

## BROADS SOCIETY

### Minutes of the Main Committee held on Thursday 15 July 2010 at Broad House Hotel, Wroxham

**Present:** Peter Horsefield (Chairman), Keith Bacon, Nick Barne,  
Chris Pulley (Treasurer), Richard Baguley, Nick Balls,  
David Capp, Colin Dye, Liz Goodyear, Paul Howes,  
Richard Starling and Jill Wickens

**In attendance:** Carol Palfrey (Administrator)

Before proceeding to business the Chairman asked members to stand for a minute's silence in memory of Pat Lerner.

#### 1 Apologies for absence

Lesley Bonshor, Ian Masters  
Peter Waller was absent

#### 2 Declarations of Interest

There were none.

#### 3 Minutes of the Meeting of 20 May 2010

The minutes, having been circulated, were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true record, subject to the following amendments:

Minutes 6.1: Delete "David Capp" replace with "Nick Balls"

Minute 7.2, para 2, line 8 – amend to read "also claimed to be owned by the Wildlife Trust and ..."

#### 4 Matters Arising

4.1 BA Landscape Project (Minute 8.1)  
It was confirmed that the special meeting with Lesley Marsden would take place on Monday 2 August at 7.00 pm at Broad House Hotel.

4.1 Planning (Minute 7.1b)  
Keith Bacon reported that the tour by bus and boat organised by the Broads Authority Planning Department for Parish Councils had been illuminating and was an event well worth repeating. Those taking part had been able to see examples of successful and less successful planning decisions. Keith would, as he had indicated before, ask whether the Society might be included in similar trips in the future.

#### 5 Finance

5.1 Receipts & Payments Account to 30 June 2010  
This had been circulated. There were no items of significance to report.

#### 5.2 Draft Accounts for the year to 31 March 2010

The Treasurer reported that the first draft accounts had been finalised with only minor amendments to show a slightly reduced net deficit of £4,584 compared with £4,892 reported to the last meeting. The accounts had been examined by Lovewell Blake and could be printed once the Chairman's report had been included.

Jill Wickens, who had previously given notice that she wished to relinquish preparation of the AGM booklet, kindly offered to take on the responsibility once again. Members of the Committee expressed their appreciation.

### 5.3 Reserves

Referring to the discussion on the use of reserves at the last meeting, the Chairman reported that the President was anxious that funds should be retained to support the possible appointment of a "Project Officer" in due course.

### 5.4 Publicity Budget

The newly established Publicity Group requested a small budget (ca £50) to cover the expense of updating the notice boards. This was agreed.

### 5.5 Archive Storage

The Administrator requested funding for roof repairs to the shed which was used exclusively for the storage (without charge) of the Society's archives. This was agreed in principle, the amount to be dependent on quotations received.

## 6 **Publicity & Promotion**

6.1 It was noted that the first meeting of the Publicity & Promotion Group would be held on Friday 16 July.

Items on the agenda would include:

- Event at Hoveton Riverside Park – 31 July
- Recruitment of members and new membership/recruitment literature

### 6.2 Role of the Broads Society

A proposal by David Capp had been circulated. This recommended that in every edition of "Harnser", immediately after the Chairman's letter, there should be a feature entitled "Working on your Behalf", which would give a brief summary of the practical actions being taken by Committee members on the Society's behalf since the previous edition.

It was unanimously agreed that this suggestion be implemented. David Capp agreed to prepare, after each Committee meeting, a draft list of items to be included and send this to the Administrator. She would then circulate the list via email to other committee members requesting their proposals for additional items. The Administrator would prepare a final draft incorporating all comments received and send it to the Chairman for vetting and onward transmission to the Editor of "Harnser" to meet the publication deadline. It was agreed that the first article of the series to be published in "Harnser" should include those items listed by David Capp in his proposal plus items arising from the current meeting.

A copy of an article from the journal of the Yorkshire Dales Society entitled "Challenging Change" had been circulated to demonstrate that other Society's were experiencing problems of identity and role similar to those of the Broads Society.

## 7 **Planning**

### 7.1 General

Richard Baguley informed members that the proposed general meeting between the Main Committee and the two Planning Sub-Committees had been abandoned.

### 7.2 Planning Sub-Committees

Neither Sub-Committee had met in June due to lack of business and the fact that Lesley Bonshor, Acting Chairman of the North Rivers Committee, was not available on the date of the meeting. Reduction in the number of planning applications was undoubtedly due to the recession.

