

THE ALDE & ORE ASSOCIATION

Your Voice – Your Estuary



THE TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ALDE AND ORE ASSOCIATION

will be held on

SATURDAY 4th April 2020 at 10:30am
Coffee and tea will be available from 10:00am

at

**THORPENESS COUNTRY CLUB
THE BENTHILLS, THORPENESS IP16 4NU**

GUEST SPEAKER:

GILES BLOOMFIELD

Catchment Engineer, Water Management Alliance Eastern

TAKING FORWARD THE ALDE AND ORE ESTUARY PLAN

The Association, a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, 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

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of The Alde and Ore Association will be held on Saturday 4th April, 2020 at 10:30am at Thorpeness Country Club.

Coffee and tea will be served from 10.00am

AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. To approve as a correct record the minutes of the AGM held on Saturday 6th April 2019
3. Trustees' Report for the year ended 31st December 2019
4. Accounts of the Association for the year ended 31st December 2019
5. Election of Trustees*
The following Trustees are retiring Simon Barrow, John Grayburn
6. Marketing – update on progress
7. Any other business

Note: Anyone wishing to become a Trustee or nominate a person is invited to get in touch with the Chairman, Alison Andrews. (email: aldeblackburn@aol.com) Applications should be made initially to the Chairman who will be able to explain the work of the Committee and responsibilities of Trustees.

It is important to renew Trustee energy and interests whether in planning, marketing, website matters, newsletter publication, organising fun events, commenting on formative government and other policy consultations or a fresh approach. Anyone who wishes to use their particular skills for benefit of safeguarding the Alde an Ore estuary area and helping provide ways to enjoy it will be welcome. Terms of office run for three years and can be renewed.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Alde and Ore Association

held at 10.30am on Saturday 6th April 2019 at Thorpeness Country Club

PRESENT:

Committee Alison Andrews (Chairman), Colin Chamberlain, Keith Martin, Roy Truman, Simon Barrow, John Grayburn, Richard Brunt, Roger Baxter, Diana Grayburn

Members 80 members present. List held by the Membership Secretary.

APOLOGIES: Birgitta Bostrom, Mr and Mrs John Aitken, Thomas Barrow, Peter Brooks, Sir Ian Collett Bt, Susan Cullen, Rosemary Draper, Peter and Margaret Fife, Andrew Freese, Sara Hinton, George and Stephanie Knight, Liz Marks, Jane Maxim, Christopher Neill, Patrick Nicholls, Anne Page, Mr and Mrs Mike Redmond

1. MINUTES

Minutes of the previous AGM of the Alde and Ore Association, held on 7th April 2018, were taken as read and approved.

2. TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2018

The Chairman began by emphasising that the Association was concerned with all matters involving the preservation of the Estuary. Drawing attention to just one item in the Annual Report on the Brick Dock Planning Inquiry, a major success in the past year which had upheld the refusal of planning permission, she showed the importance of the Association's participation in securing a good outcome. Outcomes such as these did not just happen but involved cooperation with sympathetic groups such as the Suffolk Preservation Society, Suffolk Wildlife Trust, the RSPB, the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Natural England and the Aldeburgh Society in order to put the estuary's case. There had been different members of the Association present on each of the five days of the hearing. The Association had specifically drawn the Inquiry's attention on the first morning to the fact that as most of the proposed dwellings would have a view over the Estuary roof heights would be high and inevitably more conspicuous than had been appreciated. The Association had also helped identify the viewing points surrounding the site for the Inspector to visit and to facilitate these, so that she realised how deleterious the plans were. Further, an Association member had also pointed out that some 6,000 people a year, not just a few as the applicant's Counsel had remarked, would have direct sight of the development from the Estuary itself. This showed that The Association very much needs more volunteers who can work on campaigns such as this for the common good. The Annual Report was then duly noted.

The Chairman turned to give her annual update on activities from the start of the current year. She hoped all members had received the recent Spring Newsletter 2019 which included the review of activities. She warmly thanked Derek Bingham for his stalwart support as editor of the newsletter over many years.

The Chairman drew attention to the very well-attended Alde and Ore Estuary Partnership (AOEP) and Alde and Ore Estuary Trust (AOET) Drop-In Session and annual community meeting at Snape Maltings on 27th February 2019 when more detail about the Estuary Plan had been unveiled. The Chairman also remarked on the positive fundraising initiatives which the AOET had announced at the community meeting and in particular the recent grant from the Garfield Weston fund of £400,000 plus an additional £100,000 under a matched funding arrangement. Other fundraising events by members of the community had included the Orford wine-tasting event and a concert at Orford, The Chairman urged members who had any fund-raising ideas to discuss them with Jane Maxim, the Chairman of the AOET Fundraising Group.

