

CALEY GREEN: A SELECTION OF RESIDENTS' COMMENTS RECEIVED BY PARISH COUNCIL ILLUSTRATING A WIDE VARIETY OF VIEWS

I urge you to have the bare minimum of planting as possible, and the maximum wooden revetment as possible to deal with the issues faced.

I would be in favour of a jetty somewhere along the Green, as I often see people sitting in their kayaks etc sliding themselves into the river. This obviously would cause erosion over time, so having a specific place to launch river craft will help reduce this.

I would also just like to say thank you for all the hard work that has gone into finding a solution for the Caley Green issues. It has become a very emotive subject, and no matter what views you have, I think we can all appreciate the time and effort that has gone into finding a viable option.

I find it very difficult to give many comments until I have a proper set of details however I will make a couple of points

1. I am happy to have a Jetty/portage and I think it should be placed as near to the ditch as possible, this will stop reeds growing at the end of the ditch

2. I am completely against the planting of any reeds we already have a mass of them running up the west side of the river some 10'high 10'wide and what a mess, completely hides our beautiful river although the parish were promised that we would be able to fish from there it will also spoil my view (I live opposite). I was promised by James Finch that my view wouldn't be spoilt.

I have always been a supporter of Parish Councils as they are the grassroots of local councils. In this instance it seems that this local council have not really made note of the wishes of the majority of people with regard to the above. Rather high handed in fact. Not being able to physically attend meetings and not very adept at attaining events on my lpad, am a little worried about what will eventually take place.

There seems a lack of what the Council are really planning to do, despite the fact that we want the Green to remain very much as it is with repairs made to the bank near the very much used seat.

Some planting, no rushes, but pleasant wild plants not growing too high.

Please keep our Green as we all know and love. Repair where necessary but not make it is more accessible to more river traffic.

I am writing – as a Nayland resident and occasional canoeist and paddle boarder – in support of the proposed jetty at Caley Green, the jetty would be a suitable platform for children to experience river dipping or simply to feed the ducks. It should also be noted that this is the only launch point between Bures and Stratford St Mary that is

both public and easily accessible to people wishing to exercise the right of navigation on the river. This is all the more important as I understand the Anchor no longer welcomes river users to its pontoon unless they already have a booking at the pub.

As a resident living adjacent to, and overlooking, the area in question for over 35 years I am very aware how rapidly the 'bank' has been falling into the channel during the last 5 or 6 years.

There was already a minor amount of erosion on the outside of the meander which was evident by the collapse of the old landing stage. However the rate of the erosion accelerated noticeably following the removal of natural vegetation growing in the channel and along its margins. I therefore fully support proposals to reinstate the edge of the bank and agree that it's necessary to plant suitable waterside vegetation to help to absorb the power of the flow on the outside of the meander. Due to the rapid rate of the erosion it's surely obvious that doing nothing is no longer option.

I do not consider the appearance of stone filled metal gabions or a continuous oak revetment would appropriate for a rural setting, especially one in an AONB which celebrates the Stour itself. I prefer a solution such as coir rolls or aqua logs that will in time, and with sympathetic planting, result in the area returning to a rural appearance. Replacing the timber landing stage will facilitate the launching and landing of canoes etc and should help to prevent damage occurring all along the bank which happens at the moment. However I'm happy to accept a decision made by the Environment Agency, the ecologists from Suffolk County Council, and the Parish Council.

As a household we have purposely not got involved in any of the discussions concerning Caley Green as we felt that we were far enough away not to be affected by any of these proposed changes. However, we do believe that serious consideration should be given before agreeing to provide any sort of portage point at Caley Green There is no doubt whatsoever that a jetty (or portage) is a real 'honeypot' and will attract many different groups of people - including fishermen, picnickers and boaters but unfortunately it will attract some 'louts and undesirables' who are prone to sit on the jetty to drink and play very loud music. I say this through experience of living opposite one particularly during the last 2 or 3 summers. In addition there are often unpleasant exchanges of words between the boating people who want to use the portage and the people sitting on the jetty who just want to picnic, sunbathe or use it as a diving platform!!

It seems incredible that we want to attract more people from outside the village. Unlike Dedham we have none of the necessary facilities. The only people to really suffer from a new portage point will be the adjoining properties – and ironically the visitors who want to use the river to go boating.

I wish to submit officially my objection to the Parish Council's proposal to install seeded or planted coir to protect the bay at Caley Green from future erosion or for use of any additional planting there. I have previously stated many reasons for my views, verbally and in previous correspondence. There are many other viable alternatives to prevent erosion of the riverbank. However, on a personal note, as a

person who is disabled, this part of Caley Green is the only riverside area in the village I am able to access and enjoy. The openness of the area is important in order the wider view of the riverside surroundings, the wildlife and other activities can be enjoyed. Any planting will impair that severely.

I have been following the Caley Green bay issue with interest. I am now minded to write to you in response to the propaganda we have all received through the post. I am not in favour of receiving a pre-printed response postcard with only one opinion on it, that of the dissenting campaigners. In response to the comments and photographs on the information leaflet sent I prefer the views with planted vegetation that those without. The former seems more natural, the latter rather artificial and urban. I am not sure that the bullet points have any merit beyond personal opinion. In particular I am not sure that interaction between humans and wildfowl is in the best interests of the wildfowl, or humans for that matter. Easy access to the river for children has the potential for disaster. I confirm that I am in favour of placing the natural world before human desires and for environmental experts to recommend the best way forward.

We do not support the use of planting vegetation as the means of preventing future erosion in the bay area of Caley Green. It seems that the existing plants and reeds are taking over many areas of the river without being maintained to provide free traffic movement. Whilst being very aware of wildlife issues it appears that there are plenty of 'natural' areas on the river.

We need a substantial area of free access for boats, anglers and anyone just taking pleasure in what nature has to offer. This must include an uninterrupted view of a beautiful river which cannot be achieved from other places on the bank.

A more permanent solution, even if more expensive, is needed to prevent erosion and to give us back the river as it used to be. With very little maintenance happening these days this would surely prove cost effective in the long run while giving the villagers the access and view they enjoy at present. We therefore support the use of replacing and extending the existing oak revetments or using aqua log rolls or something similar.