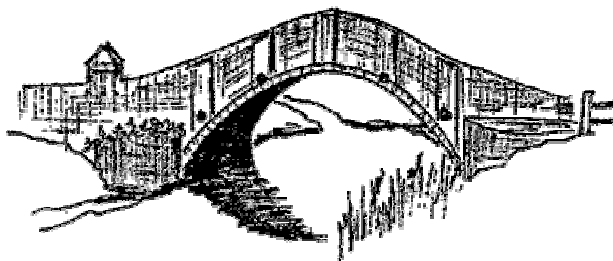


THE ALDE & ORE ASSOCIATION



The Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts for the year to 31st December 2015

The Association exists to preserve for the public benefit the Alde, Ore and Butley rivers and their banks from Shingle Street to their tidal limits and such of the land adjoining them or upstream as may be considered to affect them, together with the features of beauty and or historic or public interest in that area.

Registered Charity No. 1154583

Report of the Trustees

The Trustees present their Report and the Accounts of the Charity for the year to 31st December 2015

A. REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

The Alde and Ore Association
Charity Registration No 1154583

Correspondence Address

3 Quay Street, Orford, Woodbridge, Suffolk IP12 2NU

External Accountants

Ensors Chartered Accountants
Blyth House
Rendham Road
Saxmundham
Suffolk
IP17 1WA

Names of Charity Trustees

THE COMMITTEE at 31st December 2015

Officers

Alison Andrews	Chairman
Birgitta Bostrom	Treasurer
Sally Walton	Hon Secretary
Amanda Bettinson	Chair RDC

Other Trustees

Simon Barrow	Marketing
Colin Chamberlain	Legal Adviser
Tim Dudgeon	Butley Ferry
John Grayburn	Events Co-ordinator
Keith Martin	Membership
George Watson	Landowner interests
Vacancy	Planning Adviser

Representatives Appointed by the Trustees

Grant Lohoar	National Trust
Richard Brunt	Wildfowlers
Ben McFarland	RSPB

Membership Secretary	Diana Paterson
Newsletter Editor	Monika Koch

We were very saddened to lose David Barnwell who died on 25th October 2015; his enthusiasm and wealth of experience with IT had been invaluable.

B. STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The Alde and Ore Association is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and is the successor to the previous unincorporated organisation which was originally founded in 1991.

Organisational structure

The Charity Trustees constitute a committee (The Committee) which manages the affairs of the CIO and for that purpose exercises the powers of the CIO.

Recruitment and appointment of Trustees

Trustees are elected at the Annual General Meeting of the Alde and Ore Association, in accordance with Clause 13 of the Constitution. One third of the Trustees must retire each year but are eligible for re-election, those to retire being those holding office longest since election or re-election.

C. OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives

The objects of the Alde and Ore Association are to preserve and protect for the public benefit the Alde, Ore and Butley rivers and their banks from Shingle Street to their tidal limits and such of the land adjoining them or upstream as may be considered to affect them together with the features of beauty and historic or public interest in the area.

We confirm that the Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Activities

The main activities undertaken towards achieving the Association's objectives during the year have been to:

- continue to work to secure good river defences in order to sustain the Alde and Ore and Butley rivers within their landscape and to safeguard all the activities, places of interest and wildlife habitats contained within this unique area. Work has included very active participation in the work of the Alde and Ore Estuary Partnership (AOEP).
- work to safeguard the estuary by commenting on planning developments or other proposals which either might detract from or enhance the area.
- monitor the state of the river walls. This has been the work of the River Defence Committee.
- provide activities to encourage enjoyment or use of the area through the provision of the Butley Ferry, three walks and a barbecue.
- take initiatives and contribute to commissioning research to illuminate policies or projects dealing with the river defences and the natural landscape.
- ensure communication with members. Two Newsletters have been published and circulated to members. The Association website has been maintained while plans have been developed to produce a more user-friendly website. Efforts have been made to encourage members to provide email addresses so as to ensure timely and much less costly circulation of matters affecting the estuary area.
- give consideration to what might be done to clarify the work of the Association and to encourage a broader membership involving the people who live, work and relax in the area.

