

RIVER DEBEN ASSOCIATION

Committee Meeting Monday March 31st 2025 at 6.30pm
at Southfields, Fayrefield Rd, Melton

1.	Present: Colin Nicholson (Chair), Liz Hattan (Vice-Chair), Caroline Peeke (Secretary), Moray MacPhail (Treasurer and Membership Secretary), Matt Lis, Robert Brinkley, Anna-Marie Sellon, Ben Grundy, Apologies: Tristan McConnell, Jane Haviland, Julia Jones , Sue Orme, Tony Carter	Action
2.	New Declarations of Interest: None	
3.	Minutes of the meeting of 24th February 2025 : The actions were reviewed and the minutes were approved.	
4.	Matters Arising: None	
5.	Treasurer and Membership Update (MM): MM had circulated accounts and membership report– all in good order.	
6.	AGM preparation (ALL) Will be at Woodbridge Community Centre. Glasses ordered, refreshments will be arranged once there is an idea of numbers Not much take up on Eventbrite so far, will publicise further on social media emphasising the talk, rather than the AGM. Also another Bits ‘n’ Bobs before Easter promoting it. Need some helpers there at 6 to set up hall etc	CP AMS ALL
7.	Magazine, RDA Journal and Website: (JJ) Deben 70 Magazine distributed. Deadline for 71 is 31/8/25. MM to crosscheck membership list for riverside clubs and associations and contributors to News from the Hards to see whether there are any that are not members and thus do not receive magazine. 2 in progress Journal projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visiting Deben churches, some routes now being tested. • Register of old boats on the Deben. Progress is slower, but there is an item about it in latest edition of Practical Boat Owner Cost of sign for Lady Alice Kenlis will be £50-£100 Woodbridge museum has expressed an interest in being involved with the wording of the sign. Need to work out how to progress this	MM JJ/CP
8	Deben Colouring Book Various ideas have been fed back to CM, committee will get another chance to review the draft once available. Agreed an initial print run of 200, with aim for it to be available in time for Woodbridge Regatta. Pricing was agreed. MM to discuss pricing and commercial terms with CM.	MM
9	Jet Ski Updates A survey regarding river use has been distributed and results are being collated.	CN/AMS

	<p>Kyson Fairway Committee 'No Wash' buoys will be out at beginning of April.</p> <p>CN/RB to discuss options for similar buoys at Felixstowe Ferry</p> <p>Agreed survey should be mentioned at AGM but there should not be a discussion that detracts from the main speaker</p>	CN/RB
10.	<p>Report from the Nature and Conservation Sub-Committee: (CN/LH)</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>SWT Riverfly Monitoring – Planning to restart river fly monitoring during April, coordinated with Deben Climate Centre who also monitor several sites.</p> <p>Agreed that poster regarding brown foam needs to be attention grabbing and the wording would need to be agreed with the EA.</p> <p>MM to ask Riverside Trust whether we can use the noticeboard outside the Longshed.</p> <p>Fish Survey – Complete</p> <p>Otters – RDA was well represented at the Suffolk Otter Group Day at Minsmere</p> <p>Plastic Prevention – No Change</p>	<p>CN</p> <p>MM</p>
11.	<p>Planning Update: (SO)</p> <p>No formal planning application has been submitted yet for the old Suffolk Coastal Council office site.</p> <p>Upper Deben solar farm – No update</p> <p>There is a planning application for a Solar Farm at Hacheston, but this is not close enough to the river to be of interest to the RDA</p>	
12.	<p>RDA representations on other committees (DEP/ESCP): (CN)</p> <p>There's some movement in DEP discussions on Flood Cell 1 height restoration</p> <p>Aim to have new stretches of coastal path along the Deben open by Oct 2025.</p>	
13.	RDA Structure and Roles – carried forward	
14.	<p>AOB</p> <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 • Regatta June 29th – possibly have stall in Boatyard if there's space • We still need an Events Manager – any suggestions as to who? 	<p>CN</p> <p>LH</p> <p>ML</p> <p>ALL</p>
16.	<p>Next meeting</p> <p>Committee meeting: Weds May 14th, venue Southfields IP12 1NX</p> <p>AGM – April 30th 7 for 7.30 - Woodbridge Community Centre</p>	