

RIVER DEBEN ASSOCIATION

Committee Meeting Wednesday 26th July 2023 at 6.30pm
at Walnut Tree House Bromeswell

1.	<p>Present: Jane Haviland, Colin Nicholson (Co-chairs), Moray MacPhail, Caroline Peeke, , Liz Hattan</p> <p>Guest in attendance – Richard Verrill</p> <p>Apologies: Matt Lis, Julia Jones, Caroline Matthews, Robert Simper, Sue Orme</p> <p>The death of Councillor Caroline Page was noted together with an acknowledgement of her tireless work in her role of District Councillor, in particular her recent drive towards improving the water quality of the River Deben.</p>	Action
2.	<p>New Declarations of Interest: None</p>	
3.	<p>Minutes of the meeting of 21st June 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>Treasurer and Membership Update (MM) MM circulated the accounts and membership report before the meeting It was agreed that a 1 year fixed term interest bearing account would be opened at United Trust Bank and reserve funds deposited there. MM proposed that he should acquire a Debit Card for the RDA current account that is held at Lloyds Bank. The committee unanimously approved.</p>	<p>MM</p> <p>MM</p>
6.	<p>Magazine, RDA Journal and Website: Update from JJ by email: Deadline for next magazine 31/8/23 and progressing well. Need to confirm details for articles on river flies and otters MM to approach Patrick Gillard with regard to a tribute to Caroline Page Next 2 Journal articles will be Deben Geese by Sally Westwood and Sutton Shore Project By Simon After a significant effort the Website has now been moved to a new platform and updated. The committee extended thanks to Bertie Wheen and Alan Coomber for their hard work and diligence.. We now have the opportunity to review the website content.</p>	<p>JH/JJ</p> <p>MM</p> <p>CN/CP</p>
7.	<p>Report from the Nature and Conservation Sub-Committee: 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>Re AW CN reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bathing Water status on target and water quality results from the Environment Agency are expected to be excellent • CN attended a meeting of Woodbridge Climate Action Group at the Library, no major issues to report. • AW have invited him and JH to parliament in the autumn. 	CN

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Further investigation has shown that the role of Severn Trent Water on the base at Sutton Heath is historically well known and documented <p>SWT River Fly Monitoring LH reported: River fly monitoring training scheduled for Aug 13th, location to be agreed, LH to supply more details for Bits n Bobs due out at the weekend</p> <p>Fish Survey – RV reported that number and variety of fish found during last year’s survey indicate that the river is in good condition. In particular, there were a large number of smelt, which are only found in healthy rivers. Hoping to do another survey week of Sept 18th at Bawdsey, as last year, but also at Methersgate or towards Kyson Point in the vicinity of SWT Martlesham Wilds. He has volunteers and both and both EIFCA and EA are keen to participate. RDA Will also ask SWT if they would like to take part. Dependent on availability of expert from Stephen Colclough, (Institute of Fisheries Management). RV also planning to clarify funding.</p> <p>Otter Survey – Training has taken place, a team of volunteers has been established and the Deben Otter Group is now functioning. JH showed some footage of otters from cameras in multiple locations</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>Post meeting note: Kyson Fairway Committee AGM has taken place and Ben Grundy is the new Chair</p>	<p>LH</p> <p>JH/LH</p> <p>JH/CN</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. No formal planning application has been submitted yet for the old Suffolk Coastal Council office site.</p>	<p>SO</p> <p>SO/JH</p>
9.	<p>DEP CN reported: He is now interim vice-chair with Thomas Yeung as interim Chair. There will be a General Meeting during September to confirm all the interim appointments. 2015 plan will then be updated/restarted</p>	
10.	<p>East Coast Rivers Partnership There was a meeting this week but no one was available to attend</p>	
11.	<p>AOB MM to look into a stall at next year’s regatta ML had sent email covering various items, primarily related to issues raised by Waldringfield Fairways Committee – agreed to carry most of these forward for discussion when ML is present at next meeting. Exception is to start organising meeting of river using parties such as yards and fairway committees by introducing the idea as part of getting updates for News from the Hards ready for next Deben magazine</p>	<p>MM</p> <p>CN</p>
12.	<p>Next meetings Committee meetings: Tues 29th Aug at 4 New Quay Terrace</p>	

	Autumn meeting – Lord Deben has agreed to do autumn talk, waiting for him to provide a date that would suit him, venue then to be determined	JH
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