

BROADS SOCIETY

Minutes of the Main Committee held Tuesday 15 May 2012 at the Hotel Wroxham, Wroxham

Present: Keith Bacon (Vice-Chairman), Nick Barne, Nick Balls,
David Capp, Robin Godber, Mark Wells, Jill Wickens
and Bryan Read (President)

In attendance: Carol Palfrey (Administrator)

Prior to the main business the Committee the Committee received an update on
Broads Authority activities from Trudi Wakelin.

In the absence of Peter Horsefield, Keith Bacon (Vice-Chairman) took the Chair

1 Apologies and Welcome

Apologies were received from Colin Dye and Ian Masters

2 Declarations of Interest

There were none.

3 Minutes of the Meeting of 20 March 2012

The minutes, having been circulated, were agreed and signed as a true record.

4 Matters Arising

4.1 Matters arising from Meeting with John Packman

There were none.

4.2 Society Patron (Minute 4.1)

It was agreed that the search for a new Patron should be deferred for
the time being.

4.3 Lady Mayhew and Broads Society Trophies (Minute 4.2)

Mark Wells suggested a possible nominee for the Lady Mayhew
Trophy. The Administrator would provide him with a nomination
form.

4.4 Minutes on the website

The present arrangement was to defer posting the minutes on the
website until they had been formally approved by the Main
Committee. This two month delay meant that information was out of
date and superseded by events, leading to possible confusion and
misunderstanding. For this reason the Administrator had, with the
permission of the Chairman, omitted to provide a web version of the
minutes for the January meeting. *[The minutes of the January and
March meetings have now been posted].*

The Administrator suggested that, in future, the minutes should be posted as soon as all committee members had had the opportunity to comment on and agree the draft, normally circulated within a few days of each meeting. This would enable publication on the website within two or three weeks of a meeting. The proposal was agreed.

5 Finance

5.1 Update on the appointment of a new Treasurer

Advertisements had been placed with Voluntary Norfolk and published in "Harnser" without result. Bryan Read was working on possible leads. If none of these proved successful he suggested that the Society should use the services of the organisation "Reach". The annual fee for enrolment was £75 plus VAT.

It was proposed by Nick Barne, seconded by Jill Wickens, and unanimously agreed, that if ongoing efforts to find a Treasurer failed, the Society should proceed with an application to Reach without the need for further debate.

Chris Pulley, who had continued to act as Treasurer while recruitment procedures underway, had given notice that he would be unable to continue after the next meeting on 17 July and would return the books etc. on that date. The Committee accepted this position and agreed to make interim arrangements to deal with financial transactions.

It was agreed that formal acceptance of his notice should be sent to Chris together with the Society's thanks for his continuing to serve as acting Treasurer for such a long period.

Bryan Read suggested that, at some stage, it would be useful for the Society to carry out a skills audit.

5.2 Statement of Financial Activities for the year to 31 March 2012

Chris Pulley had prepared the draft annual accounts. The Administrator was asked to enquire whether this had been sent to Lovewell Blake. The accounts included the large sum donated by Life Members which was one-off income.

5.3 Receipts and Payments 1 April 2011 – 31 March 2012

This was noted.

5.4 Receipts and Payments 1 – 30 April 2012

This was noted

5.5 Other financial matters

The Administrator had checked the April bank statement to identify those members who had not changed their standing order mandates and had sent a reminder to the eight members concerned.

So far, she had received one response. It was agreed that this procedure would be more effective than that agreed at the last meeting.

It was further agreed that members who had received a reminder and failed to respond within a reasonable time should be deleted from the membership list.

6 Broads Forum

Keith Bacon and Bryan Read reported that the most recent meeting, chaired by Stephen Johnson, had been a good one and well attended.

7 Rivers Sub-Committees

7.1 Northern Rivers Sub-Committee (NRS-C)

The minutes of the meeting of 16 March had been circulated.

Minute 4.3 – Utopia and Arcady, Mill Road, Stalham

Keith Bacon had represented the Society at a site meeting. The Society had not opposed the demolition of the existing cottages but had lodged an objection to the design and scale of the proposed replacement. Following the site meeting, the applicant would be asked to submit a new design.

