



# WOODBIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Shire Hall Market Hill Woodbridge Suffolk IP12 4LP

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## To Members of the Planning Committee

Cllr Adelson

Cllr Bale

Cllr Blois

Cllr Holdcroft

Cllr Jewers

Cllr Mapey

Cllr Miller

Cllr Sanders

Cllr Sutton

Cllr Walsh

You are hereby summoned to attend the **meeting** of the **Planning Committee** to be held at **St Mary's Church** on: **Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at 7pm**

Greg Diaper

Locum Town Clerk

7<sup>th</sup> July 2021

### **Public Attendance**

*Members of the public and press are welcome to join this meeting. Members of the public will be invited to give their views/questions the Town Council on issues on the agenda or raise issues for consideration or inclusion at future meetings. This item will be limited to fifteen minutes duration but may be extended at the discretion of the Mayor.*

## AGENDA

### **1. Apologies**

To receive apologies for absence.

### **2. Declaration of interest**

Members and officers are invited to make any declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary or Local Non-Pecuniary Interests that they may have in relation to items on the Agenda and are also

reminded to make any declarations at any stage during the meeting if it becomes apparent that this may be required when a particular item or issue is considered.

**3. Requests for dispensation**

Councillors with a Pecuniary Interest in an item on this Agenda, who wish to remain, speak, and/or vote during consideration of that item, may apply for a dispensation in writing to the Town Clerk prior to the meeting. Applications may also be considered at the meeting itself should the nature of the interest become apparent to a Councillor at the time of the meeting.

**4. Public question time**

For the public to ask questions of the Council or raise issues for consideration at a future meeting of the Council. 15 minutes maximum.

**5. Confirmation of Planning Committee Minutes**

To confirm the minutes of the Planning Committee held on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2021.

**6. To note intentions to undertake works to trees in the conservation area - attached**

**7. To comment on applications for planning permission**

To comment on applications as set out on the attached schedule.

**8. To note East Suffolk Council decisions on planning applications where those decisions are contrary to this council's recommendations and not previously reported - attached**

**9. To comment on the Deben Estuary Management Plan – attached**

**10. To consider whether to add a page to the website showing all current (undetermined) planning applications - attached**

**11. Closure**

## WOODBIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the **PLANNING COMMITTEE** held at St Mary's Church, Market Hill on **TUESDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2021** at 7pm

### Councillors:

Present: D Adelson, S Bale, G Holdcroft, C Mapey, S Miller, M Sutton and C Walsh

Apologies: Lady C Blois and R Sanders

Absent without

Apologies: J Jewers

In Attendance: Locum Town Clerk, Locum Deputy Town Clerk and no members of the public

### **84. TO APPOINT A CHAIR OF COMMITTEE FOR 2021/2022**

Councillor Sanders was elected, in his absence, as Chair of the Planning Committee for 2021/2022.

### **85. TO APPOINT A VICE-CHAIR OF COMMITTEE FOR 2021/2022**

Councillor Miller was elected as Vice-Chair of Committee for 2021/2022 and took the Chair for this meeting.

### **86. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Blois and Sanders.

### **87. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Mapey declared a Local Non-Pecuniary Interest in Item 92, application DC/21/2717/VOC as he knew the applicant, and Councillor Sutton declared a similar interest as a Director of Woodbridge Riverside Trust who leased a nearby property.

No other Members made any declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary or Local Non-Pecuniary Interests in relation to items on the Agenda.

### **88. TO CONSIDER REQUEST FOR DISPENSATIONS**

There were no requests from Councillors with a Pecuniary Interest in an item on this Agenda for a dispensation.

89. TO AGREE AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 27<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2021

The Committee agreed and approved the signing of the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2021 as a true record.

90. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no members of the public.

91. TO NOTE INTENTIONS TO UNDERTAKE WORKS TO TREES IN THE CONSERVATION AREA

The Committee noted the reported intentions to undertake works to trees in the conservation area.

92. TO COMMENT ON APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

The Council agreed their comments as set out below:-

Application No and Address	Committee Comments
DC/21/2681/FUL – 101 Ipswich Road	The Committee were unable to comment as there was insufficient information available and asked to Locum Town Clerk to seek an explanation for the missing document, and an extension to our deadline.  Should an extension not be given the Committee delegated their decision to the Locum Town Clerk in consultation with the Chair of Committee.
DC/21/2587/FUL – 118 Castle Street	<b>We recommend APPROVAL</b>
DC/21/2774/LBC – 118 Castle Street	<b>We recommend APPROVAL</b>
DC/21/2717/VOC Deben Wharf, 3A Whisstocks	<b>We recommend REFUSAL</b> due to the potential noise impact on neighbouring properties.
DC/21/2794/FUL – 138 Castle Street	<b>We recommend APPROVAL</b>

93. TO NOTE EAST SUFFOLK COUNCIL DECISIONS ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS WHERE THOSE DECISIONS ARE CONTRARY TO THIS COUNCIL'S RECOMMENDATIONS AND NOT PREVIOUSLY REPORTED

The Committee noted East Suffolk Council decisions on planning applications where those decisions are contrary to this council's recommendations and not previously reported and

asked if future reports could indicate whether the decisions of East Suffolk had been made by Committee or an Officer.

94. CLOSURE

The meeting was closed at 7.20pm.

Councillor Miller  
Vice-Chair

DRAFT

## ITEM 6

### To note intentions to undertake works to trees in the conservation area

Neither the District Council nor the Town Council can object to these works unless the tree(s) is/are covered by a Tree Preservation Order.

This schedule is for information only.

<a href="#">DC/21/2908/TCA - 73 Castle Street</a> <a href="#">Woodbridge Suffolk IP12 1HL</a>	<b>Expiry Date:</b> Thu 08 Jul 2021
	<b>Determination Deadline:</b> Tue 27 Jul 2021
Wild Plum in rear garden - to be felled. Tree has increasing lean and dieback.	

<a href="#">DC/21/3066/TCA - Land Rear Of 10 Market Hill</a> <a href="#">Woodbridge Suffolk</a>	<b>Expiry Date:</b> Mon 19 Jul 2021
	<b>Determination Deadline:</b> Thu 05 Aug 2021
To excavate utilities trench adjacent to existing trees in Conservation. An arboricultural impact assessment concludes that there is unlikely to be any meaningful impact on tree roots but Notice is given to allow for any minor root pruning works.	

## ITEM 7

### To comment on applications for planning permission

(Deadline Extended)

<a href="#">DC/21/2681/FUL - 101 Ipswich Road</a> <a href="#">Woodbridge Suffolk IP12 4BY</a>	<b>Expiry Date:</b> Wed 07 Jul 2021
	<b>Determination Deadline:</b> Wed 28 Jul 2021
Two part extension to existing house, modification to existing layout and loft conversion.	

<a href="#">DC/21/2884/LBC - 24 Thoroughfare</a> <a href="#">Woodbridge Suffolk IP12 1AQ</a>	<b>Expiry Date:</b> Thu 29 Jul 2021
	<b>Determination Deadline:</b> Tue 10 Aug 2021
Proposed replacement of branding signage to shop front and replace existing hanging sign with new branding.	

<a href="#">DC/21/2688/FUL - 10 Market Hill Woodbridge</a> <a href="#">Suffolk IP12 4LU</a>	<b>Expiry Date:</b> Thu 29 Jul 2021
	<b>Determination Deadline:</b> Wed 28 Jul 2021
Proposed new electrical kiosk and ASHP to rear of 10 Market Hill, Woodbridge	

<a href="#">DC/21/3003/LBC - Alpha Cottage 92</a> <a href="#">Cumberland Street Woodbridge Suffolk IP12</a> <a href="#">4AE</a>	<b>Expiry Date:</b> Thu 29 Jul 2021
	<b>Determination Deadline:</b> Mon 16 Aug 2021
Listed Building Consent - Replace render front elevation, damaged by spray from highway, with stained weatherboarding to prevent damage to timber frame of listed building.	

