

THE ALDE & ORE ASSOCIATION

Registered Charity No. 1064789



The Association exists to preserve for the Public benefit the Alde, Ore and Butley Creek 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.

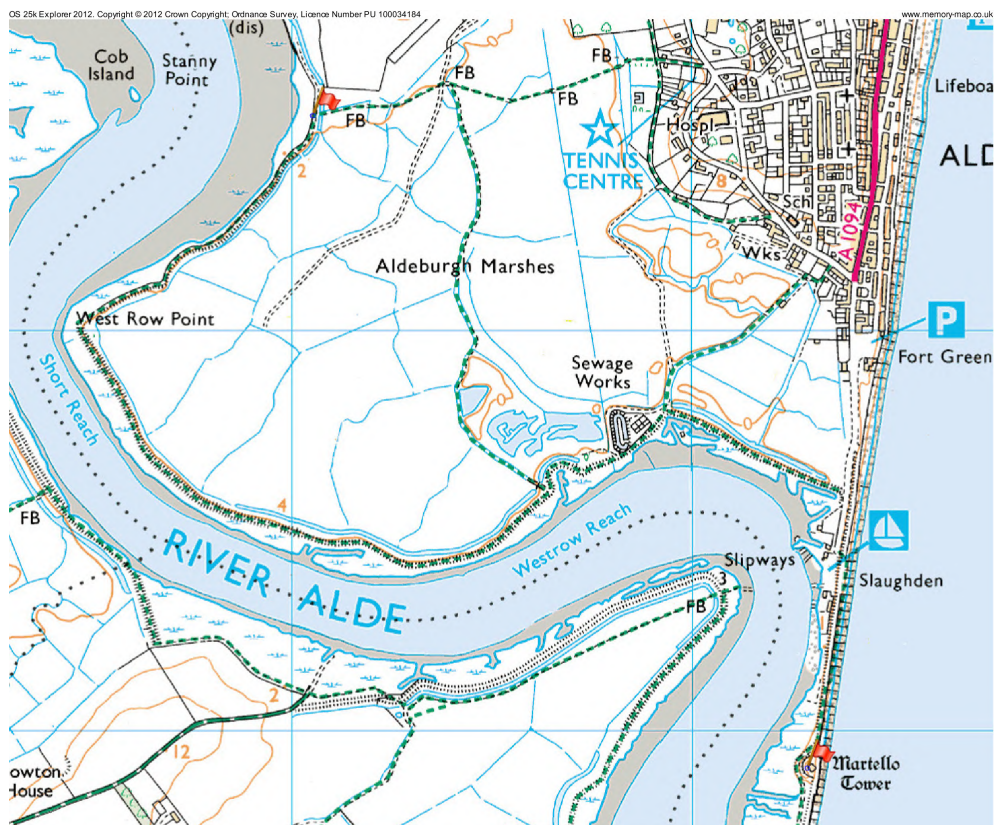
ALDE AND ORE ESTUARY ASSESSOR'S REPORT

NAME: Alison Andrews	DATE OF INSPECTION 2 April 2014
LOCATION : Flood cell 10 Brick Dock to Martello, river side TM 450565 to 463548 All map references from OS Explorer 212	MARCH/TIDAL EVENT
CO-ORDINATOR: Amanda Bettinson	Send to email: John Grayburn

Identify areas where there has been sufficient deterioration to threaten a breach and note:

- 1 Note grid reference and mark up on OS map attached
- 2 Photograph (preferably digital) areas at risk
- 3 Assess area for status of saltings (best viewed at low tide), armour (if in existence) and if high tide debris is within 2' of the river wall - as per key below

River wall inspected



CATEGORIES TO REPORT ON		
RIVER WALL /ARMOUR	SALTINGS	HIGH TIDE DEBRIS LINE
<p>Two concerns-</p> <p>1. the area reported last year below the level of the walls generally and which was overtopped in December 2013. TM460558</p> <p>2. of great concern is the long stretch of wall (TM 450564 to 459558) which was 'repaired' over 2012\13 and is showing long stretches of steep walls without vegetation, almost vertical walls. All of that has been compounded by destructive mowing undertaken in November 2013 which has not only scraped off grass in places but broken down the wooden boarding bordering the hoggin path</p>	<p>Nothing to report on saltings projects: one not yet completed and for the other, at the Iona site, it is early days except to say that loose sea weed and green algae are covering the hazel faggots.</p>	<p>Debris from the 5/6 December 2013 surge remains as it was, slightly slipped down, as in December. Around the Brick Dock curve this means close to top all along. For the rest of the wall mostly one foot below except where overtopping took place near Slaughden.</p> <p>The winter and March tides debris all lie at the base of the walls and in most areas lie quite thickly, some smothering the saltings for a 2-3 yard width</p>

Report and comments

General comment_ No repairs done since the report last April but this report reviews, one year on, the state of the poor works on most of the walls done over 2012/13.

The repair to the armour facing Brick Dock curve done in 2011 is standing up well. Only one broken link in evidence. The tar has sunk between the blocks but is holding in well.

Walls:

A. Repaired stretch (TM 450564 to 459558)

A 1. Footpath- several places where the bordering wood planks have been broken.

Photos show

Hoggin spreading down the back



Messy mix path and works tracks in the area behind the river wall. That tack damage was done originally by the big works in 2012/13 and made worse by the November 2013 grass cutting.



A 2. Bare face of upper wall : for some 150 plus yards the vegetation has not grown from the top of the path side down the bank to a depth of at least one foot, more in places, as the slope is too steep. This problem occurs on both the river and land side of the path. This endangers the holding capacity of the wall should it be overtopped. All this applies where the poor work was done, including making the new width of the path cover the top of the wall, in 2012/13
Photos, first two show the bare wall between TM 44556 and 456555



A.3 Third photo shows where the bank is cracking along its length and beginning to slide down, the start of more serious erosion. (Note photo is taken looking directly down but the wall is in fact almost vertical in profile.)



A.4 near vertical back/land ward slope of almost 1/5th of a mile of river wall TM445561 - 459564. In some places, in the distance on the photo below, the slope :height of bank ratio is near to 1 in 3 and clearly while there is some grass there are bare patches which would not withstand overtopping, just as steep slopes failed at Hazlewood marshes



B. Previously reported problems:

B.1 Bare face of wall previously reported. This 20 yard long stretch is protected from the river by saltings but the erosion is increasing and in one place is beginning to undercut the path **TM**



B2. Rear of bank at Aldeburgh pump. The land behind continues to remain muddy and wet long after all other parts of the walls have dried out. There is evidence of slumping near the base, hidden in the vegetation. (recently cleared by EA to get a better look which is good)



B.3 Slumped wall on the most walked stretch between Slaughden and the steps TM 460558
This part was overtopped in the December 2-13 surge. It dips below the rest of the wall and suffers a lot of heavy walking wear.



C. New issues

C.1 Pump at 'West Row Point as marked on OS TM454560 Some work must have been done on the pump and is not yet finished or has been left as a complete mess.



D . Stretch down to Martello from Slaughden- the damage this winter has been principally on the seaward side, despite the land ward side being underwater during the surge. On the sea ward side between Martello and the Aldeburgh Yacht Club, the shingle has largely disappeared and the reduction in the width of the bank is moving northwards even in April. It is worth noting that the problem area is the stretch from which old groynes were dug out to a considerable depth in 2013 which involved shifting huge quantities of shingle which had been well settled as well as replenished over the last 20 years.

Use these boxes to add
your own observations.