The Chairman emphasised that while river defences were not the only issues of concern in the estuary, if the defences were not kept good condition there would not be all the good things that depended upon their being in place that everyone enjoyed. It was hoped to be able to spend part of David Andren's generous bequest on the Orford frontage, ahead of the completion of the upper estuary in 2020: detailed plans and checks, that there would be no great penalty in getting government grant if the work went ahead the rest of Flood Cell 4 were being made.

Another important part of the Association's continuous work was planning: the Chairman said that the Association had submitted comments (see the website) to Sizewell C and Scottish Power Renewables consultations because of the long term fears for coastal erosion and the impact of the extraordinary projected increase in road traffic on travelling for those wanting to enjoy the estuary during the long construction phase. There were at the moment, unless anyone knew otherwise, no major plans in sight- but if anyone spots something, please would they let The Association know as its members are its eyes and ears.

The Association had continued its much appreciated programme of summer walks. Two more were planned for 2019, one on 6th September which will be led by the RSPB involving a walk observing the wildlife on Havergate Island, and the other, inspired by William Eddis, would involve a walk, along the river walls to accompany the AOET's fund-raising flotilla of boats, kayaks and swimmers on Sunday 28th July. Further details of both walks and the arrangements for joining them would soon appear on The Association's website.

It was hoped the popular Annual Barbecue would be held on Tony Bone's land at Brick Dock on a Sunday in August but so far, disappointingly, no organiser had been found. The Association wished to avoid the need to use a professional organiser for these events as it would mean an extra £5 or £6 on ticket prices. The Chairman therefore appealed for a volunteer to come forward to organise the event.

The Chairman observed how the activities of The Association had evolved over its 28 years. In the 1990s, the emphasis had been on planning and walks and then by the turn of the century it had turned more to commenting on the Government's changing proposals for an estuarine strategy and seeking to ensure that the estuary got its fair share of funding to pay for the maintenance of the river walls. By the 2010s, after the Alde and Ore Futures exercise, the emphasis was on developing with its AOEP partners the strategy for the estuary flood defence plans for the benefit of people, the economy and the environment. The Chairman emphasised that with the emergence of the AOEP and the AOET, The Association still had a vital role to play in relation to the Estuary Plan not least because of its mission and large and interested membership. In particular, it was important that it continued to challenge as well as support plans and monitoring, and to commission or provide supporting science in relation to the future of the estuary. The Chairman mentioned the recent very successful 'Healthy Estuaries Presentation' at Aldeburgh Yacht Club.

The Chairman paid tribute to the important contribution being made by the Marketing Advisory Panel, a group of volunteers brought together by Simon Barrow, which had been thinking how The Association could improve its offering in the future and in particular attract a greater proportion of younger members. (The activities of the Group are more fully described in section 6 below). The Chairman thanked the Group for their contribution which was of importance for the future development of the Association.

Opening the floor to discussion on her update, the Chairman was asked by Mandy Bettinson whether it might be possible to open the flotilla fundraising day walk to sponsorship so that further money could be raised for the AOET and it was agreed to look it into this.

3. ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2018

In the Treasurer's absence, Colin Chamberlain presented the Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2018. The Accounts were in good order and had been approved by Ensors as independent examiners and a certificate to that effect was to be found at page 13 of the Report and Accounts. On the Summary Statement on page 7 it

was explained that the substantial fall in 'membership fees and donations' was largely explained by the inclusion of a final tranche of £10,000 of the donation from the David Andren estate in 2017, and that in fact the membership fees, although falling slightly in 2008, were broadly the same. Turning to the note on Income on page 10, total income was £19,000, the apparent fall in income since the previous year being again explained by the receipt of the Andren donation of £10,000 in the previous year. The Barbecue receipts were up £157, the walks receipts down over £500 as there were fewer walks but the Ferry had enjoyed a bumper year with income of £3,256 which had included a remarkable 400 cyclists. Interest on cash deposits was up. Turning to the note on Expenditure on page 11, this was £13,893 in total. The costs of the marquee and food for the Annual Barbecue had risen by some £500. The extensive repair and improvements on the jetties undertaken by Roy Truman and his ferrymen had involved costs of £3,428. There was also very good news for 2019 in that Roy Truman had successfully secured a grant arranged by the AONB, payable by EDF, for £3,000 for which he is to be congratulated. Newsletter costs were about the same but the AGM costs had risen as a result of having to send an additional mailing. The donation of £1,000 was a contribution to the legal costs of the Brick Dock inquiry. The net surplus for the year was therefore £5,744, half of it from general account and half interest on the investment of restricted funds. The General Account at the year end therefore stood at a total balance of £44,550. The Restricted Fund representing the David Andren legacy at the year end stood at £623,802. The grand total of general and restricted funds therefore stood at £668,352 at the year end.

