

### 1. £65,000 invested across 25 AONB Community Projects

Funds from planning agreements, the AONBs Sustainable Development Fund and a small scale AONB grant fund have been distributed to communities, charities and organisations across the AONBs. The grant panels were really impressed with the standard of projects proposed and look forward to grants being spent to achieve AONB aims and objectives. Further information at: <http://www.suffolkcoastandheaths.org/grants-and-funding/> and <http://www.dedhamvalestourvalley.org/grants-and-funding/>

A further round of the Sustainable Development Fund will be held to distribute the remaining funds. Closing date of 21 June. Further info on AONB websites.

### 2. Dates for your diary:

7 May 2016 Bioblitz and Family Nature Day at Tiger Hill Nature Reserve  
12 May 2016 Dedham Vale AONB and Stour Valley Forum: Landscape Wonders  
15 May 2016 Trimley Marshes Open Day  
17 May 2016 Suffolk Coast Ltd Annual Conference  
28-30 June Landscapes for Life conference: Health and Wellbeing  
6 July 2016 Stour and Orwell Forum  
24 Sept 2016 Anglo Saxon Rendlesham

### 3. Undergrounding Low Voltage Power Cables via an Ofgem Allowance

There is currently approval for schemes at Flatford and Shingle Street, a further 3 schemes are being developed (where the consultation process is underway) and development work being undertaken in a two more schemes (Polstead and the Blyth Estuary). We still need new ideas for this opportunity to make significant landscape enhancements to our fantastic nationally designated AONBs. For further schemes to be delivered before this round of funding gets cut off we need to take potential schemes to a panel by June 2017. Please call the AONB office if you have ideas relating to undergrounding low voltage power cables.

### 4. Suffolk Coast & Heaths AONB Boundary Review

Natural England, the Government body able to review AONB boundaries, presented an update of their work to the AONB Partnership in April. Background work into assessing the landscape continues and an update can be seen on AONB website at: <http://www.suffolkcoastandheaths.org/about-us/aonb-boundary-review/>

### 5. Fantastic newspapers

The well-received AONB newspapers for the Spring Summer period can be downloaded from:  
<http://www.dedhamvalestourvalley.org/publications/dedham-vale-and-stour-valley-newspaper/>  
<http://www.suffolkcoastandheaths.org/publications/aonb-newspaper/>

### 6. Dedham Vale AONB and Stour Valley Management Plan

The Plan has nearly completed its endorsement phase. Info at  
<http://www.dedhamvalestourvalley.org/about-us/aonb-management-plan/2016-2021-management-plan/>

### 7. Extension to Sandlings Walk

The route now starts/ends at Southwold Pier and is signed on the ground.

### 8. Essex Wildlife Trust Barn Owl webcam 2016

A 'must see' at <http://www.essexwt.org.uk/barn-owl-webcam>

### 9. Landscape Photograph of Year

Our fantastic AONBs would make an excellent subject for this annual event: <http://www.take-a-view.co.uk/>

### 10. Touching the Tide

The superb Landscape Partnership Scheme is drawing to a close. Get to one of their events while you can:  
<http://www.touchingthetide.org.uk/events/?url=/events>

### 11. Stour Valley Environment Network: Family Nature Days

Over 50 families enjoyed hand on nature activities run by various outdoor education providers at Flatford See <http://www.dedhamvalestourvalley.org/about-us/events/flatford-nature-days-2016/> for more days

### 12. AONB Volunteers:

3 new Constable Country Rangers  
Coast & Estuary Warden Induction held  
Conservation Volunteers active in both AONBs and Project Areas

Simon Amstutz, AONB Manager, 29 April 2016

[www.suffolkcoastandheaths.org](http://www.suffolkcoastandheaths.org) [www.dedhamvalestourvalley.org](http://www.dedhamvalestourvalley.org)