Minute 7.2 – Broads Hotel, Hoveton (Outline Proposal)

Although this site was not in the BA Executive Area, the Society had commented on a previous application for the development of this site. The new proposals were more acceptable, although there was some concern about the lack of affordable housing and the design and scale of the proposed building. A letter had therefore been sent to North Norfolk District Council and further comments would be sent when the full application was submitted.

Minute 8.3 – “The Butterfly Effect”

This event at the Forum had been well attended but few Society members had been there.

7.4 Southern Rivers Sub-Committee (SRS-C)

The minutes of the meeting of 18 March had been circulated.

Project to revitalise and promote the Southern Broads

At the previous meeting Robin Godber had reported on the meeting with members of the BA publicity team. This had been followed in early May by a meeting with staff from “Visit Norwich” and Norwich Tourist Information Centre. Plans were also in place to visit the operators of Beccles and Oulton Broad Yacht Stations as well as Gt Yarmouth Tourism.

River Chet

Following a survey of the River Chet in March the SRS-C wrote to the BA expressing concern about the deterioration of the piling and banks and the lack of dredging. The BA acknowledged these concerns and advised that further dredging would take place this coming winter, although this would only deal with the middle third of the channel. The Sub-Committee were also in contact with the EA regarding long term solutions and inviting support from local boatyards and Parish Councils

Development of the Pegasus site at Oulton Broad

The full planning application has yet to be submitted. The SRSC would be giving careful attention to the proposals when the documents are available.

Deal Ground Site

This major application had been dealt with by the Northern Rivers Sub-Committee as the Southern Rivers had not been reconstituted at the time. Notification of revisions to the scheme had been received and passed to NRS-C members for comment.

8 CNP

Bryan Read reported that CNP had made appointments to fill three of the four vacancies. As a result of concerns expressed at the last Committee Meeting, Bryan had sought and received assurance that the Mosaic Project was funded from a separate income stream and not from subscriptions contributed by member organisations.

9 Harnser

Nothing to report

10 Publicity and Promotion

10.1 Displays and Events

Nick Balls reported that the publicity team had mounted a display at the Whitlingham Festival Event. The BA Chairman had visited the stand. The Society would have a stand at the Green Boat show on 20 May and had accepted an invitation to attend an event at the Fairhaven Trust on 24 June.

- 10.2 Film Project
Mark Wells reported good progress. Five films had been shot and the final one would be completed once the weather improved. One film had been made by a student from Romania with commentary in his own language supplemented with English sub-titles. The Films would be launched on the morning of Saturday 22 September at Cinema City; the time had yet to be fixed.
It was agreed that the Society should mount a display at the Cinema.
- 10.3 Publicity
Distribution of Society leaflets were was ongoing.
- 10.4 Society Service
Although attendance had been disappointing – 15 members in a total congregation of 22 – the service had been very enjoyable. The Vicar was keen to welcome the Society back on future occasions.

11 Norfolk and Suffolk Broads Charitable Trust

In future, the Charity would be known as the Broads Trust. Arrangements for administering the Visitor Pay-Back Scheme were in progress and the services of “Just Giving” had been engaged. It was hoped to involve more businesses in the scheme. An article would be published in “Harnser” in due course. Additional Trustees were being sought.

12 Website

It was agreed that Nick Balls should seek comments form Committee members on the latest trial version of the new website. Members discussed the usefulness of the Forum and suggested that there might be different way in which to provide for membership interaction. Nick would discuss the matter with Liz Goodyear.

13 A.O.B

- 13.1 Broadsword
David Capp had been approached by a group of people involved in a “Keep Fit” scheme who had expressed interest in working with Broadsword as part of their fitness regime. It was agreed that anyone wishing to join the team must be a Society member.
- 13.2 Queen’s Diamond Jubilee
The Society would be sending Loyal Greetings to Her Majesty on the occasion of her Diamond Jubilee.
Jill Wickens and Nick Balls had been invited to the Royal Garden Party at Sandringham.

14 Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday: 17 July 2012
Jill Wickens tendered her apologies

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.45 pm

Signed
Chairman

Date