<a href="#">DC/21/3002/FUL - Alpha Cottage 92</a> <a href="#">Cumberland Street Woodbridge Suffolk IP12</a> <a href="#">4AE</a>	<b>Expiry Date:</b> Thu 29 Jul 2021
	<b>Determination Deadline:</b> Mon 16 Aug 2021
Replace render front elevation, damaged by spray from highway, with stained weatherboarding to prevent damage to timber frame of listed building.	

## ITEM 8

To note East Suffolk Council decisions on planning applications where those decisions are contrary to this council's recommendations and not previously reported.

This schedule only lists those applications not previously reported to Committee.

**This item is for information only.**

Date	Application	WTC Decision	ESC Decision	ESC Officer (Delegated) or Committee Decision
05.01.21	DC/20/5023/FUL 67 Ipswich Road	Approval	Awaiting decision	
30.03.21	DC/21/0613/FUL - Land Opposite 4 Central Maltings Doric Place	Refusal	Awaiting decision	
30.03.21	DC/21/1190/FUL - 21 Hasketon Road	Approval	Awaiting decision	
27.04.21	DC/21/1156/VOC 55 Thoroughfare	Approval	Awaiting decision	
27.04.21	DC/21/1531/VOC Woodbridge School, Burkitt Road	Approval	Application Permitted	Delegated Decision
27.04.21	DC/21/1682/FUL 8 Catherine Road	Approval	Awaiting decision	
27.04.21	DC/21/1607/FUL 28 Briarwood Road	Approval	Application Permitted	Delegated Decision
27.04.21	DC/21/1569/FUL Grove Garage West, A12 Northbound, Grove Road	Approval	Awaiting decision	
27.04.21	DC/21/1616/PN3 4 Quayside Place, Quayside	Approval	Refused	Delegated Decision
emailed	DC/21/1027/LBC - 26 Church Street	Approval	Awaiting decision	
emailed	DC/21/1849/VOC - The Saleroom Theatre Street	Approval	Awaiting decision	
emailed	DC/21/1754/FUL - 23 Moorfield Road	Approval	Application Permitted	Delegated Decision
emailed	DC/21/1752/FUL - 8 Queens Head Lane	Approval	Application Permitted	Delegated Decision
emailed	DC/21/1834/FUL - 4 Naverne Meadow	Approval	Application Permitted	Delegated Decision
emailed	DC/21/1759/FUL - 75 Edwin Avenue	Approval	Application Permitted	Delegated Decision
emailed	DC/21/1842/FUL - 27 Briarwood Road	Approval	Application Permitted	Delegated Decision
emailed	DC/21/1980/FUL - 22 Grove Road	Approval	Application Permitted	Delegated Decision
emailed	DC/21/1886/FUL - Land To The Rear Of 32 Market Hill	Refusal	Awaiting decision	
emailed	DC/21/2024/FUL - Field House 14 Upper Moorfield Road	Approval	Application Permitted	Delegated Decision

emailed	DC/21/2015/LBC - 48 New Street	Approval	Application Permitted	Delegated Decision
emailed	DC/21/2046/FUL - The Larches 24 Moorfield Road	Approval	Application Permitted	Delegated Decision
emailed	DC/21/1948/FUL - 18 North Hill	Approval	Application Permitted	Delegated Decision
emailed	DC/21/1979/LBC - Buttrum's Mill Burkitt Road	Approval	Application Permitted	Delegated Decision
emailed	DC/21/1928/FUL - 12 Market Hill	Approval	Application Permitted	Delegated Decision
emailed	DC/21/1929/LBC -12 Market Hill	Approval	Application Permitted	Delegated Decision
emailed	DC/21/2367/LBC - 34 Kingston Road	Approval	Awaiting decision	
emailed	DC/21/2310/FUL - 33 Grundisburgh Road	Approval	Awaiting decision	
emailed	DC/21/2373/FUL - The Highstead Lower Haugh Lane	Approval	Awaiting decision	
emailed	DC/21/2374/FUL - Creek Cottage Broomheath	Approval	Awaiting decision	
emailed	DC/21/2472/FUL - 22 Elmhurst Court Hamblin Road	Approval	Awaiting decision	
emailed	DC/21/2515/LBC - 24 Sun Lane	Approval	Awaiting decision	
emailed	DC/21/2419/FUL - Parking Area At Bullride Mews	Approval	Awaiting decision	
29.06.21	DC/21/2681/FUL – 101 Ipswich Road	Deferred	Awaiting decision	
29.06.21	DC/21/2587/FUL – 118 Castle Street	Approval	Awaiting decision	
29.06.21	DC/21/2774/LBC – 118 Castle Street	Approval	Awaiting decision	
29.06.21	DC/21/2717/VOC Deben Wharf, 3A Whisstocks	Refusal	Awaiting decision	
29.06.21	DC/21/2794/FUL – 138 Castle Street	Approval	Awaiting decision	

**ITEM 9**

**TO COMMENT ON THE DEBEN ESTUARY MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**Revision of the Deben Estuary Management Plan**



**Photograph © Gill Moon**

# Scoping Report Consultation – June 2021

## Background

The estuaries along the Suffolk coast form a major part of the coastal area and are intrinsic to its coastal character. Noted for its' peace and tranquillity, the Deben Estuary is a distinctive area of high-quality estuarine landscape, with significant habitat for wildlife and important historical features. Threats to the stability of the estuary and its hinterland are various but the risk of flooding and the sustainability of flood defences are primary concerns.

Historically the Environment Agency (EA) set out a Flood Risk Management Strategy which set out how flooding could affect the range of assets and activities that exist within an Estuary and how government funding could, in the context of national policy, be used to maintain or improve flood defences so as to protect property or assets.

In 2015 a wider, more inclusive approach to estuary planning was adopted. A Deben Estuary Management Plan was positioned under the umbrella of existing policy, acknowledged statutory requirements and dealt with flood risk and estuary defences while allowing stakeholders to identify local needs and aspirations to influence objectives and policies.

This Plan is now 5 years old and therefore needs to be reviewed and updated to reflect changes, at the national and local level, to key policy areas and changing environmental circumstances. The preparation of a revised Deben Estuary Management Plan will involve a review of these themes and policies. As before, stakeholder engagement will be essential to ensure that the revision process is inclusive, comprehensive and reflects key issues, concerns and changes. This Scoping Report is the first, formal stage in the review process.

The Scoping Report notes existing objectives, sets out matters to be considered and updated and identifies new areas which should be addressed.

## Role of this Scoping Document

To ensure that the revised Deben Estuary Management Plan is comprehensive, up to date, fit for purpose and able to be an effective tool for managing the Deben Estuary over the next five years we are seeking your views. Please consider the issues identified, the justification for including them and please identify any additional issues which need to be included in the document.

You can feedback your thoughts on this word document, emailed to [debenestuarypartnership@gmail.com](mailto:debenestuarypartnership@gmail.com), or via the website form at <https://debenestuarypartnership.wordpress.com/revising-the-plan/consultation/>

**Scope of issues to be included in the revised Deben Estuary Management Plan**

<p><b>Purpose of the Deben Estuary Management Plan</b></p>	<p>The purpose of the Plan will be to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• raise awareness about Deben Estuary and its significance</li> <li>• conserve and enhance the Deben Estuary</li> <li>• influence decision-making relating to Deben Estuary - Local Planning Authority (LPA), Parish Councils, landowners, businesses and local communities</li> <li>• consider how new emerging policy areas in the Agricultural Act 2000, Environment Bill and 25 Year Plan, Environmental Land Management schemes and issues of Natural Capital and Climate Change which will impact/change the Deben Estuary</li> <li>• provide a policy framework able to inform decision making</li> </ul>
	<p>The revised Estuary Plan will :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• deliver an integrated approach to the coastal and adjacent estuarine zone</li> <li>• recognise the value of the estuary in terms of the ecosystem services it provides and it's wider natural, social and cultural capital</li> <li>• recognise the impact of climate and social change on all aspects of the estuary</li> <li>• integrate the requirements for flood risk management with the conservation and enhancement of the natural environment as well as the economic and social wellbeing of local communities along the Deben Estuary</li> </ul>

**Q1. Do you agree with the reasons identified for updating the Deben Estuary Management Plan and the purpose of the new document for guiding the future management of the Deben Estuary over the next 5 years?**

**If not, please suggest any further changes needed.**

**Status of Plan**

The Deben Estuary Management Plan is a stand-alone document, closely aligned with the Suffolk Coastal Local Plan, Shoreline Management Plan and the Suffolk Coast & Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Management Plan 2018-2023.

