

# The River Crouch Conservation Trust

27<sup>th</sup> July 2010

## A View from the River and Pollution Case No 3

Our May Work Party went extremely well with ten helpers we pulled out of the river another trailer load of tyres etc. which I ran over to Basildon Council who disposed of them free of charge. The grain trailer I used is five ton capacity, it may be said we have now cleared the river of 15 tons of rubbish.



We put a trial weir in the river, the gravel was very dense, but eventually we completed the task within minutes it was working 10" is all it needs. The water backed up and it flowed over the weir oxidising the water and cleaning the gravel unfortunately the whole structure came floating past my office window four days later!

The case against Anglia Water ended Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> on The Crown Court. Anglia Water Services were fined £25,000 and £25,000 costs. I have asked the judge for my own costs of £4,500. Water test a top expert and report legal cost not a penny claimed for myself. It could be said, if it was not for our group pushing the case, it may not have gone to court.

The Environment Agency prosecution was weak the fine should have been much higher, only £400 was asked to restock the river! Both Peter Steward and I attended all the court hearings.

Unfortunately 3 weeks ago the river was polluted on two occasions by Anglia Water Services (Nappies blocking the drain) Peter and I found the discharge within 20 minutes but the officials had let it run for 3 days into our poor river.

We will not give up and if there is any more pollution I will take steps to prosecute.

I plan one last work party on Sunday October 10<sup>th</sup> 8am – 12.30pm Memorial Park every member who will have done 3 work party including the one coming up, will get a really good quality long sleeve embodied polo shirt which I designed.

The large seal has been seen up at the memorial park, he has depleted the stocks of large Carp in the river.

Thank you to everyone who has supported our group which we have around 34 members now.

Yours very sincerely

Roy Hart