

RIVER DEBEN ASSOCIATION

Committee Meeting Tuesday April 2nd 2024 at 6.30pm
at Southfields, Fayrefield Rd Melton

1.	<p>Present: Colin Nicholson Jane Haviland (Co-chairs), Caroline Peeke, Matt Lis, Liz Hattan, Moray MacPhail, Sue Orme</p> <p>Apologies: Tristan McConnell, Anna-Marie Sellon, Caroline Matthews, Julia Jones, Ben Grundy, Robert Simper</p> <p>This was Jane Haviland's last meeting and the committee extended its thanks to her for all her hard work as co chair.</p>	Action
2.	<p>New Declarations of Interest:</p> <p>None</p>	
3.	<p>Minutes of the meeting of 28th February 24: The minutes were approved. The Actions from the meeting of 28th February were not reviewed and were carried forward to the next meeting. This meeting was primarily focused on the AGM and did not cover most of the regular agenda items.</p>	
4.	<p>Matters Arising - none</p>	
5.	<p>Treasurer and Membership Update (MM)</p> <p>MM had circulated a accounts and membership report prior to the meeting. This is now slightly out of date as a large number of members pay their subs at the beginning of April. Finances are in good order. JH extended thanks to MM for all his efforts</p>	
6.	<p>AGM Preparations (April 24th)</p> <p>AGM will be 7 for 7.30 at Quay St church</p> <p>Instead of a speaker will have forum on water quality with AW rep and citizen scientists rep. Each will do a short introduction to be followed by a Q&A. Tickets now available via Eventbrite or via application from magazine for members who don't use Eventbrite. Need to advertise the event beyond the membership using social media and the local press.</p> <p>JH to ask AMS and TM to do so</p> <p>CP has organized glass hire and will order wine and soft drinks once we have some idea of numbers.</p> <p>There will be a desk by the door for ticketing</p> <p>There will be another desk for previous issues of magazines</p> <p>MM to Coordinate with Kevin from Quay Church re logistics for the evening. Plan to have visual recording for the presentations and audio for subsequent discussion</p> <p>Need house rules for the discussion, MM to circulate draft.</p> <p>JH to chair discussion</p> <p>We will invite questions in advance of the meeting via Bits 'n' Bobs</p> <p>Aim is for discussion to end around 21.15</p>	<p>JH</p> <p>CP</p> <p>MM</p> <p>JJ</p> <p>MM</p> <p>MM</p> <p>JH</p> <p>MM</p>
7.	<p>Magazine, RDA Journal and Website: (JJ)</p> <p>Latest edition of The Deben circulated and well received. Thanks to all involved.</p> <p>Need to decide how to move forward with proposed amendments to the website</p> <p>ML to provide cost of sign for Lady Alice Kenlis</p> <p>Woodbridge museum has expressed an interest in being involved with the wording of the sign.</p>	<p>CN/JH</p> <p>ML</p>

8.	<p>Report from the Nature and Conservation Sub-Committee: - Not discussed</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>EA Bathing Water Monitoring – Report has now been produced related to 3 poor quality days between May and September last year, when other days excellent. CN to write a summary for website together with link to full report</p> <p>SWT River Fly Monitoring – LH reported she has been in touch with trainer re flooding hampering efforts and he said that many surveys are suspended during the winter. Also John Finlay from EA will help find a 2nd monitoring location</p> <p>Fish Survey – No change</p> <p>Otter Survey – There’s a Suffolk otter training on March 3rd and a further day of otter survey training on March 9th. SWT have funding for a number of new otter spotting cameras, 6 of which will be deployed on the Deben</p> <p>Plastic Prevention – database from project is still live and we could add to it if we did another litter pick. Discussed possibility of doing this in May, maybe by water as well as on the river path</p>	<p>CN</p> <p>CN</p>
9.	<p>Deben Forum Preparations (ML) Still in planning stage</p>	<p>CN/ML</p>
10.	<p>Planning Update: As yet there has been no decision on the Wickham Market solar farm. No formal planning application has been submitted yet for the old Suffolk Coastal Council office site however the developers, Rose, held another public consultation at the end of March. The plans shown were not substantively different from the previous ones. JH to write to WTC re electric bike hire point in Whisstocks place which is in a no cycling area.</p>	<p>SO</p> <p>JH</p>
11.	<p>DEP (CN) – Not discussed Meeting at Community Hall Sun 10th March involving those who collect data about the river, CN will be speaking about the RDA</p>	
12.	<p>East Coast Rivers Partnership – Not discussed East Suffolk Catchment Partnership Meeting New pilot Catchment Plans are being written for rivers Deben and Wye – These pilots are of high interest and thus the subject of weekly (Defra/Natural England/Environment Agency) meetings. These pilots may be rolled out to other rivers. The RDA (with DEP) have been invited onto the monthly Project Meeting drawing up the Catchment Plan (next meeting Thurs 29th Feb, CN attending</p>	<p>CN</p>
13.	<p>AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MM to look into a stall at this year’s regatta • Need to keep a watching brief on the changes to nutrient neutrality legislation • CN had been involved in further discussions regarding the proposed new ferry from Woodbridge to Sutton Hoo. Aim is for a chain ferry that would work at all stages of tide 	<p>MM</p> <p>JH</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Also discussion about a proposed tidy up of the beach area near the back of Woodbridge station where there are some abandoned tenders etc	
14.	Next meetings Committee meeting: Weds May 15th, venue Southfields, Fayrefield Rd, unless anyone has a preference for somewhere else AGM April 24 th 2024 7pm at Quay Street Church	