The revised Deben Estuary Management Plan will be prepared in consultation with Local Authorities and key stakeholders and engagement with community interest groups who have an interest in the future of the estuary and how it is managed. The Plan will be endorsed by East Suffolk Council (ESC), Coastal Partnership East (CPE), Suffolk County Council (SCC) and Suffolk Coast & Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

It will be accepted / adopted by the EA and Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (RFCC) as the strategic plan for flood risk management in the Deben Estuary.

**Q2. Do you have any comments on the status of the Plan ?**

**Please identify any additional key guidance or documents that the Deben Estuary Management Plan should align with?**

<p><b>Area covered by the Plan</b></p>	<p>The geographic area covered by the Deben Estuary Management Plan will be reviewed</p> <p>The revised Plan will</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Confirm extent of tidal estuary and note extent of river Deben Catchment Area.</li> <li>• Confirm the criteria for defining the “wider estuary” as specified within the previous estuary plan including parish boundaries, watershed and landscape horizon</li> <li>• Revisit the interaction between the immediate coastal frontage and the mouth of the Estuary.</li> <li>• Note the introduction of Coastal Change Management Zones and their impact on policy</li> </ul>
<p><b>Q3. Do you agree with the extent of the area to be covered by the Deben Estuary Management Plan ? Please identify any additional area that the Deben Estuary Management Plan should include.</b></p>	
<p><b>Legislation Compliance</b></p>	<p><b>Planning (terrestrial and marine)</b></p> <p>Planning policies relating to both the terrestrial and marine environment have the potential to impact on the Deben Estuary. Increased development pressure, onshore and offshore, can result in the urbanisation of the estuary, physical loss or change of habitat, change in land use and the erosion of landscape character with its special qualities of peacefulness and tranquillity.</p> <p>The revised Deben Estuary Management Plan will highlight the key changes that have been introduced nationally to the planning systems in both the terrestrial and marine environments. It will identify how changes currently being considered to the English /UK planning system at the national level might impact on the Deben Estuary and whether mitigation will be necessary.</p> <p><b>Compliance with the requirements of environmental legislation, including the Habitats and Wild Bird Directives and Water Framework Directive</b></p> <p>The current Deben Estuary Management Plan objectives relate to compliance with international/European legislation.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ all applicable and appropriate guidance, such as those enshrined in Ramsar Convention, are acknowledged and that compliance with the requirements of environmental legislation is upheld.</li> </ul> <p><u>Outcome:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To recognise, strengthen and enhance the habitats and biodiversity of the estuary and its hinterland. To maintain designated International, European and national environmental sites in good condition and ensure that any adverse impact on the adjacent hinterland is answered by appropriate compensation and mitigation measures.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ all projects relating to the Deben Estuary Management Plan will be subject to Habitats Regulations and Water Framework Directive screening and assessment where required.</li> </ul> <p><u>Outcomes:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To ensure that, whenever projects are planned, the integrity of the SPA and its hinterland is considered and safeguarded.</li> <li>• To ensure that appropriate screening of proposed projects includes assessment of the cumulative impact on wildlife, environment, biodiversity and geodiversity within the Deben Estuary.</li> <li>• To ensure that appropriate mitigation measures provide workable guidance for visitor behaviour in sensitive areas at all times of the year: ( Such as speeding watercraft, dogs off leads, use of off-road vehicles, including bicycles and motorcycles) .</li> </ul>
<p><b>Q4. When considering terrestrial and marine planning in the revised Deben Estuary Management Plan, what objectives and outcomes should be included in relation to planning?</b></p>	
<p><b>Overarching Estuary Policy Areas</b></p>	

<p><b>Climate change</b></p>	<p>Climate change is referred to in the current Deben Estuary Management Plan but not translated into policy. This section will need to be developed.</p> <p>The objective is to recognise and monitor change within the estuary. Consider evidence of a wide range of climate-driven impacts, including sea level rise, high water ( tide and surge ) levels and wave conditions throughout the estuary, coastal squeeze and ongoing loss and degradation of intertidal habitat. Consider water quality issues, reserves and salination with the associated impacts on fresh and salt-water wetland environments.</p> <p><u>Outcomes:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To deliver sustainable flood risk management and sustain the contribution the estuary area makes to the local environment and economy.</li> <li>• To recognise and prepare to mitigate or adapt to the impact of climate change on the special landscape and environmental qualities of the estuary.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Q 5. Do you think that the likely impact of climate change should be considered ? Please identify any areas where climate change may be of particular significance.</b></p>	
<p><b>Natural Capital - Eco-system Services</b></p>	<p>Natural Capital is a broad term that includes components of both the living and non-living natural environment as well as processes and functions that link them together. It denotes those elements of nature which directly or indirectly generate value to people, contribute to the health and wellbeing of individuals and affect the local economy.</p> <p>The Deben Estuary is rich in Natural Capital and recent research undertaken as part of the Marine Pioneer Project has helped improve understanding about the Natural Capital assets of the Deben Estuary, the value and services these assets provide and why we need to conserve them.</p> <p>Natural Capital cuts across all areas considered in the Deben Estuary Management Plan. The Objective is to recognise and highlight Natural Capital elements within the estuary area.</p>

	<p><u>Outcomes:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To use awareness of natural capital to inform policy and improve sustainable decision making.</li> <li>• To use assessment of Natural Capital within the estuary to provide ecosystem service measures against which funding may be justified.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Q 6. Do you agree with the proposal to include a new section about Natural Capital? If yes, what objectives and outcomes for Natural Capital should be included in the revised Deben Estuary Management Plan?</b></p>	
<p><b>Vision</b></p>	<p>The existing vision for the Deben Estuary is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safeguard the Deben Estuary from degradation by creating management partnerships of all the interested parties, particularly local communities, working together for future benefit.</li> <li>• Ensure that proactive estuary management, within the required legal framework, recognises and retains the character, tranquillity and special qualities of the area, balancing the many demands of wildlife, agriculture, recreation, tourism, business, access and the aspirations of local communities.</li> <li>• Deliver sustainable flood risk management, for those who live near, work on and visit the estuary; within timescales that recognise changing pressure on coastal landscapes and allow for environmental, social and economic adaptation when necessary.</li> </ul>

**Q7. Do you consider that the existing vision for the Deben Estuary is still valid? If not, what changes need to be included in any revisions to the vision?**

**Flood Risk Management**

This section will be reviewed and updated, ensuring it is aligned with national and local strategic policy. As outlined in the new Local Plan, Coastal Change Management Areas will be included and their impact on policy noted.

Objective – currently for the development of a sustainable, strategic approach to managing flood defence / flood risk to property, agricultural land and other assets around the estuary to 2030.

Outcomes –

- To co-ordinate sustainable flood risk management policies throughout the estuary. To acknowledge the cumulative cost of erosion and / or failed flood defence measures.
- To recognise the constraints on national funding for flood defence measures and the occasional necessity to consider local funding solutions.
- To balance the diverse demands that influence the delivery of flood defence measures – ie. Community wellbeing, climate change, environmental character and condition, financial constraints.

