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**Friends of  
the Earth**

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Our Ref. BL/01/13

## **Coastal Erosion Meeting Gorleston Conservative Club 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2013**

Dear Mr. Lewis

Thank you for your letter dated 4<sup>th</sup> March 2013 thanking me for attending this meeting and listing your commitments and actions taken as a result of this meeting.

However I would like to bring to your attention the point that you did not mention in this letter your commitment to ask parliament if a levy could be put on aggregate dredging operations in the North Sea to help pay for coastal defences, you will note that I mentioned this to you again at the end of the meeting and you said you would ask.

Studies have been executed and there is evidence that coastal erosion has been accelerated by offshore coastal aggregate dredging – see MARINET web site [www.marinet.org.uk](http://www.marinet.org.uk)

Marine Aggregate Dredging, Coastal Defences/Shoreline Management Plans then:

Evidence for the Anglian Offshore Dredging Association confirming the link between offshore dredging and erosion of the adjacent coastline and MARINET Briefing Paper 26 December 2007 Marine Aggregate Dredging.

Many of these papers list the large amount of Licence fees and Royalties obtained by the Crown Estate from the Offshore aggregate dredging companies, if an additional levy cannot be placed on them for contributing to our accelerated erosion can some of this money already being obtained by the Crown Estate be used to provide coastal defences in threatened unprotected areas.

Yours sincerely - For and on behalf of MARINET

Mike King

cc:

Stephen Eades –MARINET Coordinator

Pat Gowen - MARINET