

1) Email correspondence between DEFRA officials with respect to the issue

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 29 October 2014 10:31
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Ilott, Terence (Defra); [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Morston mussel

[REDACTED],
Thank you.

[REDACTED], could you please make [REDACTED] aware of this issue that the fishermen have raised? It would be good if he could tell us whether the problem with silt is something they know about already and if there is any action taken in relation to that.

This is not urgent but I understand that EDP is preparing another article on this so there might be questions once the article has been published. I have also included the link to another relevant article below.

Thank you

[REDACTED]
[http://www.edp24.co.uk/news/historical part of fishing industry set to disappear 1 3819574](http://www.edp24.co.uk/news/historical%20part%20of%20fishing%20industry%20set%20to%20disappear%201%203819574)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 29 October 2014 10:07
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Ilott, Terence (Defra); [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Morston mussel

[REDACTED]
I would start with [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

He leads the inshore work and can check with the relevant case officer

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 October 2014 17:29
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] Ilott, Terence (Defra); [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Morston mussel

[REDACTED]

Thank you. Yes, you are right, the problem with silt and its effect on the Morston mussels seems to be a recurring issue.

Based on the article I saw that was published two years ago (link below), the solid material might be the result of flooding/rain waters transferring it from the terrestrial environment, or dredging that happens in the nearby area. For the former, I guess your chat with EA might cover that. For the dredging activity, I am ccing [REDACTED] who I hope knows who from MMO could tell us if the licence for the relevant dredging activity/harbour has taken into account the impact dredging will have on the mussel grounds.

Thank you

[REDACTED]

http://www.edp24.co.uk/news/morston_mussel_fisherman_says_silt_is_hitting_his_s_hellfish_harvest_1_1674675

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 October 2014 16:14
To: [REDACTED] Evans, Sam CBE (Defra); [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Morston mussel

Hi All

No comments from me on whats proposed.

[REDACTED] – this issue keeps coming up, could you raise it with MMO ? I will raise it with EA again as well.

[REDACTED]

2) Email correspondence sent to DEFRA officials from the Shellfish Association of Great Britain (SAGB) and Mr Mark Randell.

From: David Jarrad [mailto:david@shellfish.org.uk]

Sent: 01 November 2012 09:34

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: FW: Blakeney Harbour Mussel Society.

[REDACTED]

One of our members, Blakeney Harbour Mussel Society, ([REDACTED]) contacted me yesterday regarding very significant losses of mussels on the cultivated lays that are subject to a Several Order. The suspicion is that the losses are as a result of the dredging activity being carried out as part of the wind farm development in the vicinity. This naturally is challenging to prove, however the SO should offer some protection. Future activities could also cause further problems.

A survey carried out as part of the AA for the dredging activity suggested that the plume of sediment would not cause any effect on the mussel beds.

Below you will see a rough and ready resume of the position.

Any help/thoughts you can offer will be of great assistance.

Many thanks and look forward to hearing from you.

Best regards

David L Jarrad

Director

The Shellfish Association of Great Britain

From: Mark Randell [REDACTED]

Sent: 31 October 2012 18:48

To: david@shellfish.org.uk

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: Re: Blakeney Harbour Mussel Society.

Hello David.

Our Several Order was granted on 15th August 1966 for a period of 60 years.

The Several Order is available to view on the internet under ' Blakeney Harbour Several order'

I have also been checking dates and information.

The Scoping Report drawn up by Royal Haskoning in 2008 looks interesting. (This is available on the Wells Harbour Commisioners website) especially page 6. Impact identification, item 5.1

This identifies strong currents to the east around High Tide from Wells Harbour.

The report also gives good background on the project as a whole.

Regards Mark

From: David Jarrad

Sent: Wednesday, October 31, 2012 2:56 PM

To: 'Mark Randell'

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Blakeney Harbour Mussel Society.

Hi Mark

Can you please confirm the dates of inception of the Several Order? And how much longer it has to run?

Best regards

David L Jarrad

Director

The Shellfish Association of Great Britain

From: Mark Randell [REDACTED]
Sent: 31 October 2012 14:00
To: David Jarrad
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Blakeney Harbour Mussel Society.

Hello David.

Thank you for your time to discuss our concerns this morning.

I have summarised our situation in bullet points below as requested.

There are four fisherman currently producing quality Mussels in a sustainable manner within the Blakeney Harbour

Production has been maintained for generations, sand has been an issue for many years but to a manageable degree .

2008/9 Proposals and agreement for dredging works within Wells Harbour to facilitate extended periods of use for Windfarm boat traffic.

Concerns raised by BHMS regarding silt moving east the 3-4 miles into Blakeney harbour.

These were discounted by Scira Surveyors (Royal Esconi ?). Their results said that silt would settle within 200m of dredging site.

2011 Increased levels of sand becoming more evident in Blakeney Harbour

2012 Extremely increased levels of sand causing upto 90% losses of 2012 harvestable mussel stock (range between fisherman is 40% to 90% losses)

Our question is, is this natural due to weather patterns or due to Dredging operations locally.

At present Wells Harbour and Scira seem unconnected to our concerns and request for clarification.

The final nail in our possible coffin is the proposals now being processed by Blakeney Parish Council to dredge the Quay area upstream of us to remove the build up of sand.

This would surely compound our situation.

Your assistance in seeking clarification on these issues would be greatly appreciated.
Obviously please contact me for any further information you may require.

Regards Mark Randell.