**Q 8. Do you consider that the current objective and outcomes for flood risk management are still valid? If not, what changes are needed?**

<p><b>Landscape and Heritage</b></p>	<p>This section in the current Deben Estuary Management Plan will be reviewed. The proposed landscape character assessment, being undertaken by ESC will be taken into account. Objective - currently to conserve the high quality landscape, natural environment, and heritage in the Deben Estuary and recognise that the estuary and surrounding countryside is an important environmental, social and economic asset which enhances the wider area.</p> <p><u>Outcomes –</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To ensure conservation aims and projects contribute to safeguarding the landscape and character of the Estuary.</li> <li>• To recognise and value the special qualities of the riverscape, seascape and valley uplands as seen from the river.</li> <li>• To support high standards for the built environment, ensure new build is sensitive to the estuary topography, is unobtrusive and sits comfortably within the riverscape.</li> <li>• To safeguard the estuary landscape from the visual intrusion of new development, noise and light pollution. Recognise the importance of and enhance green infrastructure networks.</li>   <li>• To recognise the natural capital value derived from the estuary landscape</li> </ul>
<p><b>Q9. Do you consider that the current objective and outcomes for landscape and heritage are still valid? If not, what changes are needed?</b></p>	
<p><b>Tranquillity</b></p>	<p>Tranquillity has become an acknowledge factor included in Planning Policy Guidance</p> <p>Recognising and mapping areas of ‘Tranquillity’ was introduced to support the preparation of the first Deben Estuary Management Plan. Further research has been undertaken and additional information can support this concept.</p> <p>Objective - currently importance is placed on recognising the value of the tranquil estuary landscape and seeking a balance between the benefits derived from this quiet and peaceful tranquillity with the growing requirement for recreation, visitor enjoyment and an inclusive, sustainable visitor economy.</p>

<p><b>Tranquillity</b></p>	<p><u>Outcomes -</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To identify, value and retain undisturbed, tranquil areas of the estuary which provide a sense of peace and wellbeing.</li> </ul> <p><u>Outcomes -</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish a balance between tranquillity and increased demand for public access</li> <li>• To recognise the importance for people’s health of opportunities for enjoyment which the peace and tranquillity of the river and surrounding area offer.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Q10. Do you consider that the current objective and outcomes for tranquillity are still valid and necessary? If not, what changes are needed?</b></p>	
<p><b>Environment, Biodiversity and Geodiversity</b></p>	<p>This section in the current Deben Estuary Management Plan will need to be reviewed and updated to ensure issues and objectives are aligned with new national and local policy guidance. This will include recognising the impact of Nature Recovery Strategies, Nature Recovery Networks and Biodiversity Net Gain as set out in the Government’s 25 Year Environment Plan. Objective - currently to recognise, strengthen and enhance the habitats and biodiversity of the estuary and its hinterland, ensuring that any adverse impact on designated estuarine sites and the adjacent hinterland is minimal and answered by appropriate compensation and mitigation.</p> <p><u>Outcomes –</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To facilitate and support the sustained conservation and enhancement of a distinctive and valued estuary environment, important for both wildlife and the wellbeing of residents and visitors. To encourage the conservation of networks of biodiversity.</li> <li>• Monitor / note the impact of climate change on the estuary environment..</li> </ul>

**Q11. Do you consider that the objectives and outcomes for the environment, biodiversity and geodiversity in the current Deben Estuary Management Plan are still valid and effective ?**

**Do you consider that the level of protection given to locally designated areas of biodiversity is appropriate and sustainable ? If not, what changes are needed ?**

**Saltmarsh, mudflats**

This section will be updated to reflect increased knowledge of the role saltmarsh plays as a valuable natural capital asset, important coastal habitat and effective element in flood risk management.

Objectives – currently to recognise saltmarsh as a significant environmental asset, juvenile fish habitat, important element of flood defence and a contributor to carbon sequestration. Promote the benefits of management and, where appropriate, restoration and creation of salt marsh in the Deben Estuary.

Research causes of saltmarsh deterioration.

Outcomes –

- To encourage projects to restore and regenerate intertidal saltmarsh wherever that is achievable and of benefit.
- To facilitate an estuary wide, integrated approach to the use of dredged silt to recharge degraded saltmarsh as part of an ongoing saltmarsh management strategy which will deliver benefits for flood risk management, marine business and access to moorings, as well as biodiversity.
- Recommend that saltmarsh initiatives are accompanied by an ongoing monitoring and maintenance programme.
- Take a natural capital approach when evaluating saltmarsh as an asset

**Q 12. Do you consider that the current objective and outcomes for the management and restoration of saltmarsh are still valid, appropriate and deliverable ?**

<p><b>Land and Freshwater Management</b></p> <p><b>Land and Freshwater Management</b></p>	<p>Objectives – currently freshwater management policies are required to ensure that there is adequate water to meet human needs, deliver a sustainable local agricultural economy and secure a healthy environment.</p> <p><u>Outcomes:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To ensure good management of all water resources in order to meet human needs, maintain the environment and sustain, via irrigation, nationally important agricultural acreage both within the estuary and on uplands above the valley.</li> <li>• To recognise that climate change may influence agricultural catchment abstraction strategies and therefore impact on irrigation and cropping viability.</li> <li>• To encourage the capture and reuse of excess freshwater. Promote whole river catchment area management able to conserve and store winter water and provide more sustainable reserves for use during periods of drought.</li> <li>• To take opportunities to improve water quality within the Estuary or reverse any decline. Promote the importance of good water quality to sustain marine biodiversity, support fisheries and allow for the safe use of the river for recreation. Recognise sources of pollutants and foster action to eliminate, limit and mitigate their effect.</li> <li>• Monitor / note the natural capital value and impact of climate change- particularly on increasing UV/temperatures and the attendant increase in algal growth.</li> </ul>

**Q13. Do you consider that the objective and outcomes for land and freshwater management in the current Deben Estuary Management Plan are still valid and adequate? If not, what changes are needed?**

**Sustainable Estuary Economy**

**Agriculture, Marine Business, tourism**

This section must be reviewed to take into consideration changes in national policy and local farming practice.

Several national policy measures will impact agriculture within the Deben Estuary. These include the Agriculture Bill, Environment Bill and Environment Land Management scheme being developed as a replacement for the current CAP system.

Objectives – currently to recognise the importance of the agricultural, marine, tourism and leisure sectors which underpin a sustainable estuary economy. Recognise the importance of sustainable flood defence measures that protect estuary businesses, agricultural land and fresh water resources.

Outcomes:

- To foster a sustainable and viable local economy, with particular emphasis on the agricultural, marine and tourism sectors.
- Support appropriate agri-environment schemes and developing marine fisheries.
- Encourage an integrated approach to the use of dredging, facilitating the use of quays and moorings by marine business and the replenishment of saltmarsh.
- Advocate sustainable tourism that is compatible with and complements the character of the Deben Estuary. Support appropriate visitor management to ensure the benefit derived from tourism and attendant development does not compromise the landscape and wildlife assets which exemplify the distinctive and special qualities of the Deben Estuary.

**Q 14. Do you consider that the outcomes for supporting a sustainable economy in the current Deben Estuary Management Plan are appropriate and go far enough ? If changes are needed to ensure future sustainability of any sector of the local, estuary economy what should they be ?**

**Access and Recreation**

This section will need to be updated in the light of increased housing development, growth in the local visitor economy, changes to Local Government recreational policies and the introduction of the new England Coast Path

Objectives – currently to manage responsible access to the estuary, enhancing the quality of people’s enjoyment of the area while averting harm to, and mitigating against degradation of the estuary environment. Balancing the benefits derived from the quiet and tranquil areas of the estuary with the growing need for recreation.

Outcomes –

- To support appropriate access to the estuary area for all - including maintaining the network of paths and access points which allow residents and visitors to enjoy the estuary while recognising, limiting and mitigating against any negative impact that increasing numbers of people could have on a special environment.
- Encourage sustainable travel options, promoting the provision of a footferry service at key locations.
- Recognise the benefits to walkers and cyclists of a network of footpaths and Quiet Lanes.
- Advocate maintenance of a navigation channel and clearly marked fairways up to Wilford Bridge.