Opening the floor to discussion on the Accounts, a number of members mentioned receiving two copies of the AGM papers one in a personal capacity and another as a member of the AYC. It was explained that the intention was that this should not happen: all members receiving duplicates in this way were asked to notify John Grayburn. Other members mentioned that where couples were both members that emails had been sent to only one of them which became a problem when the recipient had not passed a copy on to the other member. The Chairman promised that the Association would examine its systems to put this right too.

Mark Goyder picked up on the point made in relation to the Accounts that there had been no increase in subscriptions in 28 years and wondered if this implied that members were thought not to appreciate the value of their membership. The Chairman acknowledged the point saying there had to date been no necessity to increase subscriptions as expenses such as those for newsletters were still covered and all events were costed to be as far as possible self-funding and there were still funds to meet commissioned reports, the Association had not treated this as a priority. However, the Association was considering further developing activities and also had not yet found a new Honorary Secretary, so the extra administration, perhaps including a paid secretary, might well involve a review of subscription rates. Others mentioned the benefit of having more volunteers so that the Association could undertake more projects. Rufus Gilday said that he believed that where there were specific projects which needed funding that the money could be raised "in ten seconds". The Chairman also noted that subscriptions were an issue that might come up under the discussion of the marketing Group's work.

The Accounts were unanimously approved, Richard Marson proposing and David Gordon seconding the resolution.

4. ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

The Chairman referred to changes in the membership of the Committee and thanked Sally Walton for all her hard work and wise counsel during her period of service as Hon Secretary and the search was now on for a successor to fill the role. The Chairman also thanked Grant Lohoar who had now retired from the National Trust and had been our contact with that body for many years: it was hoped that the contacts would be continued. Good relations were also maintained with the RSPB and it was thanks to Aaron Howe that that we looked forward to the Havergate Island walk in the summer.

The Chairman called a roll-call of the existing Committee members in order to thank them for all their efforts:- Trustees Birgitta Bostrom (Treasurer), Colin Chamberlain (Legal Advice), Simon Barrow (Marketing), Keith Martin (Marine Conservation and now also Planning), John Grayburn (Webmaster and Events Organiser) and

Roy Truman (Ferry Master) together with the co-opted members Richard Brunt for the Wildfowlers, Roger Baxter who was responsible for the River Defence Committee annual surveys of the walls, and Diana Grayburn the Membership Secretary.

John Grayburn and Keith Martin were both due to retire by rotation and had both offered themselves for re-election. Both were unanimously re-elected on a show of hands by the members.

5. MARKETING

Simon Barrow introduced a discussion on the work of his Marketing Advisory Group which comprised William Eddis, Frances Barnwell, Bobby Rusack, Suzie Bridges, Mark Goyder and also Rufus Gilday who stood as adviser on the relationship with the Aldeburgh Yacht Club. Simon said we did not know anything about our membership, other than names and addresses, except that it appeared to be ageing and was perhaps not as engaged as much as we might like. The Group had produced a preliminary plan which had received extensive comments from all the Trustees, for which he was grateful, before producing a revised plan. Following that the Group had engaged with the data management consultants Direction Forward in a meeting held on 12th March 2019 and they were now preparing a report on data management issues. This had been followed by a meeting of a Focus Group which had been arranged by Frances Barnwell to probe people's attitudes on the Association's activities and thanks were due to Frances in pulling this all together. The Focus Group had 17 participants, which did not include Simon nor any other trustee as was good practice, and was as diverse in composition as possible with about half over and half under 50 years of age and at least one third female and a balance by reference to periods of membership. Their discussions have been guided by an excellent independent facilitator, Sarah Ladbury supported by Judith Golder. A draft of the Focus Group discussion has now been prepared and is with the individual members for consideration and they have been asked to give their feedback to Sarah. The next step after that is for the Committee to consider all the comments and formulate a plan to be taken forward with members. Simon concluded by saying that perceptions were important and he was determined in future to avoid the perception that the Association was just an 'elderly clique'. The Association he felt should be an influential membership-driven organisation but there was work to be done to realise its full potential.

