

RIVER STOUR TRUST COUNCIL

CANDIDATE ELECTION STATEMENTS 2025

RE-ELECTION (retired by rotation and offer themselves for re-election)

PAUL BREWERTON

I have been an active member of the Trust since 2014 and have been a member of Council since 2016. I am currently chairman of the Trust Council and arrange crews for midweek and weekend charters at the Sudbury end of the river. I am also a member and former chairman of SBOC (Sudbury Boat Operations Committee).

My passion however is for crewing the trip boats, and I love meeting our customers, whether locals or visitors to the area, and showing them our river and telling them something of its history.

I believe I have done a good job as a Council member for the last few years and as chairman since 2019. I was active alongside others in the negotiations to secure a lease for Dedham lock and I would welcome the opportunity to continue to serve.

JIM LUNN

I am offering myself for re-election to the Council of Trustees for the RST. I have attended Council meetings on a regular basis over the years, and I hope that I have shown due diligence towards my duties, including facilitating First Aid for all volunteers and holding the licence for the Granary Bar.

Over the years, I have enjoyed being an active volunteer such as being on the boats and helping at events, training new boating recruits, digitising our photographic archive and giving talks about the river and its history.

I always have the best interests of the Trust at heart and will continue to support the Trust either as a Director or as a volunteer.

STEVE DURHAM

I've been a health and safety professional for over thirty years in the maritime ports and merchant shipping sector, with the last fourteen years of my career at Trinity House. I joined RST in 2018 and I'm a Trustee, DVB Committee member, Skipper and regularly help with the River Maintenance Group. I have strived to ensure RST meets the challenges it faces; adapts to change; and as is reasonably practicable, compliant with its health and safety and environmental legal requirements; advising Council and developing workable and affordable policies accordingly. I'm also a qualified skills assessor and have been instrumental in developing our boat operations CPD system to comply with IWA COBM standards.

I stand for re-election as a Trustee, as I've always been impressed by the dedication of its volunteers and I'm committed to ensure RST a long and prosperous future.

NOMINATED FOR ELECTION (nominated/co-opted and offer themselves for election)

STEVE GIUDICI

I am currently Chair of SBOC. I joined RST because of its core mission, to protect Stour and its navigation. After being involved with Designated Bathing Water Team am part of group that does monthly Riverfly Monitoring and Water Testing. I take a pro-active approach on all aspects and organised winter storage when we were left without a facility, help lead the boat maintenance team each year and this year organised and oversaw desilting of the Granary Cut. I look forward to continue working in same way if retained on Council and being involved wherever I can gainfully contribute.

RICHARD BLAY

I am fairly well known in the Trust having been an active member for four years, a volunteer skipper, and a previous Trustee. Two and a half years ago I set up the River Maintenance Group (RMG) and have since managed this group to maintain RST sites and the river navigation on the lower Stour.