Contributions

David Andren, a past Chairman of the Association who died in 2014, has left the Association a considerable legacy to contribute to the upgrading of defences in the Orford area and with the intention of encouraging others to follow his example. So far, an interim payment of £252,000 has been received and the remainder will be paid when the estate is finally wound up. This is an extremely generous bequest. The Trustees have been working on plans to provide helpful information and proformas, which will be launched once the full bequest has been received, to make it easier for anyone who wishes to give a legacy or donation towards the river defences. Other donations have been received over and above membership fees for which the Association is extremely grateful.

D. ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

The main achievements during the year reflect the several and varied activities of the Association.

Estuary defences

The Association is a founding and voting member of the AOEP and two Association Trustees have been the major contributors to the drafting and preparation of the AOEP's Draft Estuary Plan which went out to public consultation in November and December. The document involves a comprehensive plan for the whole estuary, bringing together works required for upgrading walls in every flood cell, and in some cases it will be the intention to enhance the hinterland for the benefit of people and wildlife. Proper account is taken of all the regulatory requirements by working closely with the statutory agencies who advise the AOEP.

Protection of the landscape

There were relatively few planning applications which required the Association's comments; objections to one were not supported by the authorities and on another the Association team considered that the plan fitted well within the landscape. The plans for further development of the Brick Dock site are still under consideration by the Planning Department but the Association has registered its strong objections, as have local residents and Aldeburgh Town Council. No further proposals in relation to making the estuary a Marine Conservation Zone were made by the Government this year but the Association is alert to possible further proposals in 2016.

Enjoyment of the area

Three excellent walks took place this year. The May walk followed the river valley above the tidal limit from Little Glemham to Snape. In July over 40 people visited the 'Chinese Pagodas' on Orford Ness excellently guided by Grant Lohar, the National Trust Manager of the site. In September the very special wildlife centre based on Stanny Farm provided a walk where normally access is not available and gave an insight into managing wildlife conservation with farming. There was so much to see that the second half of the walk will now take place in 2016. Lastly the annual barbecue held in August was a tremendous success. Our thanks go to Sir John and Lady Wheeler for allowing the Association to gather on a site with iconic views over the estuary and Hazlewood Marsh which had been breached and flooded in the December 2013 surge. The Marsh is now regenerating well as an intertidal habitat. We are most grateful to Paul Walkden for masterminding the barbecue arrangements with Caroline Boyd.

The Butley Ferry

The team of 17 ferrymen, working on a roster every weekend and bank holiday, ran the ferry from Easter until the end of September but the very poor summer weather meant there were fewer passengers than last year. The ferry was open on 55 days carrying 864 adults, 350 bicycles and 57 children and raising £2,227 in revenue with maintenance costs of £1,784.

The Association would like to thank the ferry team who also spend much time during the winter on repairs to the jetties, moorings and paths to the ferry as well as repainting the ferry itself.

The River Defence Committee

The River Defence Committee was set up in April 2007 with a team of volunteers to photograph and assess the state of the river walls, public footpaths and saltings for areas that required maintenance. The annual reports are sent to the Environment Agency to help formalise their maintenance programme by highlighting areas requiring the most urgent attention in the coming financial year. In 2015 no major storms or surges hit the estuary, but a number of areas remain a concern. In particular, both north and south walls at Snape and the poorly maintained wall at Aldeburgh are the top priority for the AOEP to address, which they are doing. Footpaths allowing public access on the walls almost throughout the estuary are a concern when they suffer continued use and become very muddy, during the winter particularly, and potentially dangerous. A trial of a number of different surfaces was instigated on the Deben estuary and it is hoped that this will provide a useful hard surface that can be used throughout all the estuaries and have the additional benefit of increasing the flood protection as it will not be washed away during overtopping.

Our sincere thanks go to everyone who has spent so much time in walking the walls and preparing the photographs and taking the time to collate all the reports and insert the maps, all of which are available on the website. The planned visit to the Emergency Control Centre at the Environment Agency organised by Roger Baxter had to be delayed at the end of last year but this will be fitted in to 2016 so that volunteers know how flooding emergencies are managed by the EA and combined forces.

Pressing for current maintenance and repairs

In addition, the Association pressed the Environment Agency, both through the AOEP and separately, for attention to be paid to securing good maintenance projects both on the Slaughden sea wall and on the Aldeburgh Marsh wall.