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

David Gordon paid tribute to the work of Alison Andrews, as well as the Trustees Alison had mentioned, as an able and hard-working Chairman and there was enthusiastic support for this tribute from the meeting.

There being no further business, the formal proceedings of the AGM were closed at 11.30am

GUEST SPEAKER'S PRESENTATION

John Curtin, Executive Director of Flood and Coastal Risk Management at the Environment Agency, then gave a presentation on 2019 - *The Year we Took Climate Change Seriously?* see www.aldeandore.org.

THE ALDE & ORE ASSOCIATION

Your Voice – Your Estuary



The Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts

for the year to 31st December 2019

The Association, a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, 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 2019

A. REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

The Alde and Ore Association
Charity Registration No 1154583

Correspondence Address

19 Lee Road, Aldeburgh, IP15 5HG

External Accountants

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

Names of Charity Trustees

THE COMMITTEE at 31st December 2019

Officers

Alison Andrews	Chairman
Birgitta Bostrom	Treasurer
Vacancy	Honorary Secretary

Other Trustees

Colin Chamberlain	Legal Adviser
Simon Barrow	Marketing
Keith Martin	Planning, SCAR
John Grayburn	Webmaster/Events Co-ordinator
Roy Truman	Butley Ferry

Representatives Appointed by the Trustees

Grant Lohoar	National Trust (until April 2019)
Richard Brunt	Wildfowlers

Membership Secretary	Diana Paterson
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Newsletter Editor	
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RDC Convener	Roger Baxter
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B. STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The Alde and Ore Association (The Association) was founded in 1991. On 1st January 2014, the charitable status was changed to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) which assumed all the assets and liabilities of The Association.

Organisational structure

The Charity Trustees constitute a 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 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 the ones who have been longest in office.

C. OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives

The objects of The 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 help to ensure that river defences are upgraded in order to sustain the Alde and Ore and Butley rivers within their landscape to safeguard all the activities, places of interest and wildlife habitats contained within this unique area. Very active participation in the work of The Alde and Ore Estuary Partnership (AOEP) is undertaken by The Association.
- work to safeguard the estuary by commenting on planning developments or other proposals which might either detract from or enhance the area.
- assess, photograph and report on the state of the river walls. This has been done through The Association's River Defence Committee.
- provide activities to encourage enjoyment or use of the area through the provision of the Butley Ferry, organised walks and an annual 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 and members are kept up to date by emails and through the website.
- work with the newly formed A&O Marketing Group to undertake qualitative research amongst younger members. The report on this has generated active discussion and planning which will clarify the stance and direction of the Association and encourage a broader membership and, critically, the recruitment of new trustees and volunteers.

Contributions

Donations have also 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.

Working with the Estuary Partnership

As a founding and active member of The Alde and Ore Estuary Partnership (AOEP) which was tasked with for the development of a river wall flood defence plan, The Association continued to contribute to the work needed help the realisation of the Estuary Plan for a programme of works to rebuild the river defences to a resilient standard. A full presentation on progress was given by the AOEP with the Alde and Ore Estuary Trust, responsible for fund raising and grant giving for the estuary works, and The East Suffolk Internal Drainage Board (ESIDB) at the AOEP's annual community meeting in February. During 2019, following on from the modelling, mostly completed in 2018, which informed the order of the construction works, the East Suffolk Internal Drainage Board took on the project to implement the works. The year was then spent preparing the extensive documentation and justification to present a Business Case to the Environment Agency to secure the various permissions for such work and to seek to maximise possible grant from the Government.

During 2019 the AOEP reviewed its structure in the light of having completed the Estuary Plan and the construction works being take forward by the ESIDB. The Association representative was active in helping take forward constructive discussions. The new replacement body, agreed in November, the Alde and Ore Community Partnership, will include all parishes bordering the estuary, a county and two district councillors, a business and IDB Board member and The Association which is the only body covering all parts of the estuary.