**Q15. Do you consider that the current objective and outcomes for access and recreation in the current Deben Estuary Management Plan will meet changing demand and patterns of use? If not, what changes are needed?**

**Disturbance mitigation**

This section will have regard to the new Suffolk Recreational Avoidance Mitigation Strategy (RAMS).

Objective – currently to manage responsible access to the estuary, enhancing the quality of people’s enjoyment of the area but averting harm to, and mitigating against degradation of the estuary environment.

Outcomes -

- To minimise and mitigate pressure on and disturbance of the environment within the estuary area.
- To limit noise and light pollution when and wherever possible.
- Promote a range of appropriate and site-specific mitigation measures.

**Q16. Do you consider that the current objective to limit and mitigate disturbance is appropriate ? If not what changes or extra measures are needed ?**

<b>Flood &amp; Emergency resilience</b>	<p>This section may need reviewing to ensure that it is in line with current flood and emergency planning guidance.</p> <p>Objectives – currently to develop emergency planning that safeguards communities, homes and businesses at risk from flooding.</p> <p><u>Outcome:</u> To encourage communities to recognise risk from flooding and ensure that adequate measures are in place which will help to keep residents safe and protect properties and riverside businesses.</p>
<p><b>Q17. Do you consider that the objective and outcome for Flood and Emergency Planning in the current Deben Estuary Management Plan is still valid? If not, what changes are needed?</b></p>	
<b>Monitoring Recording role of ‘citizen science’</b>	<p>Citizen science can be defined as ‘the collection and analysis of data relating to the natural world by the general public, often as part of a collaborative project with professional scientists. Citizen Science is playing a bigger role in project development and delivery as communities learn and understand more about the environment around them.</p> <p>This section will be reviewed with reference the -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• exploration / research data examining and informing issues affecting the Deben Estuary.</li> <li>• data drawn from ongoing monitoring programmes involving community representatives working with scientists.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Q18. Which issues should be included in an ongoing monitoring programme of the Deben Estuary?</b></p>	

<b>Q19. Are you interested in participating in Citizen Science research to support the preparation, implementation and monitoring for the Deben Estuary Management Plan?</b>	
<b>Implementation Finance</b>	<b>Implementation &amp; Finance</b> This section will be reviewed and updated to include information on funding, governance and ongoing implementation.
<b>Appendices</b>	There are several appendices in the current Deben Estuary Management Plan that will need to be reviewed and updated in light of the new Suffolk Coastal Local Plan. Present appendices include an appropriate extract from the Shoreline Management Plan, Jetty guidelines, Residential Boats – guidelines, Enabling Development guidelines and River Users Code
<b>Q20. Are these appendices still relevant ? Are there are any other guides that should be included in the Appendices in the updated Deben Estuary Management Plan?</b>	

**Members are recommended to comment on the Scoping Document**

**ITEM 9**

**TO COMMENT ON THE DEBEN ESTUARY MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**Revision of the Deben Estuary Management Plan**



**Photograph © Gill Moon**

# Scoping Report Consultation – June 2021

## Background

The estuaries along the Suffolk coast form a major part of the coastal area and are intrinsic to its coastal character. Noted for its' peace and tranquillity, the Deben Estuary is a distinctive area of high-quality estuarine landscape, with significant habitat for wildlife and important historical features. Threats to the stability of the estuary and its hinterland are various but the risk of flooding and the sustainability of flood defences are primary concerns.

Historically the Environment Agency (EA) set out a Flood Risk Management Strategy which set out how flooding could affect the range of assets and activities that exist within an Estuary and how government funding could, in the context of national policy, be used to maintain or improve flood defences so as to protect property or assets.

In 2015 a wider, more inclusive approach to estuary planning was adopted. A Deben Estuary Management Plan was positioned under the umbrella of existing policy, acknowledged statutory requirements and dealt with flood risk and estuary defences while allowing stakeholders to identify local needs and aspirations to influence objectives and policies.

This Plan is now 5 years old and therefore needs to be reviewed and updated to reflect changes, at the national and local level, to key policy areas and changing environmental circumstances. The preparation of a revised Deben Estuary Management Plan will involve a review of these themes and policies. As before, stakeholder engagement will be essential to ensure that the revision process is inclusive, comprehensive and reflects key issues, concerns and changes. This Scoping Report is the first, formal stage in the review process.

The Scoping Report notes existing objectives, sets out matters to be considered and updated and identifies new areas which should be addressed.

## Role of this Scoping Document

To ensure that the revised Deben Estuary Management Plan is comprehensive, up to date, fit for purpose and able to be an effective tool for managing the Deben Estuary over the next five years we are seeking your views. Please consider the issues identified, the justification for including them and please identify any additional issues which need to be included in the document.

You can feedback your thoughts on this word document, emailed to [debenestuarypartnership@gmail.com](mailto:debenestuarypartnership@gmail.com), or via the website form at <https://debenestuarypartnership.wordpress.com/revising-the-plan/consultation/>

**Scope of issues to be included in the revised Deben Estuary Management Plan**

<p><b>Purpose of the Deben Estuary Management Plan</b></p>	<p>The purpose of the Plan will be to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• raise awareness about Deben Estuary and its significance</li> <li>• conserve and enhance the Deben Estuary</li> <li>• influence decision-making relating to Deben Estuary - Local Planning Authority (LPA), Parish Councils, landowners, businesses and local communities</li> <li>• consider how new emerging policy areas in the Agricultural Act 2000, Environment Bill and 25 Year Plan, Environmental Land Management schemes and issues of Natural Capital and Climate Change which will impact/change the Deben Estuary</li> <li>• provide a policy framework able to inform decision making</li> </ul>
	<p>The revised Estuary Plan will :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• deliver an integrated approach to the coastal and adjacent estuarine zone</li> <li>• recognise the value of the estuary in terms of the ecosystem services it provides and it's wider natural, social and cultural capital</li> <li>• recognise the impact of climate and social change on all aspects of the estuary</li> <li>• integrate the requirements for flood risk management with the conservation and enhancement of the natural environment as well as the economic and social wellbeing of local communities along the Deben Estuary</li> </ul>

**Q1. Do you agree with the reasons identified for updating the Deben Estuary Management Plan and the purpose of the new document for guiding the future management of the Deben Estuary over the next 5 years?**

**If not, please suggest any further changes needed.**

**Status of Plan**

The Deben Estuary Management Plan is a stand-alone document, closely aligned with the Suffolk Coastal Local Plan, Shoreline Management Plan and the Suffolk Coast & Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Management Plan 2018-2023.

The revised Deben Estuary Management Plan will be prepared in consultation with Local Authorities and key stakeholders and engagement with community interest groups who have an interest in the future of the estuary and how it is managed. The Plan will be endorsed by East Suffolk Council (ESC), Coastal Partnership East (CPE), Suffolk County Council (SCC) and Suffolk Coast & Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

It will be accepted / adopted by the EA and Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (RFCC) as the strategic plan for flood risk management in the Deben Estuary.