Research commissioned

The Association used the services of Professor Ken Pye to complement and widen perspectives of consultants used by the Environment Agency and Natural England. The reports included *Combined LiDAR and Bathymetry Survey of the Alde-Ore Estuary, 2013-2014* and *Data Processing Report on the Alde-Ore Estuary, Alde and Ore Estuary Modelling of Water Levels and Current Speeds – Hydrodynamic Modelling (Water Levels and Current Speeds) Assessment* (a project jointly funded with the AOEP). Both of these reports contributed to studies to confirm the flows, velocities and potential risks for the upgrading projects. These included the walls at Snape and Aldeburgh, the coastal issues at Slaughden, the likely consequences of a continued breach in the American Wall on Orford Ness and a commentary on other assessments of the shingle beach development south of the Martello Tower. The findings of these studies helped to inform the AOEP planning and discussions with the Environment Agency on defence works. The Association also undertook to contribute to the funding of a project led by Natural England to re-assess the state and development of saltings in the estuary, the results of which were not ready before the end of 2015.

Overall the Association has contributed considerably to the preservation, protection and enjoyment of the Alde, Ore and Butley river area.

E. FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Association has a Reserves Policy of building its reserves without significant increases in membership fees whilst continuing to maintain existing services to members.

The Association's main source of income is its membership fees (there are currently over 2,000 members in total, including all members of the Aldeburgh Yacht Club).

The Association expects to use its reserves to employ consultants, advisers and possibly even contractors to ensure the objectives of the Association in preserving the Alde and Ore Estuary for the benefit of the public are met.

Both unrestricted as well as restricted reserves of the Association are currently held in savings deposit accounts with CCLA and Virgin Money.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

Members of the Alde and Ore Association's Committee are responsible for preparing the Charity's annual report and financial statements in accordance with the law applicable to charities and UK Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law requires that the report and financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP);
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on a 'going concern' basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2005) issued in March 2005 and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008) and the provisions of the Constitution. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees, for the purposes of charity law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report, are set out on page 1.

Approved by the Trustees on 29th February 2016

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Lady Andrews, OBE
Chair of the Trustees

The Association Website can be found at www.aldeandore.org.

To reduce our postage expenses, this is updated with current news, Association events, AGM minutes and reports.

We welcome comments and ideas.

****NB In the light of ever-increasing postal charges, PLEASE SEND YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS to:**
info@aldeandore.org

to enable us to send you news/events etc without incurring expensive postage costs.

Statement of financial activities for the year ending 31st December 2015

For general comments see Note 1.

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2015 Total funds £	2014 Total funds £
Income	2				
Membership fees and donations		10800	252000	262800	12930
Activities for raising funds		6888	-	6888	6868
Investment income		224	1039	1263	207
Total		17912	253039	270951	20005
Expenditure	3				
Raising funds		4883	-	4883	3783
Charitable activities		10778	-	10778	35284
Total		15661	-	15661	39067
Net income/(expenditure)		2251	253039	255290	(19062)
Net movement in funds		2251	253039	255290	(19062)
Transfers between funds		(1)	1		
Reconciliation of funds:					
Fund balances brought forward		50896	-	50896	69958
Fund balances carried forward		53146	253040	306186	50896

Balance sheet as at 31st December 2015

	<i>Notes</i>	<i>Unrestricted funds £</i>	<i>Restricted funds £</i>	<i>2015 Total funds £</i>	<i>2014 Total funds £</i>
Fixed Assets					
Tangible assets		-	-	-	-
Intangible assets		-	-	-	-
Investments		-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-
Current Assets					
Stocks		-	-	-	-
Debtors		-	-	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand		54152	253040	307192	50896
Total Current Assets		54152	253040	307192	50896
Liabilities					
Due in less than a year	4	1006	-	1006	-
Net Assets		53146	253040	306186	50896

Approved by the Trustees on 29th February 2016 and signed by:

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Lady Andrews, OBE
Chair of the Trustees

The notes on pages 8 to 11 form part of these financial statements

Notes to the accounts

1. Accounting Policies

Basis for preparing the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2005) issued in March 2005 and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair view'. This departure has involved following Accounting and Reporting by the Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRSSE) rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005, which has since been withdrawn.

Fund accounting

The Charity has restricted income funds to account for situations where a donor requires that a donation must be spent on a particular purpose, or where funds have been raised for a particular purpose. All other funds are unrestricted.

Incoming resources

Annual memberships are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate. Memberships received in advance are deferred and included in creditors.