The Association, through its contribution to the AOEP helped to secure a public consultation on the Shoreline Management Plan policy for the length of the shingle bank sea wall south of the Martello Tower in Aldeburgh, an area very vulnerable to storms and surge tides. The proposal is to change from a policy of No Active Intervention to Managed Realignment by managed resilience. The Association helped ensure a strong public response to the consultation by alerting members directly and via the sailing clubs all of whom have a substantial interest in the policy. The outcome will be considered by the Suffolk Coast Forum early in 2020.

The Association continued to report directly to the Environment Agency on the state of the shingle wall south of Martello Tower in Aldeburgh. The Environment Agency have responded that they are monitoring the coast carefully.

The Association has sought to keep members informed about the estuary plans, in addition to AOEP newsletters. The Association places great store on its communications about the Estuary and regards it as important that members can obtain a good understanding of the progress being made.

Protection of the landscape

During 2019 The Association continued to monitor all planning applications which might affect the estuary environment. Comments were submitted where it was thought necessary but, unlike 2018, there were no major proposals.

To ensure that national policy decisions did not overlook the special characteristics of estuaries such as the Alde and Ore, during 2019 The Association responded to two government policy consultations on

the proposed strategic risk management policy for flood and coastal erosion and Defra's invitation for comments on the concepts or perceptions of resilience and adaptation in relation to flood management. The Association made clear the interests of a policy consistent with the local plans for realistic resilience management of a landscape much valued by the local community and economy.

The Association commented on two major power company proposals where the proposed installation of new stations could, if not properly researched and implemented, lead to damaging the fragile but dynamically eroding coastline to the north of the estuary and so possibly lead to damaging the coastline bordering the estuary. Members were alerted to these consultations so that individual responses could be submitted too.

River Defence Committee

The annual river wall survey, of some 44 km of walls, was again led by Roger Baxter as the lead River Defence team organiser. About 20 volunteers carried out the annual walks to examine the river walls after the March equinox and prepared reports commenting on and mapping any changes: the reports are available on the website and were submitted to help the Environment Agency's wall reviews. We are extremely grateful to everyone for their commitment in time and effort in producing the reports which provide a running benchmark of the state of the walls and provide early warning of when repairs are needed.

Enjoyment of the area

In July The Association organised a meeting for members, to which the public were also invited, to hear directly from Natural England (NE) on the progress being made in its work to identify the line of the England coastal path for the Aldeburgh to Bawdsey stretch. The meeting provided a good opportunity to ensure a better understanding of where the path might go and affect the estuary and for members to make their concerns clear for NE to take into account.

On 5th July there was a splendid walk around the Butley River including taking advantage of The Association's Butley Ferry and landowners kindly letting us have access to areas not covered by public footpaths. With many thanks to Keith Martin for organising the walk, to John Grayburn our ferryman of the day and to the Froize Inn for a good light lunch.

On 28th July The Association organised a walk, with some 30 walkers of all ages, along the river walls between Cowton and Orford to accompany and support the fund raising Flotilla event run by the AOET which had 100 participants swimming, paddling or rowing the near 5 miles to Orford.

An excellent expedition in September took members on to Havergate Island for a day's viewing of the RSPB reserve. The RSPB kindly organised the boat trip to and from the Island and had experts on hand to advise members on what there was to be seen and the management of the island habitats.

The 28th Annual Barbecue was held at Brick Dock, where there are amazing views both up river and down, with many thanks to Tony and Debbie Bone for hosting the event, including mowing the field to make a comfortable gathering place and to Brick Dock residents for allowing access. We are very grateful to Peter Redshaw for masterminding the main arrangements and to Anabel Chamberlain for ensuring a fantastic spread from a goodly team of salad makers. Salter and King provided an excellent hog roast at cost so The Association was able to contribute towards the Estuary Trust funds for the resilience plans for the estuary.

The Butley Ferry

Despite losing eight days of ferrying to strong winds and adverse weather, average daily footfall and income rose by 18% over the previous year, which itself was a record year. Again, over a thousand passengers and 400 cyclists used the service. A new Butley Ferry leaflet informing walkers and cyclists of routes using the ferry link was also produced and circulated widely in Suffolk.

A major achievement of the 2019 season was the rebuilding of the Capel jetty and the extension of the Gedgrave jetty. Extensive replacement of timbers eaten by shipworm (toredo) was made possible through a grant of approximately £3,000 from the AONB and additional funding from The Association. Steps up the landward side of the Capel bank are included in this round of works. This physically demanding work, which included the inserting oak piling, was completed through the equivalent of approximately 40 volunteer/days. The Association is very grateful to the volunteer ferry team for all their hard work.

