

ALDE AND ORE ESTUARY PARTNERSHIP NEWS

THE ESTUARY TRUST FUNDRAISING LAUNCH

The Fund Raising team have agreed a strategy to raise £12 million to help defend the estuary. Only £1.5-2million will be available from statutory sources. The farmers have committed to raise £5million and we already have a legacy of £630,000 pledged to The Estuary Trust by the Alde and Ore Association. Fundraising for the remaining £4.4 million will involve **everyone** who lives, works and visits here. The main fundraising launch will be in the autumn when we will show a recently made film presented by Nick Robinson – full programme to come in due course. Between now and October there will be a series of events starting with a stand at the Suffolk Show (31st May - 1st June) Snape Farmers Market, Aldeburgh Carnival and Orford Flower Show.

OTHER NEWS **Aldeburgh Wall** Since the Estuary Plan was agreed last June there has been a great deal of activity on the flood defence front. The first phase of the Aldeburgh wall should be completed shortly. At the moment there is some ongoing additional work required to move water voles (rare and protected) prior to infilling a soke dyke to stabilise the new wall.



Water vole in a handling tube



Water Vole in processing bag with carrots

Images courtesy of Helen Booth from MHE Consulting Ltd

We await further hydrodynamic modelling data for the whole estuary, due in July, before any further work can continue. Once the data is available it will then be possible for the business case to be constructed which triggers the Government funding and the flood defence consents. This does mean that it may be impossible to start further work this year at Snape and Aldeburgh as the consents may not be agreed before the autumn when wet weather makes it impossible to work on the marshy ground. A frustrating delay, but necessary, if what little Government funds we can get are to be accessed and consents agreed. Phase II and III on the Aldeburgh Wall should be completed simultaneously in 2018.

Enabling development Plans are well underway with architects engaged to provide a feasibility assessment of donated sites. Sketch plans will be discussed informally with parish councils in May before any formal planning applications are progressed. The Enabling development team have spent a considerable amount of time ensuring we have architects designing good practical housing that will be as unobtrusive as possible, appropriate for the particular setting and give a range of housing from single to several houses per plot.