

# Notice of Appointments to the Navigation Advisory Committee

The currently appointed membership of the Navigation Advisory Committee and the areas of interest they are deemed to cover in accordance with the Middle Level Act 2018 comprises of the following:

The members were chosen as it was considered that they represented particularly well the local and national interest of users of the Middle Level Navigation.

## **John Revell Inland Waterways Association (a) – (f)**

John is the IWA representative for the Eastern Region.

I have been a member of the Inland Waterways Association (IWA) since 1971 and I have been an active boater all my life. My much travelled narrowboat is moored in Fox's marina in March. I live in Suffolk and I boat throughout the year including long trips to the main canal system.

## **Alan Wildman Residential Boat Owners Association (b) Chair - Middle Level Commissioners Navigation Advisory Committee**

Having lived aboard a narrowboat on the river Stort for around 15 years, my wife and I moved to the Norfolk Broads in 2019. We still live here on The Broads, on a 45' Connoisseur (Broads Cruiser).

Our principal reason for living aboard is very much one of lifestyle – we love the water, the wildlife, the fascinating skies, the boats and, of course, most boat people.

We joined the Residential Boat Owners' Association (RBOA) in 2003 and I have served on the Committee for many years, around six of which were as Chairman. I am still on Committee with specific interest in The Broads and The Fenland Middle Levels.

As one might expect, although now semi-retired from full time working, I continue to support living afloat in all its many forms; but I do believe those of us who choose to do so have a duty to show consideration in our way of life; and not impinge upon other waterway users' enjoyment. We need to promote "responsible live-aboard boating". We must commit to being legally compliant, paying our way and should do our very best to promote and protect the waterways on which we are so fortunate to live. We must work unstintingly to educate people, to generate understanding that our way of life goes back hundreds of years and that we are, in fact, of considerable benefit to the waterways on which we reside.

I am proud to have supported The Middle Level Bill, privately and on behalf of RBOA, and am delighted to have been given the opportunity to represent RBOA on the Navigation Advisory Committee. In short, I am proud to be associated with the Middle Level Commissioners, a most forward-thinking Navigation Authority.



**Nathan Arnold Environment Agency (c)**

Nathan is part of the Environment Agency's (EA) Waterways team that manages the navigation either side of the Middle Level Waters. The EA has encouraged the development of close working relationships between neighbouring navigation authorities to help deliver easy and accessible cross border arrangements for boaters and other river users.

**Chris Middleton Environment Agency (Fisheries) (d)**

As a Technical Specialist this person represents angling interests which are a significant other interest on Middle Level Water. The Environment Agency are the national body in control of rod licencing and also monitor the health and fish stocks of waters including those within the Middle Level.



**Paula Syred Fox's Narrowboats Ltd (e), (a) – (d)**

As a marina owner Paula has an interest in commercial aspects on Middle Level Waters, is a land owner with relevant interests and has links to multiple vessel owners within Middle Level waters.

In various roles within British Marine this person has a working knowledge of other Navigation Authorities.



**Phil Hughes Fenland District Council (d), (f)**

Fenland District Council is the local authority for the area supporting local amenities such as parks, whilst also managing temporary residential moorings in March and Whittlesey.

Phil Hughes is a representative for Fenland District Council at Officer Level.



**Councillor Dee Laws Fenland District Councillor (and Board Member appointed by Fenland District Council) (d), (f)**

Fenland District Council is the local authority for the area supporting local amenities such as parks, whilst also managing temporary residential moorings in March and Whittlesey.

Dee Laws is a representative for Fenland District Council at Councillor Level.



**Roger Sexton East Anglian Waterways Association (c)**

I lived beside the old course of the river Nene at March during my early years, I had a holiday job with the Middle Level Commissioners assisting with survey work for the forthcoming up-grading of their system. This created a lifelong interest in the Fenland Drainage schemes. My involvement with navigation evolved with me becoming a founder member of Well Creek Trust, IWA Membership and Office and currently chairing the East Anglian Waterways Association. I currently am involved in various Environment Agency committee activities. I am now retired from a career in agriculture and now spend my spare times managing family property. I am also a riparian owner.



**Councillor Steve Corney – Ramsey Town Councillor (a) (c) (d) (f)**

Steve is a Huntingdonshire District Council Councillor, Ramsey Town Councillor and a boat owner. His interests include promoting improved navigation facilities in and around Ramsey town, tourism together with boat owner and user interests.



**Mike Daines – Middle Level Watermens Club (a) (c)**  
**Vice Chair - Middle Level Commissioners Navigation Advisory Committee**

Mike is a resident of March and moors his narrowboat 'Lion' in the town on the River Nene (old course). He has extensively travelled the English canal system and likes nothing better than to get out on Lion and explore the wide-open spaces of the Middle Level.

Mike is the nominee appointed to represent the Middle Level Watermen's Club (MLWC) and its members interests. The MLWC is located in March on the edge of the River Nene Old Course and is a self-help club with a club house with limited moorings and a second site with a slip way for use by members and guests.

"I love our local waterways and have a strong passion to protect and help preserve its environments and abundant wildlife".



**Paul Mather – Well Creek Trust (a) – (f)**

Paul lives in the village of Upwell on Well Creek, where he has a boat moored, and has been an active boater all his life having had several boats, (sailing and power) around the UK. Paul has also worked as a professional skipper and RYA instructor on sailing vessels.

Paul sits on the committee of the Well Creek Trust (WCT), the organisation which helped save Well Creek from being infilled in the late 1960's and early 1970's. The Well Creek Trust is a registered charity whose role is to help enhance Well Creek as a natural feature, and for the benefit of all its users.

Well Creek runs between Marmont Priory Lock and Salter's Lode, acting as the link route between the River Nene, the Middle Levels - to the River Great Ouse, its tributaries, and to the Wash and beyond.



**Stephen Whittome**



**Marc Heading**

Mr J Brown (the MLC Chairman), Mr M Heading and Mr S Whittome are Middle Level Board members who sit on the Committee so that they can understand what the NAC is looking for and why and to provide good communication links between the NAC and Board.

The Chief Executive, Navigation Officer and Lead Clerk sit on the Board and report and advise the Board but will not be involved in any voting.

Current as 11 August 2025