



27 March 2024

Mission statement

Purposes / objectives

- to provide regular, organised, sociable group paddles for novice and intermediate level paddlers on the River Deben (and on occasional trips to other similar rivers), led and supported by appropriately qualified experienced paddlers
- to provide formal training courses for beginning and improving paddlers, to allow them to participate confidently in the group paddles described above
- to provide a range of further training opportunities for club members, to bring them to a level which will allow them to (i) paddle independently of the club in sheltered waters (and to recognise conditions where it would not be safe for them to paddle independently) and (ii) pursue more advanced training with other training providers
- to provide a range of further training opportunities for those club members who are interested in obtaining formal Paddle UK coaching or leadership qualifications, to bring them to a level where they can confidently approach Paddle UK's formal assessments
- to provide opportunities within the club for all members with coaching and leadership qualifications to make effective use of their skills and enthusiasm to lead paddles and to deliver training to other club members
- to provide a forum where suitably experienced members can organise their own paddles independently of the club

Future plans

- we recognise that there remains considerable work to do simply to deliver the club's existing purposes and objectives, as listed above
- we would like to encourage more younger members to participate in the club, in all roles (ordinary members, coaches and leaders, committee members)
- we would like to offer training and trips on more demanding water - whitewater, sea trips, etc

Priorities

- maintaining a full programme of activities to encourage beginners, novices and improvers to enjoy our beautiful home waters on the Deben
- provide training for club members to become competent independent paddlers, competent members of groups, coaches and leaders as they wish
- to ensure that all training meets current best practice
- to demonstrate good practice in leadership and coaching in all club activities
- to have a comprehensive safety framework for the club that covers all activities that the club may take part in, both on the Deben and elsewhere.