The big event at the ferry this season was the filming of "The Dig", a film based on the novel by John Preston about the personalities behind the discoveries at Sutton Hoo. Ferrymen were actively involved both in front of and behind the camera with three being used as extras, two of them as ferrymen. The money paid by the film company went to the landowners who in turn gave it to the AOET for the benefit of the estuary.

At the "Ferrymen's Lunch", which marks the end of the season, Long Service certificates for ten years' service were awarded to Stephen Worrall, Andrew Macdonald, John Bevan, John Grayburn and Brian Johnson and for fifteen years to Simon Barrow. "Ferryman of the Year" was awarded (and long overdue) to Conrad Natzio who, as well as being a ferryman, has provided unstinting help on all work parties and provides winter quarters for the ferry.

Research commissioned

No new research was commissioned but the report commissioned from Professor Pye and completed in 2016 on the possible breach in the sea shingle wall continued in active use for the policy development on the Shoreline Management Plan review.

Communication with members

As usual two newsletters, each 16 pages with many photographs, were circulated to keep members informed about what was going on in the estuary and provide items of interest on different aspects of the estuary. Sales of walks booklets continued slowly. Association stands were manned at the Butley and Orford Flower Shows to engage further with people on the work of The Association. The website was kept updated but ideas for including information on a wider range of matters were stalled as more volunteer resources are needed. Emails were also sent on matters of urgency. Further efforts have been made to encourage members to provide email addresses and to give permission for their use so as to ensure timely and much less costly circulation of matters affecting the estuary area.

The excellent talk given by the Guest Speaker at the AGM John Curtin on '2019 The year we took climate change seriously' was written up and put on the website to ensure more members could see it, as was the talk in July by Natural England on the proposals for the new Coast Path.

The role of The Association

The Association continued to work to achieve its aim to preserve the rivers and adjoining land which may affect the estuary for the public benefit. The Association seeks to keep track of proposals and ideas which may affect the estuary and its banks either positively or adversely, and to act in the interest of the continued life of the estuary. It provides a voice on the AOEP and seeks to inform members of

matters affecting the estuary overall. The Association has contributed considerably to the preservation, protection and enjoyment of the Alde, Ore and Butley river area.

But the estuary needs the support and involvement of all who live, work and visit the area, now more than ever. This is why The Association created the strapline 'Your Voice – Your Estuary' in 2018, after consulting with members.

The Association's Marketing Group action

Our aim was to plan how to achieve the necessary changes to achieve a wider membership and more active members so a marketing Group led by Simon Barrow was formed with volunteers William Eddis, Chris Gill, Frances Barnwell, Bobby Rusack, Susie Bridges and Mark Goyder. A Focus group of mostly younger people living in the area, all of whom believed in the existence of an Association to represent its members, met on 16th March facilitated by Sarah Ladbury with notes taken by Judith Golder. The report of this meeting included many strongly held views calling for change. These findings have been the subject of one feedback meeting and subsequent discussions between trustees and Marketing Group members and will result in the launch of a new plan in 2020. We are most grateful to all who have taken part in this vital work to achieve a more engaged and vibrant relationship with a broader membership.

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 members enrolled by reason of their membership of the Aldeburgh Yacht Club).

The Association expects to have 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. The Association might also give grants to other charitable organisations in order to achieve its aims.

Both unrestricted as well as restricted reserves of The Association are currently held in savings deposit accounts with CCLA, Virgin Money and current accounts at Barclays Bank.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

Members of The 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, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 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 10th February 2020



Lady Andrews, OBE
Chair of the Trustees

www.aldeandore.org

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

We welcome comments and ideas.

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

please send your email address to: info@aldeandore.org

Statement of financial activities for the year ending 31st December 2019

For general comments see Note 1.

