

Draft Agenda DEBEN ESTUARY PARTNERSHIP (DEP)
Steering Group Meeting
09:30 to 11:30 on Thursday 1st October 2026
Deben Room, ESH, Riduna Park, IP12 1RT
(rescheduled from 17th September)

1. Welcome & Introductions

Steering Group Voting Members: Y / N / Apologies

WSC & Acting Chair / Robert Bellfield RB		Parish East SuttonPC / Helen Cook HC	
RDA & Vice Chair / Colin Nicholson CN	Y	Melton PC(Also ESC) / Mark Packard MP (1of 3 Melton-Woodbridge-Martlesham)	
Trustee Chair / Graham Kill GK	Y	Parish West Waldringfield PC / Sue Quick SQ	
Trustee & Treasurer / John Cole JC		Business / Dredging / Ben Grundy BG	
Trustee / Simon Read (Co-opted)SR	Y	Felixstowe Ferry Residents / Colin Lister CL	
S&E C&H NL / Bev McClean BM		Young people's rep / Oscar Hayter OH	
Landowner-Nature / NT / Russell Clement RC		UCL / Helene Burningham (Co-opted) HB	
Landowner-Business (PGL) / Luke Roberts LR		Transition Woodbridge / Jane Healey JH	
Landowner-Agriculture (Bawdsey Estate) / David Brien DB		Landowner NT/ Matt Wilson MW	
Suffolk Wildlife Trust/ Andrew Excell AE		Administrator (Non-Voting) / Dee McLeavy DM	

Advisors: Y / N / Apologies

RSPB / Luke Wilkinson LW		Essex & Suffolk Rivers Trust / Andy Went AW	
Essex University / Graham Underwood GU		Woodbridge Boatyard / Matt Lis ML	
Save the Deben, Deben Bluetits (Also SCC, ESC, WTC)/Ruth Leach RL		Deben Climate Centre / Eamonn O'Nolan EO, David Finley DF or Guy Atkinson GA	
ESC Planning Laura Mundy LM		SCC PROW/ Jenny Moss JM	
Essex & Suffolk Rivers Trust/ Luke FarnishLF		EX DEPL Trustee/ Peter Youngs PY	
		EX DEP Chair /Thomas Yeung	

Institutional Reps: Y / N / Apologies

Environment Agency / George Fuhrmann GF		Natural England/Ed Moore EM	
Water Management Alliance / Peter Roberts WMA/PR		E-IFCA / Will WadeWW	Y
NFU East Anglia / Rob Wise RW		Anglian Water / Gary Hodgetts GH	
Crown Estate / Peter Riches PR		MMO / Mark Maquire MM	

Other Interested Parties:

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2. Minutes of previous Meeting (24 June 2026), Actions & Matters Arising

3. Action Point 9 Effects of Political Re-organisation on management of Deben Estuary (Mark Packard ESC, Cabinet Member for Coastal Management and Planning)

4. Review DEP Estuary Plan and Actions - Comments back by Chapter leads

5. Any Other Business

6. Date of future DEP meetings

Proposed dates

Thursday tba 2026/2027

ACTIONS

24/6/2026

AP1 SR to send the links to 3Cs publications to GF so that EA can publicise.

AP2 SR to ask Peter Wain (Local Historian) for a link to his studies for the website.

AP3 Everyone was asked to let CN know either if they are willing to stand themselves or can suggest other suitable names.

AP4 CN/SR to give detail of Plan Production to GF before Jan 2027. Aim to spend/How to spend.

AP5 Exec Comm will look at recommendations for each chapter and produce an action plan by the end of July 2026 to be circulated to Chapter Leads for approval.

AP6 GF to discuss circulation of plan and publicity with EA Comms 25th June. He will then know if the EA framework and circulation can be used.

AP7 CN to ask LM if DEP is on the email circulation of new planning applications.

AP8 Exec Comm to feed into the latest request for input into the East Suffolk Local Plan.

AP9 Exec Comm - It was suggested that the next meeting should have an agenda item regarding the Council boundary changes that are coming and how this will affect the Deben Estuary. The Leader of SCC should be invited. [See item 3 Oct 2026 Qtly Meeting]

AP10 CN to liaise. As the next steps in the Plan production are considered the Partners involved in planning will be asked to help with scoping and commitment.

AP11 CN to write to ESC Planning with DEP's support of BHYC. Pre-Planning costs £1090 even to look at a plan but it is hoped this might be waived.

AP12 CN to ensure there is no duplication with money available for printing of plan that might be available from ESC/MP

12/3/26

AP3 DB/CN/future Comms Mgr/Sec FC1 update and access to CIL funds. Communication of this progress and start of work to be addressed: JC paragraph on current good progress; DB/CN/future Comms Mgr/Sec to organise

more significant publicity for start of works

ONGOING

AP5 **GK** Following agreement within Trustees, circulate JC's ToR, DEPL Articles of Association to DEP SG and formalise. Important to regularise connection between DEPL Trustees and DEP Constitution, e.g. there to help; comms; raise finance; bring experience of work in this type of environment; moral guardian; look after the money.

ONGOING

AP8 **SG** Implement comments and Public Consultation.

ONGOING

DRAFT