**Q2. Do you have any comments on the status of the Plan ?**

**Please identify any additional key guidance or documents that the Deben Estuary Management Plan should align with?**

<p><b>Area covered by the Plan</b></p>	<p>The geographic area covered by the Deben Estuary Management Plan will be reviewed</p> <p>The revised Plan will</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Confirm extent of tidal estuary and note extent of river Deben Catchment Area.</li> <li>• Confirm the criteria for defining the “wider estuary” as specified within the previous estuary plan including parish boundaries, watershed and landscape horizon</li> <li>• Revisit the interaction between the immediate coastal frontage and the mouth of the Estuary.</li> <li>• Note the introduction of Coastal Change Management Zones and their impact on policy</li> </ul>
<p><b>Q3. Do you agree with the extent of the area to be covered by the Deben Estuary Management Plan ? Please identify any additional area that the Deben Estuary Management Plan should include.</b></p>	
<p><b>Legislation Compliance</b></p>	<p><b>Planning (terrestrial and marine)</b></p> <p>Planning policies relating to both the terrestrial and marine environment have the potential to impact on the Deben Estuary. Increased development pressure, onshore and offshore, can result in the urbanisation of the estuary, physical loss or change of habitat, change in land use and the erosion of landscape character with its special qualities of peacefulness and tranquillity.</p> <p>The revised Deben Estuary Management Plan will highlight the key changes that have been introduced nationally to the planning systems in both the terrestrial and marine environments. It will identify how changes currently being considered to the English /UK planning system at the national level might impact on the Deben Estuary and whether mitigation will be necessary.</p> <p><b>Compliance with the requirements of environmental legislation, including the Habitats and Wild Bird Directives and Water Framework Directive</b></p> <p>The current Deben Estuary Management Plan objectives relate to compliance with international/European legislation.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ all applicable and appropriate guidance, such as those enshrined in Ramsar Convention, are acknowledged and that compliance with the requirements of environmental legislation is upheld.</li> </ul> <p><u>Outcome:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To recognise, strengthen and enhance the habitats and biodiversity of the estuary and its hinterland. To maintain designated International, European and national environmental sites in good condition and ensure that any adverse impact on the adjacent hinterland is answered by appropriate compensation and mitigation measures.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ all projects relating to the Deben Estuary Management Plan will be subject to Habitats Regulations and Water Framework Directive screening and assessment where required.</li> </ul> <p><u>Outcomes:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To ensure that, whenever projects are planned, the integrity of the SPA and its hinterland is considered and safeguarded.</li> <li>• To ensure that appropriate screening of proposed projects includes assessment of the cumulative impact on wildlife, environment, biodiversity and geodiversity within the Deben Estuary.</li> <li>• To ensure that appropriate mitigation measures provide workable guidance for visitor behaviour in sensitive areas at all times of the year: ( Such as speeding watercraft, dogs off leads, use of off-road vehicles, including bicycles and motorcycles) .</li> </ul>
<p><b>Q4. When considering terrestrial and marine planning in the revised Deben Estuary Management Plan, what objectives and outcomes should be included in relation to planning?</b></p>	
<p><b>Overarching Estuary Policy Areas</b></p>	

<p><b>Climate change</b></p>	<p>Climate change is referred to in the current Deben Estuary Management Plan but not translated into policy. This section will need to be developed.</p> <p>The objective is to recognise and monitor change within the estuary. Consider evidence of a wide range of climate-driven impacts, including sea level rise, high water ( tide and surge ) levels and wave conditions throughout the estuary, coastal squeeze and ongoing loss and degradation of intertidal habitat. Consider water quality issues, reserves and salination with the associated impacts on fresh and salt-water wetland environments.</p> <p><u>Outcomes:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To deliver sustainable flood risk management and sustain the contribution the estuary area makes to the local environment and economy.</li> <li>• To recognise and prepare to mitigate or adapt to the impact of climate change on the special landscape and environmental qualities of the estuary.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Q 5. Do you think that the likely impact of climate change should be considered ? Please identify any areas where climate change may be of particular significance.</b></p>	
<p><b>Natural Capital - Eco-system Services</b></p>	<p>Natural Capital is a broad term that includes components of both the living and non-living natural environment as well as processes and functions that link them together. It denotes those elements of nature which directly or indirectly generate value to people, contribute to the health and wellbeing of individuals and affect the local economy.</p> <p>The Deben Estuary is rich in Natural Capital and recent research undertaken as part of the Marine Pioneer Project has helped improve understanding about the Natural Capital assets of the Deben Estuary, the value and services these assets provide and why we need to conserve them.</p> <p>Natural Capital cuts across all areas considered in the Deben Estuary Management Plan. The Objective is to recognise and highlight Natural Capital elements within the estuary area.</p>

	<p><u>Outcomes:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To use awareness of natural capital to inform policy and improve sustainable decision making.</li> <li>• To use assessment of Natural Capital within the estuary to provide ecosystem service measures against which funding may be justified.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Q 6. Do you agree with the proposal to include a new section about Natural Capital? If yes, what objectives and outcomes for Natural Capital should be included in the revised Deben Estuary Management Plan?</b></p>	
<p><b>Vision</b></p>	<p>The existing vision for the Deben Estuary is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safeguard the Deben Estuary from degradation by creating management partnerships of all the interested parties, particularly local communities, working together for future benefit.</li> <li>• Ensure that proactive estuary management, within the required legal framework, recognises and retains the character, tranquillity and special qualities of the area, balancing the many demands of wildlife, agriculture, recreation, tourism, business, access and the aspirations of local communities.</li> <li>• Deliver sustainable flood risk management, for those who live near, work on and visit the estuary; within timescales that recognise changing pressure on coastal landscapes and allow for environmental, social and economic adaptation when necessary.</li> </ul>

**Q7. Do you consider that the existing vision for the Deben Estuary is still valid? If not, what changes need to be included in any revisions to the vision?**

**Flood Risk Management**

This section will be reviewed and updated, ensuring it is aligned with national and local strategic policy. As outlined in the new Local Plan, Coastal Change Management Areas will be included and their impact on policy noted.

Objective – currently for the development of a sustainable, strategic approach to managing flood defence / flood risk to property, agricultural land and other assets around the estuary to 2030.

Outcomes –

- To co-ordinate sustainable flood risk management policies throughout the estuary. To acknowledge the cumulative cost of erosion and / or failed flood defence measures.
- To recognise the constraints on national funding for flood defence measures and the occasional necessity to consider local funding solutions.
- To balance the diverse demands that influence the delivery of flood defence measures – ie. Community wellbeing, climate change, environmental character and condition, financial constraints.

**Q 8. Do you consider that the current objective and outcomes for flood risk management are still valid? If not, what changes are needed?**

<p><b>Landscape and Heritage</b></p>	<p>This section in the current Deben Estuary Management Plan will be reviewed. The proposed landscape character assessment, being undertaken by ESC will be taken into account. Objective - currently to conserve the high quality landscape, natural environment, and heritage in the Deben Estuary and recognise that the estuary and surrounding countryside is an important environmental, social and economic asset which enhances the wider area.</p> <p><u>Outcomes –</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To ensure conservation aims and projects contribute to safeguarding the landscape and character of the Estuary.</li> <li>• To recognise and value the special qualities of the riverscape, seascape and valley uplands as seen from the river.</li> <li>• To support high standards for the built environment, ensure new build is sensitive to the estuary topography, is unobtrusive and sits comfortably within the riverscape.</li> <li>• To safeguard the estuary landscape from the visual intrusion of new development, noise and light pollution. Recognise the importance of and enhance green infrastructure networks.</li>   <li>• To recognise the natural capital value derived from the estuary landscape</li> </ul>
<p><b>Q9. Do you consider that the current objective and outcomes for landscape and heritage are still valid? If not, what changes are needed?</b></p>	
<p><b>Tranquillity</b></p>	<p>Tranquillity has become an acknowledge factor included in Planning Policy Guidance</p> <p>Recognising and mapping areas of ‘Tranquillity’ was introduced to support the preparation of the first Deben Estuary Management Plan. Further research has been undertaken and additional information can support this concept.</p> <p>Objective - currently importance is placed on recognising the value of the tranquil estuary landscape and seeking a balance between the benefits derived from this quiet and peaceful tranquillity with the growing requirement for recreation, visitor enjoyment and an inclusive, sustainable visitor economy.</p>

