

## Background

It is proposed that the installation of an information board on the boardwalk at Stockbridge Meadows would be informative for the community.

Cllr Barnes has offered to design the board.

## Suggested text

### The River Mel

*This is our river, the River Mel. It runs through Melbourn and Meldreth, through Melwood nature reserve, joining the River Rhee near Malton, then the Rivers Cam and Ouse, until it eventually reaches the sea at Kings Lynn. The Mel is a chalk stream, one of the world's rarest and most important ecosystems. There are only about 300 chalk streams and rivers in the world, and it is estimated that 85% of them are in England, mostly in East Anglia. They have even been described as the equivalent of England's rainforests, so this is a very special place!*

*Chalk streams are mineral rich ecosystems that support a unique and diverse range of plants and animals in and around their crystal-clear waters. Here on the river Mel, you might be lucky enough to spot a busy water vole, the flashing blue of a kingfisher or any number of darting damselflies and dragonflies. Some parts of the River Mel also support brown trout who like to spawn on the gravelly riverbeds.*

*Lots of birds enjoy nesting and feeding along the river. As well as the kingfisher, you may see mallards, coots, moorhens, herons or egrets.*

*Look out for some of the special plants that make their home here, like water crowfoot and starwort. There are reedbeds too, and many kinds of grasses, rushes and sedges as well as water irises.*

*As our chalk streams are under threat from over abstraction (taking more water out than can be replenished naturally), poor water quality and physical modification, it is important that we continue to take care of the River Mel and appreciate its unique beauty.*

## Options – rough costs

Metroguard <https://www.metro signs2000.co.uk/interpretation-signs/>



1no Metro signs Metroguard interpretation panel 600mm x 900mm finished in countryside green or black @ £745

1no Lectern for above Metroguard finished in countryside green or black @ £480

1no Full colour digital print (from supplied artwork) mounted onto 5mm rigid pvc and laminated with a uv film for above Metroguard @ £90

Est. shipping @ £65

Total **£1,389.00** + VAT

## MA030 2627c) Stockbridge info board

Nature Sign Design [Aluminium Lecterns Bespoke From Nature Sign Design](#)



**Aluminium lectern** - solid aluminium frame with 5mm thick solid aluminium back plate, including 3mm thick solid aluminium sign panel (using your supplied artwork), mounted on to one 1600 x 75 x 75mm aluminium box section leg. Powder coated in a colour of your choice.

A2 @£845 each

A3 @595 each

Delivery - £135

**Total £980 or £730 +VAT**

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Possible funding could come through South Cambridgeshire District Council Community Chest Biodiversity Grant - <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/grants-and-funding/community-chest-grants-open>

Committee to consider progressing with project and deciding on suitable funding.