

RIVER DEBEN ASSOCIATION

Committee Meeting Monday November 11th 2024 at 6.30pm
at Southfields, Fayrefield Rd, Melton

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| 1. | <p>Present: Colin Nicholson (Chair), Caroline Peeke (Secretary), Moray MacPhail (Treasurer and Membership Secretary), Sue Orme, Matt Lis, Robert Brinkley, Ben Grundy</p> <p>Apologies: Tristan McConnell, Jane Haviland, Liz Hattan, Anna-Marie Sellon, Julia Jones</p> | Action |
| 2. | <p>New Declarations of Interest: None</p> | |
| 3. | <p>Minutes of the meeting of 23rd September 2024: The actions were reviewed and the minutes were approved.</p> | |
| 4. | <p>Matters Arising: None</p> | |
| 5. | <p>Treasurer and Membership Update (MM): MM had circulated accounts and membership report prior to the meeting – all in good order. MM raised the fact that Lloyds will start charging for their Community a/c type, which RDA uses (but not for membership receipts). Agreed to move this account to Metro Bank, who do not impose charges for this type of account. The account signatories and debit card holders will be Moray MacPhail (Treasurer) and Caroline Peeke (Secretary). The RDA's procedures control the authorisation of payments, outside the day-to-day account operation. The account may therefore be operated (including online) by either Moray MacPhail or Caroline Peeke, dual signatories are not required</p> | MM |
| 6. | <p>Magazine, RDA Journal and Website: (JJ) Next Deben Magazine deadline 31/1/25. SO to write a short article explaining how to report footpath issues to Suffolk County Council Rights of Way team and asking people to inform RDA if this does not resolve issue ML to provide cost of sign for Lady Alice Kenlis Woodbridge museum has expressed an interest in being involved with the wording of the sign. New riverdeben.org email addresses are in use without any major issues</p> | SO ML |
| 7. | <p>Report from the Nature and Conservation Sub-Committee: (CN/LH) 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 Various meetings have taken place: JH and CN met Jenny Riddell-Carpenter to discuss the RDA's interest in the Deben environment CN, A-MS and Richard Verill attended the Surfers against sewage meeting at Shire Hall and updated them on RDA activities SWT Riverfly Monitoring – No change LH to write a short statement explaining brown river foam</p> | CN LH |

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| | Fish Survey – No Change Otter Survey – No Change Plastic Prevention – No Change | |
| 8. | Planning Update (SO)- update by email post meeting: No formal planning application has been submitted yet for the old Suffolk Coastal Council office site. Upper Deben solar farm – No update A planning variation for the New Ferry Quay Café has been submitted related to height, use of glass and the balustrade as these do not comply with original permission | |
| 9 | Discussion Items: Projects that RDA might support financially in the future For example signs with ‘Rules’ for river users on slipways, desilting the river, river bailiffs, maintenance of ‘No Wash’ buoys. This was a discussion of ideas rather than putting in place any plans East Suffolk Council Jet Ski Licensing. Agreed that CN would write to ESC supporting this. Subsequent discussions indicate that ESC are obliged to license any vessels for hire or carrying paying passengers Update to Constitution This is to make clear that the RDA is an organization without political affiliation. Agreed this was a good idea but appropriate wording needs to be agreed and presented at the AGM. | CN CN |
| 10. | DEP (CN) First meeting of ‘Recover the Deben Water Quality Monitoring Sub-Group took place with representation from Environment Agency, Save the Deben, Deben Climate Centre. DCC reported a high spike in E.coli on 7th Oct from Woodbridge down to Waldringfield | |
| 11 | East Suffolk Catchment Partnership (CN) Deben Source to Sea Project – no change | |
| 12. | RDA Structure and Roles – carried forward | |
| 13. | AOB <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possibility of RDA promoting itself via articles in local free magazines. CN to discuss with TM – carried forward • Need to keep a watching brief on the changes to nutrient neutrality legislation • CN/LH to review RDA documentation held by JH and decide what to do with it | CN LH CN/LH |
| 14. | Next meeting Committee meeting: Mon Jan 6th , venue Southfields IP12 1NX AGM – details to be discussed at January meeting | |