

RIVER DEBEN ASSOCIATION

Committee Meeting Monday September 15th, 2025 at 6.30pm
at Southfields, Fayrefield Rd, Melton IP12 1NX

1.	Present: Colin Nicholson (Chair), Liz Hattan (Vice-Chair), Caroline Peeke (Secretary), Moray MacPhail (Treasurer and Membership Secretary), Amanda de Margary, Sue Orme, Anna-Marie Sellon, Apologies: Tristan McConnell, Jane Haviland, Tony Carter, Ben Grundy, Matt Lis, Julia Jones, Robert Brinkley CN started by thanking MM for his contribution to the RDA and welcoming Amanda de Margary, who will hopefully be taking over as membership secretary and treasurer	Action
2.	New Declarations of Interest: None	
3.	Minutes of the meeting of 2nd July 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. New membership database, Ragic, up and running but there is an issue with its email integration functionality. Deben colouring book has sold well and now only have about 20 copies left. No suggestion of a further print run given that many of those copies sold are in local shops and museums for people to buy	
6.	Events Waldringfield Tidelines - Went well Autumn Talk – Speaker booked for Nov 12th, venue will be Martlesham Richards Room. We still need an Events Manager – any suggestions as to who?	MM ALL
7.	Magazine, RDA Journal and Website: (JJ) 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. JJ has all input for magazine apart from • Details for autumn talk • Summary for approach to new newsletter Aim is to have magazine with Bettaprint by 22nd and back by 26th Discussed new monthly newsletter to replace occasional bits ‘n’ bobs. Final details to be ironed out but in principle agreed it should go ahead	MM AM-S/JJ
8.	Jet Ski Updates ESC Recreational Mitigation Team are taking this forward. They are open to changing the Bylaws and could incorporate details of speed limits into other planned information boards near the river. There are also ongoing discussions re ‘Go Slow’ buoys at Ramsholt and Felixstowe Ferry	CN

9.	King Charles III Coast Path: Lots of work going on and new signage being installed, expected to be open during this autumn. CN to report inconsistent signage	CN
10.	Report from the Nature and Conservation Sub-Committee: (CN/LH) Low flows on the fluvial Deben are of great concern SWT Riverfly Monitoring – Still hampered by low water levels MM to ask Riverside Trust whether we can use the noticeboard outside the Longshed for a poster regarding brown foam. This will need to be to be attention grabbing and the wording would need to be agreed with the EA. Fish Survey – Complete Otters – No change Plastic Prevention – No Change	MM
11.	Planning Update: (SO) No formal planning application has been submitted yet for the old Suffolk Coastal Council office site. Loudham solar farm – Plans have been resubmitted. Objection sent to reiterate initial objection and ensure the footpath through it is 10m wide with hedging either side Letheringham solar farm – no RDA action planned as there is a buffer the river an a robust landscape scheme. We can put members in touch with others who have knowledge of the scheme and have objected, if requested. New house nr Waldringfield Boatyard, no obvious issues and RDA generally does not get involved in individuals' planning applications	
12.	RDA representations on other committees (DEP/ESCP): (CN) No changes to DEP Strategic plan. Flood Cell 1 progressing and there is a proposed trial of a higher sea wall for 1km towards the Ramsholt end. DEP is looking for a new Chair	
13.	RDA Structure and Roles – carried forward	
14.	AOB • 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 • CP has discussed positioning of Lady Alice Kenlis sign with Sarah Zins. Next step to discuss wording with museum	CN LH CP
15.	Next meeting Committee meeting: Thursday October 28th, Riverside, Fayrefield Rd, IP12 1NX Autumn Talk – Nov 12 th Martlesham Richards Room	