

# **Constitution for the AOCPP**

## **A. NAME**

The title of the partnership is the Alde and Ore Community Partnership.

## **B. CONTEXT**

In 2012, the Alde and Ore Estuary Partnership (AOEP) was established to develop an estuary wide plan for the enhancement of the river walls protecting the area from flooding. In 2013, a charity was formed, the Alde and Ore Estuary Trust (AOET), to facilitate fundraising for the works. The Alde and Ore Estuary Plan (the Plan) was endorsed by all relevant statutory authorities and published in 2016.

In 2017, the East Suffolk Internal Drainage Board (ESIDB) accepted responsibility for the implementation and delivery of the construction works for river wall enhancement set out in the Plan.

The AOEP was dissolved in December 2019 and in its place the Alde and Ore Community Partnership (AOCPP) was established as a voluntary, unincorporated, community association.

The new partnership is not a flood defence authority. It can consult with the relevant parties and advocate for its community, but does not have any statutory powers.

## **C. THE OBJECTIVES OF THE PARTNERSHIP ARE:-**

a. To provide representation and a voice for the local community and act as guardian of the Estuary Plan, in relation to its implementation and any further development, enhancement or alteration of the estuary flood defence strategy and any related activities set out in the Plan or otherwise approved from time to time.

b. To engage with the relevant statutory and funding bodies so as to facilitate good and comprehensive channels of communications with local residents and stakeholders with an interest in or affected by the implementation of the Estuary Plan.

## **D. MEMBERSHIP**

The Partnership comprises representatives nominated by each of the following:-

a. The following Town Council, Parish Council or Parish Meeting, wholly or partly within the flood area, are entitled to nominate a representative, namely

Aldeburgh  
Boyton  
Friston  
Butley, Capel St Andrew and Wantisden  
Chillesford  
Hollesey  
Iken  
Orford and Gedgrave  
Snape  
Sudbourne  
Tunstall

The representative nominated may, but need not be, a parish councillor.

b. Two councillors or representatives nominated by the East Suffolk District Council

- c. One councillor or representative nominated by Suffolk County Council
- d. One representative nominated by The East Suffolk Internal Drainage board
- e. One representative nominated by the Alde and Ore Association
- f. One representative nominated by the local business community

Each individual shall serve for up to five years and shall be eligible for further appointment on an annual basis no more than twice. The Partnership may co-opt no more than two additional members for such periods or purposes as it may decide.

## **E. CARRYING OUT THE OBJECTIVES**

In order to carry out the Objectives, the Partnership will:-

- a. Establish and maintain communications channels to provide timely and relevant information and feedback with the communities affected.
- b. Work with the relevant statutory authorities and funding bodies to progress the Objectives. Officers from such bodies will be invited to attend meetings in an advisory capacity as necessary.
- c. Review progress of the works and seek answers or actions where necessary on behalf of the communities affected.
- d. Review responsibilities set out in the Plan but not included in the programme of works and decide on future action in the light of any review's conclusions.
- e. Where modifications are required, work in consultation with the relevant statutory and funding bodies to assist in identifying appropriate and affordable steps for the protection of local communities and the houses, land, businesses, heritage assets and environmental considerations including wildlife affected by potential flooding from the Alde/Ore Estuary.
- f. Where significant change becomes necessary, convene a meeting of the relevant statutory and funding bodies to decide on a strategy, propose the lead party or group to take matters forward, and modify the Plan if necessary. Changes will be put to the Partnership for approval.
- g. Adopt such policies and procedures as may be necessary for the effective operation of the Partnership.

## **F. POWERS**

The Partnership may

- a. work with other local bodies and charities in pursuit of its purpose
- b. open a bank account
- c. Take such other steps as are lawful and consistent with this constitution to give effect to the Objectives.

## **G. OFFICERS**

- a. The Officers shall be  
Chairman  
Vice Chairman  
Treasurer  
Secretary
- b. Officers shall be elected by the partnership for the periods chosen by the partnership, but not exceeding five continuous years

## **H. SUBGROUPS OR COMMITTEES**

- a. The Partnership may appoint sub committees or groups which will report to full meetings of the Partnership.
- b. The composition of such groups and their remit will be as agreed by the Partnership, but will each include the chair or vice-chair or an individual appointed to lead the group and report to the chair.

c. The Partnership may make reasonable additional rules for the remit, proper conduct and management of such groups which must not conflict with this constitution.

#### I. MONEY

- a. Funds must be held in the Partnership's bank account. All cheques must be signed by two Officers.
- b. Funds cannot be used to pay members of the partnership except to refund legitimate expenses.
- c. Funds and property must only be used for the purposes of the partnership.

#### J. MEETINGS

- a. **Ordinary Meetings** will be held by the Secretary giving not less than fourteen days' notice.
- b. **Special General Meetings** may be called by the Chairman or at the request of not fewer than 10 representatives, on not less than fourteen days' notice.
- c. **Emergency Meetings** may be called by the Chairman giving not less than three working days' notice.
- d. **Annual General Meetings** shall be held at intervals of not less than 18 months.

#### K. PROCEDURE

- a. All meetings will be held in public save where confidential matters are under consideration.
- b. Meetings may be held in person or electronically, provided all participants may communicate with all other participants.
- c. Minutes of meetings will be taken by the secretary or a substitute appointed by the Chairman.
- d. Notice of meetings and other correspondence may be by email save there the Partnership agrees otherwise.

#### L. DECISIONS

Members will seek to achieve consensus through discussion. Any vote will be by a simple majority of members in attendance with the exception of proposals to alter or amend the Constitution, in which case decisions will require an absolute majority of all representatives.

#### M. QUORUM

The quorum for a meeting shall be not less than eight members.

#### N. WINDING UP

The group may be wound up by a two thirds majority of members present and voting at a Special General Meeting. Any money or property remaining after payment of debts must be given to a group with similar, not for profit, purposes.

This constitution was adopted on \_\_\_\_\_ 2020\_\_ by the people whose signatures appear below. They will be the Officers until the first AGM, which must be held within one year of this date.

**Signed**

**Print name and address**

\_\_\_\_\_

12 October 2020 final