Legacies and donations are recognised once the Charity has entitlement to the resources, it is certain that the resources will be received and the monetary value of grants can be measured with sufficient reliability. Legacies can be categorised as either pecuniary (specific cash amount) or residuary (share of an estate). Pecuniary legacies are recognised as receivable once probate has been granted and notification has been received. Residuary legacies are recognised as receivable once probate has been granted and where they can be measured reliably.

Income from sales of publications is recognised as earned as the related goods are provided.

Investment income is credited to income on the accruals basis, with daily accrual of interest calculated by reference to the distribution dates.

Resources Expended

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category.

Taxation

The Association is a registered charity, so there is no charge for taxation.

Notes to the accounts (continued)

2. Income

	<i>Notes</i>	<i>Unrestricted funds £</i>	<i>Restricted funds £</i>	<i>2015 Total funds £</i>	<i>2014 Total funds £</i>
Income from membership fees and donations					
Membership fees		6406	-	6406	6825
Membership fees from Aldeburgh Yacht Club		2990	-	2990	2990
Gift Aid Refund		1349	-	1349	1496
Donations and legacies		55	252000	252055	1188
Miscellaneous		-	-	-	431
Total income from donations and legacies		10800	252000	262800	12930
Income from activities for raising funds					
BBQ		2726	-	2726	2921
Walks		1725	-	1725	1309
Butley Ferry		2227	-	2227	2492
Sales of publications/DVDs		210	-	210	146
Total income from activities for raising funds		6888	-	6888	6868
Income from investments					
Interest on cash deposits		224	1039	1263	207
Total income from investments		224	1039	1263	207
Total income		17912	253039	270951	20005

Notes to the accounts (continued)

3. Expenditure

	<i>Notes</i>	<i>Unrestricted funds £</i>	<i>Restricted funds £</i>	2015 Total funds £	2014 Total funds £
Cost of raising funds					
BBQ Cost		1920	-	1920	1575
Walks cost		1178	-	1178	696
Butley Ferry cost		1785	-	1785	1512
Total cost of raising funds		4883	-	4883	3783
Cost of Charitable Activities					
Newsletter		3516	-	3516	8931
Website costs		453	-	453	418
Postage/Stationary		120	-	120	222
Miscellaneous		6	-	6	70
Economic Study		-	-	-	15319
Consultants (Professor Pye)		4150	-	4150	7989
River Defence Committee		-	-	-	93
Donations by A&O		-	-	-	200
AGM		2018	-	2018	1815
Independent Examination of Accounts		288	-	288	-
Insurance		227	-	227	227
Total cost of charitable activities		10778	-	10778	35284
Total expenditure		15661	-	15661	39067

Notes to the accounts (continued)

4. Liabilities

	<i>At 31st December 2015</i>
	£
Postage	634
Website costs	84
Independent Examination	288
	<hr/>
	1006
	<hr/>

5. Funds

	<i>At 1 January 2015</i>	<i>Incoming resources</i>	<i>Outgoing resources</i>	<i>Transfers</i>	<i>At 31 December 2015</i>
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds					
David Andren Bequest	-	253,039	-	1	253,040
	<hr/>				
Total restricted funds	-	253,039	-	1	253,040
	<hr/>				
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	50,896	17,912	15,661	(1)	53,146
	<hr/>				
Total unrestricted funds	50,896	17,912	15,661	(1)	53,146
	<hr/>				
Total funds	50,896	270,951	15,661	-	306,186
	<hr/>				

Purposes of restricted funds

The current restricted funds have been given as a bequest and are earmarked to aid with the work on a specific part of the estuary.

Purpose of general funds

General funds are those which are unrestricted and not designated for any other purpose. The balance on the general fund will be used to cover the excess of expenditure over incoming resources aims and mission.

ULTIMATE CONTROLLING PARTY

The ultimate controlling party is the membership of the Charity.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE ALDE & ORE ASSOCIATION

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2015 which are set out on pages 6 to 11.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared accounts in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities published on 16 July 2014, the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (FRSSE) is in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has since been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for the accounts to provide a true and fair view in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

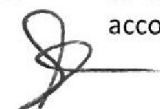
BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Acthave not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



CARL PAGE FCCA
ENSORS ACCOUNTANTS LLP
BLYTH HOUSE
SAXMUNDHAM
IP17 1WA

