

Appendix 1

Marine Aggregate Environmental Assessment Stakeholder Workshop.

Held on 8th Sept at Riverside centre.

This was organised by the AODA Anglian Offshore Dredging Association as a PR exercise in order to open up a line of communication with the dredging industry and the local community.

There were 6 people present, 2 from Covehithe, 1 from Dunwich, Orford, Leiston and Walberswick.

The workshop was a series of questions which we discussed and added further questions to go back to the AODA.

Some examples would be what do you see are the challenges and issues that marine sand and gravel extraction bring to the area? We were all agreed that it was very difficult to find any credible research on the effects of dredging offshore on the marine and coastal environment and that we would like to see any studies that may have been done on this. Why have the Dutch stopped offshore dredging? 50cm thick of material removed, 11 million tons a year. Without good science it was difficult to hold a good argument and reduced to an emotional one. We felt that it would be better to adopt a precautionary principal.

We looked at the economic benefits which seemed to be quite small as 40% is exported. We wanted a cost comparison between and land and marine extraction. We wanted to know what other North Sea territory permits dredging so close to shore. We wanted a cost comparison between inland and marine extraction.

There will be a 2 sided summary based on our session and the one at Winterton which will come out in November.

A full list of the questions and information on offshore dredging will be added to the circulars.