

## RIVER DEBEN ASSOCIATION

Committee Meeting Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at 6.30pm  
at Southfields, Fayrefield Rd Melton

1.	<p><b>Present:</b> Colin Nicholson Jane Haviland (Co-chairs), , Caroline Peeke, Matt Lis, Liz Hattan, Moray MacPhail, Robert Simper</p> <p><b>Apologies:</b>, Sue Orme, Tristan McConnell, Anna-Marie Sellon, Caroline Matthews, Julia Jones, Ben Grundy</p>	<b>Action</b>
2.	<p><b>New Declarations of Interest:</b> None</p>	
3.	<p><b>Minutes of the meeting of 24<sup>th</sup> January 24:</b> The actions from the previous meeting were reviewed and the minutes were approved.</p>	
4.	<p><b>Matters Arising - none</b></p>	
5.	<p><b>Treasurer and Membership Update (MM)</b> MM had circulated a accounts and membership report prior to the meeting. Finances are in good order.</p>	
6.	<p><b>Magazine, RDA Journal and Website: (JJ)</b> Anticipate envelope stuffing and distribution for next magazine should be w/c March 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> Need agenda insert for magazine CP to arrange franking towards end of w/c 11th Need to decide how to move forward with proposed amendments to the website 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.</p>	<p>CN/JH CP JH  ML</p>
7.	<p><b>Report from the Nature and Conservation Sub-Committee:</b> 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 <b>EA Bathing Water Monitoring</b> – 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 <b>SWT River Fly Monitoring</b> – 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 2<sup>nd</sup> monitoring location <b>Fish Survey</b> – No change <b>Otter Survey</b> – There’s a Suffolk otter training on March 3<sup>rd</sup> and a further day of otter survey training on March 9<sup>th</sup>. SWT have funding for a number of new otter spotting cameras, 6 of which will be deployed on the Deben <b>Plastic Prevention</b> – 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  CN</p>
8.	<p><b>Deben Forum Preparations (ML)</b> Aim is to have the forum 3<sup>rd</sup> week of March. CN preparing email invitation</p>	<p>CN/ML</p>
9.	<p><b>Planning Update:</b></p>	

	<p>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</p> <p>Discussion re Active Woodbridge and Melton and whether RDA should get involved given it is not strictly related to the river. Agreed we would maintain an interest in case future phases are more relevant to the river.</p> <p>JH to write to WTC re electric bike hire point in Whisstocks place which is in a no cycling area.</p>	<p><b>SO</b></p> <p><b>JH</b></p>
10.	<p><b>DEP (CN)</b></p> <p>Meeting at Community Hall Sun 10th March involving those who collect data about the river, CN will be speaking about the RDA</p>	
11.	<p><b>East Coast Rivers Partnership</b></p> <p><b>East Suffolk Catchment Partnership Meeting</b></p> <p>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.</p> <p>The RDA (with DEP) have been invited onto the monthly Project Meeting drawing up the Catchment Plan (next meeting Thurs 29<sup>th</sup> Feb, CN attending</p>	<p><b>CN</b></p>
12.	<p><b>AGM Preparations (April 24<sup>th</sup>)</b></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&amp;A. Ticketed via Eventbrite or via application from magazine for members who don't use Eventbrite</p> <p>Need to secure a new co-chair in time to prepare for vote at AGM</p> <p>Need to review committee members and office holders to see who has served 3 years and if they are prepared to stand again prepare list for reelection</p> <p>CP to organize glass hire and wine</p>	<p><b>MM</b></p> <p><b>CN</b></p> <p><b>JH</b></p> <p><b>CP</b></p>
13.	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MM to look into a stall at this year's regatta</li> <li>• Need to keep a watching brief on the changes to nutrient neutrality legislation</li> <li>• CN mentioned that there has been some discussion about a ferry from Woodbridge to Sutton Hoo also about a visitors' pontoon near the Tide Mill</li> <li>• Also discussion about a proposed tidy up of the beach area near the back of Woodbridge station where there are some abandoned tenders etc</li> </ul>	<p><b>MM</b></p> <p><b>JH</b></p>
14.	<p><b>Next meetings</b></p> <p>Committee meeting: Tues April 2nd, venue Southfields, Fayrefield Rd, unless anyone has a preference for somewhere else</p> <p>AGM April 24<sup>th</sup> 2024 7pm at Quay Street Church</p>	