



# ALDE AND ORE ESTUARY PARTNERSHIP

## DRAFT MINUTES FOR AGREEMENT ON 18<sup>th</sup> July 2018

### MINUTES OF THE ALDE AND ORE ESTUARY PARTNERSHIP HELD ON TUESDAY 24<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2018 AT ORFORD TOWN HALL

<b>PRESENT</b>	Edward Greenwell	(EG)	<b>(Chairman, Farmer Nominee)</b>
	Guy Heald	(GH)	(Finance and Business representative)
	Tim Beach	(TB)	(Snape Parish Council Nominee)
	Alison Andrews	(AA)	(A&O Association Nominee)
	Brian Johnson	(BJ)	(Boyton and Bawdsey Parish Council Nominee)
	Peter Smith	(PS)	(Orford and Gedgrave Parish Council Nominee)
	Peter Palmer	(PP)	(Aldeburgh TC Nominee)
	David McGinity	(DMcG)	(Butley Parish Council Nominee)
	Jane Marson	(JM)	(Landowner Nominee)
	Harry Young	(HY)	(Business Representative)
	Amanda Bettinson	(AB)	(Partnership Secretary)

**ADVISORS** David Kemp (DK) (Environment Agency)

**APOLOGIES** Karen Thomas (KT) (IDB)  
Jane Burch (JB) (SCC)  
Rodney West (RW) (Ecological Representative)  
Pete Cosgrove (PC) (AONB)  
Bill Parker (BP) (SCDC)  
Andrew Hawes (AH) (Hawes Associates- Partnership Consultant)  
Emma Hay (EH) (Natural England)

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC** Roger Baxter

#### ACTION

1. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** There were no declarations of interest. New annual declaration forms were completed by those present. The Chairman welcomed Peter Smith as the representative of Orford and Gedgrave Parish Council.
2. **THE MINUTES** of 7<sup>th</sup> March 2018 were agreed with the amendment to minute 8, to read:  
... The EA assured the Partnership that although homes and people were their number one priority, Slaughden coastal defences came next. The damage was being assessed.
3. **MATTERS ARISING**
  - i) The vacancy for the Householder Representative was being advertised locally and would also be discussed at the Parish Chairmen’s meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> April along with discussing the Estuary Plan and funding streams. JMarson agreed to attend the meeting. AJB/EG
  - ii) It was recognised that PR experience would be required for both Trust and Partnership but it may not be possible to share the same person. HY thought he had some ideas which would be discussed. AJB
  - iii) Saltings Project – DMcG discussed the next 400 metres project on the Sudbourne Marsh which is due to start in August with a double row of faggots. There will be individual solutions to large bays and lagoons using a variety of different materials as discussed at the Saltmarsh Group. Consent approval is being sought by the EA. DK
  - iv) Attendance at the annual meeting was good and several people reported it was an extremely useful meeting. A number of issues were raised the most import of which were:
    - a) issues with tax relief on land sales which is being investigated by The Estuary Trust who will be seeking an opinion from Tax Counsel. **Action ES**

b) Whether the Partnership should convert to a Community Interest Company limited by guarantee. This could be an advantage to cover indemnity insurance, particularly as there may have to be a distinction between parish council representatives and other interested party representatives.

AJB/EG

c) It was thought a roving mike would be useful for questions

d) Press coverage was good in EADT <http://www.eadt.co.uk/news/alde-and-ore-estuary-partnership-s-annual-meeting-here-s-update-on-12m-defence-scheme-1-5481647>

#### 4. IMPLEMENTATION GROUP

##### i) Iken meeting

A community meeting was held at Iken to explain the temporary increased flood risk in very severe surge tides when the Snape and Aldeburgh walls have been upgraded and prior to the Iken wall being completed when everyone will have increased protection. Household attenders discussed their concerns with the IDB who will be arranging door stop surveys of the houses concerned and will then agree the type of mitigation required so that they have the necessary protection during the temporary risk period. It was made clear that once consents were forthcoming it was funding constraints that will ultimately decide the timings of all works as there are only limited funds available at present.

Although householder may be happy to accept an increased risk for a short period there may be an issue with contents insurance which needs to be addressed. DK to Action.

DK

##### ii) Engineering treatments for the walls

DK explained that there ongoing discussions within the EA to agree whether or not the techniques of using mesh and anchors on the 'blue' areas would be acceptable to the EA. Engineers are discussing within the EA as it is considered this would set a national precedent. Clarification was also needed on whether the flood cell would still be eligible for FDGiA should these techniques be used. DK would give an answer on this as soon as possible.

DK

iii) DK also reported on the Slaughden coastal defences. Agreement had been received from the MMO to work below the high water mark. A certain amount of self healing was to be expected but not to the extent of the artificial haul road. A shingle recharge would be in the early autumn provided discussions with The Cobra Mist Co. were concluded satisfactorily.

Technical assessment will continue during the summer for a long term solution and a July public consultation is likely. EA engineers would be discussing this at the Suffolk Coast Forum shortly.

##### iv) IDB Costs

Costs were in the hands of The Trust who are discussing with the IDB whether any of the costs were duplicated. Task 3, costing the schemes for each flood cell, was the key item.

GH

HY explained that Snape Maltings had resubmitted their bid to the LEP for £125K and if this was agreed it would be on the understanding that the work had to be completed by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019. The IDB need therefore to submit the Snape business case by May to allow enough time for consents to be granted.

KT

#### 5. ENABLING DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

A community meeting was held at Butley Village Hall to discuss the two Butley sites in particular one of the potential sites for a single house. The architect will be discussing with the near neighbour massing, height and take action to mitigate any issues that need addressing.

Richard Cooper had been appointed to a temporary position to assess the ED requirements and costs. There will be a meeting with SCDC in early May to agree principles, the shape and nature of the reports they will expect with applications, which will not be until late this year or even in



the new year. SCDC have requested that all sites need to be agreed as one package at the outset. However, if ED sites are to be treated as a 'last resort' there needs to be a balance to enable additional sites if required.

RC

Marketing of all sites will not be 'en masse' but sold separately as advised by the agents. BJ suggested that it may be wise to agree an extended planning term over and above the normal 3 years if it was thought necessary to manage the sale for any reason. This will be discussed with SCDC in May.

RC

Peter Smith felt it was important to emphasise that although there had been local objections raised in Orford and Sudbourne by a small number of activists, **the majority of the community was neither for nor against** the Estuary Plan and flood protection.

**6. FUNDING GROUP REPORT**

GH reported that fundraising was going well with a much healthier bank balance and discussions with a major charity will be held in the next 10 days.

- 7. BANNER** – JMarson suggested that banners need to be in place by 1<sup>st</sup> July to attract the summer visitors to Aldeburgh. All publicity needs to be consistent with logos etc. Jane Maxim to action.

JMaxim

- 8. The next meeting is on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2018 2pm Orford Town Hall**