, where AW explained their reporting of 	<p>CN</p> <p>JH</p>

	<p>testing. Previously this was a complex spreadsheet, but they have condensed it into a simple pie chart. These show levels of E.coli and Enterococci at Martlesham are good, and not much higher on the rest of the Deben.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EA need to approve AW's proposed tertiary water treatment method at Martlesham as it is a new cheaper way than the established EA method. Assuming approved will implement as soon as practical. Now Waldringfield has designated bathing water status, Ruth Leech and Caroline Page are reapplying for it at Woodbridge He has prepared a draft Q&A sheet on water quality and AW Need to ascertain the role of Severn Trent Water who have a contract with the MoD and a Treatment Works on Sutton Heath <p>RS suggested that AW should report storm sewage spillages as they happen. To be discussed with AW</p> <p>Fish Survey – Richard Verill has been liaising with Natural England re funding for more surveys this year but this would be dependent on some funding from RDA. Committee agreed to cap this at £850, including the subsequent professional report.</p> <p>Otter Survey – Suffolk otter group are reviewing the hours of camera footage. Meeting 4/7/23 with a view to training more people to help with otter surveys</p> <p>SWT River Fly Monitoring LH reported: Training for monitors to be arranged. Expect monitors to work in pairs. Test kits are £200 so maybe these could be shared between different test teams Cost of £20 per test for data analysis and recording</p> <p>Plastic Prevention Project – JH to request update from AW. Litter picks are at Robertsons, so kayakers can take them out with them</p> <p>Dredging Update –RDA to write to all interested parties to initiate a conversation re approach to dredging the river between Kyson and Melton after Kyson Fairway Committee AGM and when their new Chair is in place - carried forward from last meeting</p>	<p>CN</p> <p>CN</p> <p>JH</p> <p>JH</p> <p>LH</p> <p>JH</p> <p>CN/JH</p>
8.	<p>Planning Applications: As yet there has been no decision on the Wickham Market solar farm. Situation not 100% clear but some archaeological surveys pending. Joint objection proposed and agreed. Land contamination tests have been completed with no issues at the old Suffolk Coastal Council office site. No formal planning application has been submitted yet</p>	<p>SO</p> <p>SO/JH</p>
9.	<p>DEP CN reported: Reorganisation with a new steering group and signing up representatives from parishes in progress. The headings for updating 2015 plan have been published for review and once these have been confirmed they will be looking for volunteers for subcommittees</p>	<p>JH/CN / LH to discuss options post meeting</p>

10.	East Coast Rivers Partnership Note circulated after their last meeting	
11.	AOB MM – should we have a stall at next year’s regatta to make people aware of RDA and hopefully gain members? – agreed this would be a good idea CN said attending SWT Martlesham Wilds Tour 26/6/23 and places still available JH – Will be watching film re pollution on River Severn at her house 27/6/23 and others welcome to join her JH – Introduced Tristan McConnell who has expressed an interest in assisting the RDA with publicity. Will put him in touch with JJ JH – has received a letter from Philip Kernohan raising concerns about cyclists on the river wall. Referred him to SCC and ESC.	MM JH JH
12.	Next meetings Committee meetings: Weds 26 th July at Walnut Tree House, Summer Lane, Bromeswell, IP12 2QA Autumn meeting – JH to ask Lord Deben for a date that would suit him, venue then to be determined	JH