## **8 Consultations on Broads Authority Documents**

### **8.1 Broads Authority Local Development Framework**

Keith Bacon had prepared a draft hand-written response. He explained that the consultation included 24 questions with, in the majority of cases, two options for each one: "take action" or "do nothing". In all such cases he proposed to select the former. Where the further option of "implement stronger action" was offered, he proposed opting for this. Keith's proposals were agreed. Jill Wickens offered to type up the final response and email it to the Broads Authority to meet the deadline of 16 July.

### **8.2 Broads Plan**

This had already been discussed during the special meeting with Trudi Wakelin when the Chairman had explained the difficulty of commenting on a "Plan" which was not a plan, but a Vision Statement. Richard Starling pointed out that none of the points raised by the Broads Forum had been included. It was agreed to take up Trudi Wakelin's suggestion of arranging a meeting between those involved (Paul Howes, Richard Baguley, Richard Starling and Peter Horsefield) and Andrea Long and Maria Conti.

The Chairman thanked both Richards and Paul for their work on the response.

## **9 Broads Society Trophy**

As agreed at the last meeting, Richard Starling had submitted a formal nomination for the award. This was seconded by Peter Horsefield and unanimously agreed. The Administrator would write to the awardee and invite him and his wife to the AGM at which the presentation would take place.

## **10 Lady Mayhew Trophy**

No proposals had yet been made. Jill Wickens undertook to submit a nomination to the next meeting.

## **11 Harnser**

The Chairman once again congratulated Jill Wickens on an excellent edition. Committee members had found the cover photo attractive and the accompanying caption amusing. It was understood that some prominent members of the Society were not similarly enthused.

Jill asked members to submit copy for the October issue by no later than 10 September.

## **12 Social Events**

Liz Goodyear had already offered to lead a walk on 11 June 2011.

## **13 Norfolk & Suffolk Broads Charitable Trust (NSBCT)**

Nick Barne gave a brief update. The Trustees had met on 7 June and would meet again in September. The design of the logo was almost finalised, but little progress had yet been made on setting up a website. A grant application to fund the project at Geldeston

Lock (described at the last meeting) had been turned down and another funding body was to be approached.

## 14 Broads Forum

Keith Bacon pointed out that he was the nominated substitute for the Society's representative, Martin George. However, as he also attended the Forum as the nominated representative for the Local Access Forum, he suggested that the Broads Society could increase the number of its members attending by nominating someone who was not already in attendance in connection with another organization. However, as there were no committee members not already Forum members able to take on this role, it was agreed to maintain the status quo for the time being.

Richard Starling reported that the Chair of the Forum was proposing a meeting in camera to discuss possible changes and the way forward.

The following items were included on the agenda for the next meeting.

- Reduction in the grant to National Parks
- Annual water plant survey report
- Broads Plan
- Water-ski-ing zones
- Sediment management
- Chief Executive's Report

## 15 CNP

Paul Howes reported that the AGM had taken place on 14 July. He commended the CNP Annual Review as an excellent document and would post it on the Forum.

CNP officers had pointed out that the pace of change being driven by Government far exceeded anything they had experienced before. The forthcoming 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary would be used as an opportunity to promote the organization and lobby on its behalf.

CNP had compiled a list of all the applications for wind turbines in National Parks which included decisions summaries of inspectors' reports. It was agreed that it would be helpful to circulate this to members. Paul undertook to do this.

## 16 Website

Richard Baguley reported that the change over to the new host would take place during the coming weekend. The site would be unavailable during the handover period.

Richard informed Committee members that Liz Goodyear had kindly offered to take on responsibility for the website when he stepped down in November.

## 17 A.O.B.

### 17.1 Project Officer

The proposal to appoint a "Project Officer" (working title) would be included as a major item on the agenda of the next meeting.

### 17.2 Meeting Arrangements

In view of the length of the meeting, David Capp proposed that, when an external speaker was invited, business should be confined to those items which could not be deferred for two months. This was agreed in principle. It was agreed that the time spent with Trudi Wakelin on this occasion had been most valuable.

### 15.2 Broads Society Signs

The Administrator reported that she had been contacted by Peter Watson, a member from Belaugh, who had discovered in the shed of a village resident, a

metal sign, presented by the Broads Society which had once been erected on one of the staithe at Belaugh. A search through the minutes had revealed that, during the 1970s, the Society donated a number of signs and benches to various parishes. It was agreed that the Administrator would prepare an article for "Harnser" including a photograph of the Belaugh sign asking members if they could provide further information.

**16**

**Date of Next Meeting**

Thursday 16 September 2010 at Broad House Hotel, Wroxham