<p><b>Tranquillity</b></p>	<p><u>Outcomes -</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To identify, value and retain undisturbed, tranquil areas of the estuary which provide a sense of peace and wellbeing.</li> </ul> <p><u>Outcomes -</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish a balance between tranquillity and increased demand for public access</li> <li>• To recognise the importance for people’s health of opportunities for enjoyment which the peace and tranquillity of the river and surrounding area offer.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Q10. Do you consider that the current objective and outcomes for tranquillity are still valid and necessary? If not, what changes are needed?</b></p>	
<p><b>Environment, Biodiversity and Geodiversity</b></p>	<p>This section in the current Deben Estuary Management Plan will need to be reviewed and updated to ensure issues and objectives are aligned with new national and local policy guidance. This will include recognising the impact of Nature Recovery Strategies, Nature Recovery Networks and Biodiversity Net Gain as set out in the Government’s 25 Year Environment Plan. Objective - currently to recognise, strengthen and enhance the habitats and biodiversity of the estuary and its hinterland, ensuring that any adverse impact on designated estuarine sites and the adjacent hinterland is minimal and answered by appropriate compensation and mitigation.</p> <p><u>Outcomes –</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To facilitate and support the sustained conservation and enhancement of a distinctive and valued estuary environment, important for both wildlife and the wellbeing of residents and visitors. To encourage the conservation of networks of biodiversity.</li> <li>• Monitor / note the impact of climate change on the estuary environment..</li> </ul>

**Q11. Do you consider that the objectives and outcomes for the environment, biodiversity and geodiversity in the current Deben Estuary Management Plan are still valid and effective ?**

**Do you consider that the level of protection given to locally designated areas of biodiversity is appropriate and sustainable ? If not, what changes are needed ?**

**Saltmarsh, mudflats**

This section will be updated to reflect increased knowledge of the role saltmarsh plays as a valuable natural capital asset, important coastal habitat and effective element in flood risk management.

Objectives – currently to recognise saltmarsh as a significant environmental asset, juvenile fish habitat, important element of flood defence and a contributor to carbon sequestration. Promote the benefits of management and, where appropriate, restoration and creation of salt marsh in the Deben Estuary.

Research causes of saltmarsh deterioration.

Outcomes –

- To encourage projects to restore and regenerate intertidal saltmarsh wherever that is achievable and of benefit.
- To facilitate an estuary wide, integrated approach to the use of dredged silt to recharge degraded saltmarsh as part of an ongoing saltmarsh management strategy which will deliver benefits for flood risk management, marine business and access to moorings, as well as biodiversity.
- Recommend that saltmarsh initiatives are accompanied by an ongoing monitoring and maintenance programme.
- Take a natural capital approach when evaluating saltmarsh as an asset

**Q 12. Do you consider that the current objective and outcomes for the management and restoration of saltmarsh are still valid, appropriate and deliverable ?**

<p><b>Land and Freshwater Management</b></p> <p><b>Land and Freshwater Management</b></p>	<p>Objectives – currently freshwater management policies are required to ensure that there is adequate water to meet human needs, deliver a sustainable local agricultural economy and secure a healthy environment.</p> <p><u>Outcomes:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To ensure good management of all water resources in order to meet human needs, maintain the environment and sustain, via irrigation, nationally important agricultural acreage both within the estuary and on uplands above the valley.</li> <li>• To recognise that climate change may influence agricultural catchment abstraction strategies and therefore impact on irrigation and cropping viability.</li> <li>• To encourage the capture and reuse of excess freshwater. Promote whole river catchment area management able to conserve and store winter water and provide more sustainable reserves for use during periods of drought.</li> <li>• To take opportunities to improve water quality within the Estuary or reverse any decline. Promote the importance of good water quality to sustain marine biodiversity, support fisheries and allow for the safe use of the river for recreation. Recognise sources of pollutants and foster action to eliminate, limit and mitigate their effect.</li> <li>• Monitor / note the natural capital value and impact of climate change- particularly on increasing UV/temperatures and the attendant increase in algal growth.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Q13. Do you consider that the objective and outcomes for land and freshwater management in the current Deben Estuary Management Plan are still valid and adequate? If not, what changes are needed?</b></p>	
<p><b>Sustainable Estuary Economy</b></p> <p><b>Agriculture, Marine Business, tourism</b></p>	<p>This section must be reviewed to take into consideration changes in national policy and local farming practice.</p> <p>Several national policy measures will impact agriculture within the Deben Estuary. These include the Agriculture Bill, Environment Bill and Environment Land Management scheme being developed as a replacement for the current CAP system.</p> <p>Objectives – currently to recognise the importance of the agricultural, marine, tourism and leisure sectors which underpin a sustainable estuary economy. Recognise the importance of sustainable flood defence measures that protect estuary businesses, agricultural land and fresh water resources.</p> <p><u>Outcomes:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To foster a sustainable and viable local economy, with particular emphasis on the agricultural, marine and tourism sectors.</li> <li>• Support appropriate agri-environment schemes and developing marine fisheries.</li> <li>• Encourage an integrated approach to the use of dredging, facilitating the use of quays and moorings by marine business and the replenishment of saltmarsh.</li> <li>• Advocate sustainable tourism that is compatible with and complements the character of the Deben Estuary. Support appropriate visitor management to ensure the benefit derived from tourism and attendant development does not compromise the landscape and wildlife assets which exemplify the distinctive and special qualities of the Deben Estuary.</li> </ul>

**Q 14. Do you consider that the outcomes for supporting a sustainable economy in the current Deben Estuary Management Plan are appropriate and go far enough ? If changes are needed to ensure future sustainability of any sector of the local, estuary economy what should they be ?**

**Access and Recreation**

This section will need to be updated in the light of increased housing development, growth in the local visitor economy, changes to Local Government recreational policies and the introduction of the new England Coast Path

Objectives – currently to manage responsible access to the estuary, enhancing the quality of people’s enjoyment of the area while averting harm to, and mitigating against degradation of the estuary environment. Balancing the benefits derived from the quiet and tranquil areas of the estuary with the growing need for recreation.

Outcomes –

- To support appropriate access to the estuary area for all - including maintaining the network of paths and access points which allow residents and visitors to enjoy the estuary while recognising, limiting and mitigating against any negative impact that increasing numbers of people could have on a special environment.
- Encourage sustainable travel options, promoting the provision of a footferry service at key locations.
- Recognise the benefits to walkers and cyclists of a network of footpaths and Quiet Lanes.
- Advocate maintenance of a navigation channel and clearly marked fairways up to Wilford Bridge.

**Q15. Do you consider that the current objective and outcomes for access and recreation in the current Deben Estuary Management Plan will meet changing demand and patterns of use? If not, what changes are needed?**

**Disturbance mitigation**

This section will have regard to the new Suffolk Recreational Avoidance Mitigation Strategy (RAMS).

Objective – currently to manage responsible access to the estuary, enhancing the quality of people’s enjoyment of the area but averting harm to, and mitigating against degradation of the estuary environment.

Outcomes -

- To minimise and mitigate pressure on and disturbance of the environment within the estuary area.
- To limit noise and light pollution when and wherever possible.
- Promote a range of appropriate and site-specific mitigation measures.

**Q16. Do you consider that the current objective to limit and mitigate disturbance is appropriate ? If not what changes or extra measures are needed ?**

<b>Flood &amp; Emergency resilience</b>	<p>This section may need reviewing to ensure that it is in line with current flood and emergency planning guidance.</p> <p>Objectives – currently to develop emergency planning that safeguards communities, homes and businesses at risk from flooding.</p> <p><u>Outcome</u>: To encourage communities to recognise risk from flooding and ensure that adequate measures are in place which will help to keep residents safe and protect properties and riverside businesses.</p>
<p><b>Q17. Do you consider that the objective and outcome for Flood and Emergency Planning in the current Deben Estuary Management Plan is still valid? If not, what changes are needed?</b></p>	
<b>Monitoring Recording role of ‘citizen science’</b>	<p>Citizen science can be defined as ‘the collection and analysis of data relating to the natural world by the general public, often as part of a collaborative project with professional scientists. Citizen Science is playing a bigger role in project development and delivery as communities learn and understand more about the environment around them.</p> <p>This section will be reviewed with reference the -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• exploration / research data examining and informing issues affecting the Deben Estuary.</li> <li>• data drawn from ongoing monitoring programmes involving community representatives working with scientists.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Q18. Which issues should be included in an ongoing monitoring programme of the Deben Estuary?</b></p>	

