

THE ALDE & ORE ASSOCIATION

Maintain our Coast and River Defences



RIVER BANK ASSESSMENT FOR 2012

FLOOD CELL 8 - Ham Creek Marshes

1 Ham Creek was assessed by Richard Newman and Amanda Bettinson on 14th June 2012. The Flood Cell was approached through Blackheath House garden and the area to the right was not walked as it is mainly marshland and there are no defences. In general, these banks are in poor condition but it is a Flood Cell that the Environment Agency will no longer be funding.



2 Walking to the left along the shore line there is a natural high cliff with dense flora and fauna. An oak tree, probably at least 50 years old, has recently fallen as leaves still looking fresh, with its roots torn out of the cliff face.



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3 Natural cliff still exists with high tide mark in the sand at the toe.



4 Beginning of defences protecting Ham Creek: revetments place about ?1930. A hedge is growing on the top of the bank and considerable general shrub growth.



5 Main defences in front of Ham Creek completely collapsed, and little sign of any maintenance work. Grass very long and unable to detect any geotextiles layer underneath. Action: Discuss with Andrew Hawes to be updated on present situation.



Further view on following page.

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6 View from the top of the wall above the collapse showing Ham Creek, now meadow, with Marsh orchids (too far away for good photo and proper identification).



7 Area of path (in foreground) that over topped in 2007 surge tide. (Close to the pump station)



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8 Start of Little Japan beach with natural cliffs, overgrown and mid way along considerable number of rabbit burrows



9 Area of wall in front of Suffolk Wildlife Trust land – not walked due to long grass. Through binoculars it looked in reasonable condition. This will be walked next year in the March assessment.