	<i>Notes</i>	<i>Unrestricted funds £</i>	<i>Restricted funds £</i>	2019 Total funds £	2018 Total funds £
Income	2				
Membership fees and donations		31,819	-	31,819	10,418
Activities for raising funds		6,504	-	6,504	6,133
Investment income		246	3,712	3,958	3,086
Total		38,569	3,712	42,281	19,637
Expenditure	3				
Raising funds		5,951	-	5,951	5,921
Charitable activities		7,498	-	7,498	7,972
Total		13,449	-	13,449	13,893
Net income/(expenditure)		25,120	3,712	28,832	5,744
Reconciliation of funds					
Fund balances brought forward		44,550	623,802	668,352	662,608
Net movement in funds		25,120	3,712	28,832	5,744
Fund balances carried forward		69,670	627,514	697,184	668,352

Balance sheet as at 31st December 2019

	<i>Notes</i>	<i>Unrestricted funds £</i>	<i>Restricted funds £</i>	2019 Total funds £	2018 Total funds £
Fixed Assets					
Tangible assets		-	-	-	-
Intangible assets		-	-	-	-
Investments		-	-	-	-
Total Fixed Assets		-	-	-	-
Current Assets					
Stocks		-	-	-	-
Debtors		29	204	233	1,338
Cash at bank and in hand		70,387	627,310	697,697	668,261
Total Current Assets		70,416	627,514	697,930	669,598
Liabilities					
Due in less than a year	4	746	-	746	1,246
Net Assets		69,670	627,514	697,184	668,352

Approved by the Trustees and signed by:


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10th February 2020
Lady Andrews, OBE
Chair of the Trustees

The notes on pages 10 to 13 to 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 Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

In preparing the accounts, the trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102 a restatement of comparative items was needed. No restatements were required.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

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>Unrestricted funds</i> £	<i>Restricted funds</i> £	2019 Total funds £	2018 Total funds £
Income from membership fees and donations				
Membership fees	6,305	-	6,305	6,094
Membership fees from Aldeburgh Yacht Club	2,765	-	2,765	2,766
Gift Aid Refund	1,339	-	1,339	1,338
Donations and legacies	21,410	-	21,410	220
Total income from membership, donations and legacies	31,819	-	31,819	10,418
Income from other trading activities				
BBQ	2,595	-	2,595	2,237
Walks	1,106	-	1,106	435
Butley Ferry	2,733	-	2,733	3,256
Sales of publications/DVDs	70	-	70	205
Total income from other trading activities	6,504	-	6,504	6,133
Income from investments				
Interest on cash deposits	246	3,712	3,958	3,086
Total income from investments	246	3,712	3,958	3,086
Total income	38,569	3,712	42,281	19,637

Notes to the accounts (continued)

3. Expenditure

	<i>Unrestricted funds</i> £	<i>Restricted funds</i> £	2019 Total funds £	2018 Total funds £
Cost of raising funds				
BBQ Cost	2,211	-	2,211	2,226
Walks cost	809	-	809	267
Butley Ferry cost	2,931	-	2,931	3,428
Total cost of raising funds	5,951	-	5,951	5,921
Cost of Charitable Activities				
Newsletter	3,409	-	3,409	3,574
Website costs	130	-	130	153
Postage/Stationary	72	-	72	59
Miscellaneous	393	-	393	212
Consultants (Professor Pye)	560	-	560	420
Donations and grants by A&O	1,055	-	1,055	1,000
AGM	1,266	-	1,266	1,955
Independent Examination of Accounts	350	-	350	336
Insurance	263	-	263	263
Total cost of charitable activities	7,498	-	7,498	7,972
Total expenditure	13,449	-	13,449	13,893

Notes to the accounts (continued)

4. Liabilities

	<i>At 31st December 2019</i>
	£
Postage	396
Independent Examination	350
	<hr/>
Total Liabilities	746
	<hr/> <hr/>

5. Funds

	<i>At 1st January 2019</i>	<i>Incoming resources</i>	<i>Outgoing resources</i>	<i>At 31st December 2019</i>
	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds				
David Andren Bequest	623,802	3,712	-	627,514
Total restricted funds	623,802	3,712	-	627,514
Unrestricted funds				
General funds	44,550	38,569	13,449	69,670
Total unrestricted funds	44,550	38,569	13,449	69,670
Total funds	668,352	42,281	13,449	697,184

Purposes of restricted funds

The bequest from David Andren has been described in the Accounts for the sake of identification as 'restricted funds'. They are held by The Association to be applied as The Association sees fit and The Association has determined it will do so having regard to the wishes expressed in David Andren's will as follows: for the purposes of encouraging the community to help finance actions which will preserve the unique charm of the estuary, and in hope that the funds should be used to improve walls around Orford.

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 2019.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- i. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act;
or
- ii. the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Carl Page FCCA
Ensors Accountants LLP

Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

BLYTH HOUSE
RENDHAM ROAD
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IP17 1WA

Dated: 28/02/2020