<b>Q19. Are you interested in participating in Citizen Science research to support the preparation, implementation and monitoring for the Deben Estuary Management Plan?</b>	
<b>Implementation Finance</b>	<b>Implementation &amp; Finance</b> This section will be reviewed and updated to include information on funding, governance and ongoing implementation.
<b>Appendices</b>	There are several appendices in the current Deben Estuary Management Plan that will need to be reviewed and updated in light of the new Suffolk Coastal Local Plan. Present appendices include an appropriate extract from the Shoreline Management Plan, Jetty guidelines, Residential Boats – guidelines, Enabling Development guidelines and River Users Code
<b>Q20. Are these appendices still relevant ? Are there are any other guides that should be included in the Appendices in the updated Deben Estuary Management Plan?</b>	

**Members are recommended to comment on the Scoping Document**

## ITEM 11

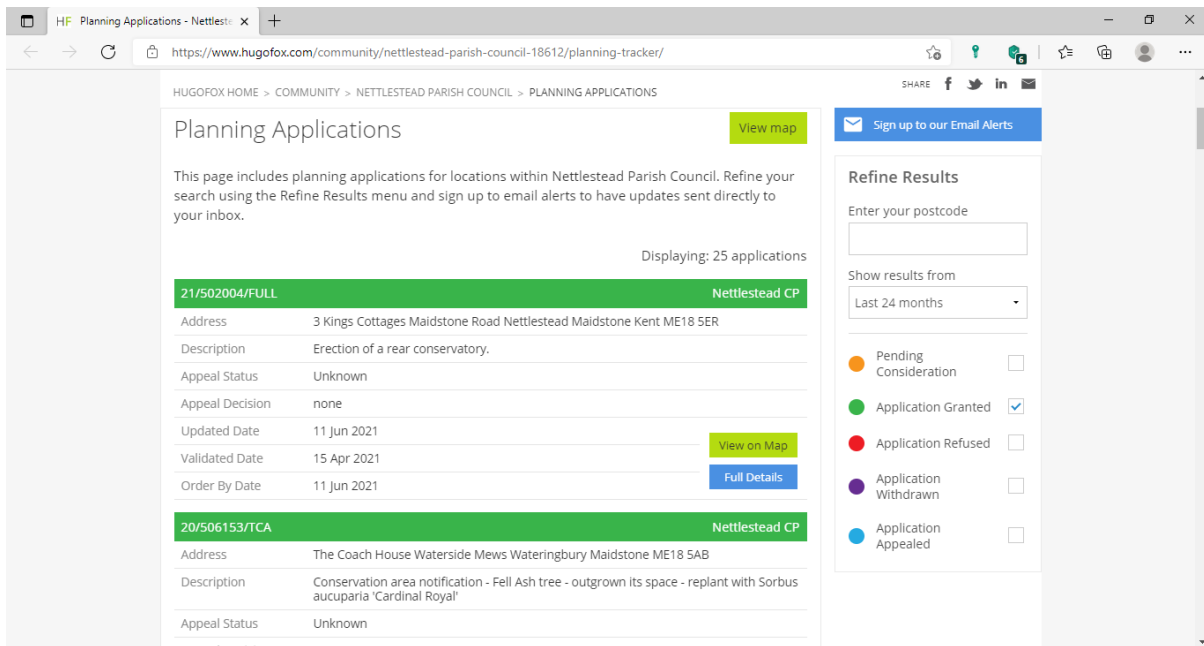
To consider whether to add a page to the website showing all current (undetermined) planning applications

The Council has received information regarding a potential piece of available software designed to better communicate information to our residents on current planning application.

The information can be added to our current website and provides information both as a list and on a map. The example shown has the ability to show not only current (i.e. undetermined) applications but also approved applications but it is considered that in Woodbridge this would prove unwieldy. However the software can be supplied only to show current applications.

The example can be found here - <https://www.hugofox.com/community/nettlestead-parish-council-18612/planning-tracker/>

Typical screenshots (list and map form) are shown below:-



The screenshot displays a web browser window with the URL <https://www.hugofox.com/community/nettlestead-parish-council-18612/planning-tracker/>. The page title is "Planning Applications" and it includes a "View map" button. The main content area shows a list of applications with the following details:

21/502004/FULL		Nettlestead CP
Address	3 Kings Cottages Maidstone Road Nettlestead Maidstone Kent ME18 5ER	
Description	Erection of a rear conservatory.	
Appeal Status	Unknown	
Appeal Decision	none	
Updated Date	11 Jun 2021	
Validated Date	15 Apr 2021	
Order By Date	11 Jun 2021	

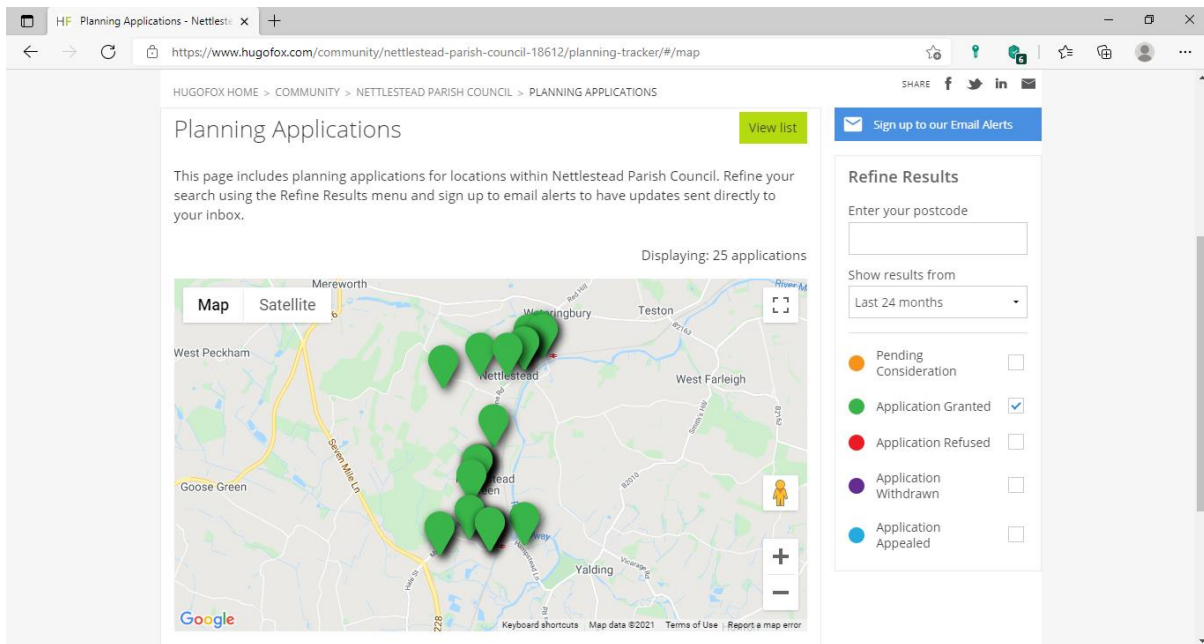
Below this is another application entry:

20/506153/TCA		Nettlestead CP
Address	The Coach House Waterside Mews Wateringbury Maidstone ME18 5AB	
Description	Conservation area notification - Fell Ash tree - outgrown its space - replant with Sorbus aucuparia 'Cardinal Royal'	
Appeal Status	Unknown	
Appeal Decision	none	

The right sidebar contains a "Refine Results" section with a "Sign up to our Email Alerts" button, a "Postcode" input field, a "Show results from" dropdown menu set to "Last 24 months", and a list of filters:

- Pending Consideration
- Application Granted
- Application Refused
- Application Withdrawn
- Application Appealed

*Please be aware that the recording of this meeting is probable*



The cost is just £10.00 per month + VAT and a £140.00 + VAT one-off set up charge.

Members are recommended to add this software to the website with the funds coming from this Committee's budget

*Please be aware that the recording of this meeting is probable*