

# BROADS SOCIETY

## Minutes of the Main Committee held Tuesday 10 May 2011 at the Hotel Wroxham, Wroxham

**Present:** Peter Horsefield (Chairman), Keith Bacon (Vice-Chairman)  
Chris Pulley (Treasurer), Nick Barne, Nick Balls, Lesley Bonshor Colin Dye,  
Liz Goodyear, Richard Starling, Mark Wells and Jill Wickens

**By invitation:** Bryan Read (President)  
**In attendance:** Carol Palfrey (Administrator)

### 1 Apologies for absence

Ian Masters and David Capp

### 2 Declarations of Interest

There were none.

### 3 Minutes of the Meeting of 29 March 2011

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

### 4 Matters Arising

#### 4.1 Lady Mayhew Bequest

As agreed, a letter had been sent to the Charity Commission informing them of the donation to the Norfolk and Suffolk Broads Charitable Trust. A copy of their response had been circulated which confirmed that the Society's action was in order and recommending best practice when taking similar decisions in future. Committee members expressed themselves satisfied that the concerns raised by Richard Starling had been laid to rest.

### 5 Finance

#### 5.1 Receipts and Payments Account to 31 March 2011

The Treasurer had circulated a summary of receipts and payments. It was noted that total payments exceeded receipts by £3,071 compared with £5,668 in the previous year.

#### 5.2 Accounts for the year to 31 March 2011

The accounts circulated were in the format which would appear in the AGM papers. Although these were the first draft accounts, the Treasurer did not anticipate any significant changes. The accounts showed a net deficit of £3,422 compared with £4,466 for the previous year. In view of the ongoing deficit position, the President suggested that there was a need for the Finance Committee to give some thought to future funding.

#### 5.3 Receipts and Payments account to 30 April

At the time of writing the Treasurer did not have all the information needed to complete this report.

It was noted that the Treasurer had not yet received an invoice from CNP for the annual capitation fee.

5.4 New Treasurer

Chris Pulley had identified two individuals who might succeed him as Treasurer. Committee members advised that only of these would be willing to consider the possibility. Ian Masters had also suggested a candidate. It was agreed that Chris should discuss the matter with Ian and decide on the way forward.

5.5 AGM Papers

Jill Wickens confirmed that she was willing to prepare the AGM booklet for printing.

## 6 **Proposal to appoint a “Project Officer”**

The Sub-Group had held a second meeting and had circulated its recommendations which took into account the comments made by the Committee.

Keith Bacon explained that Sub-Group had aimed to identify those areas of activity which could be carried out more effectively if a paid officer were in place to relieve the burden on volunteers. These were described in detail in the report which also included the suggestion that a more appropriate title would be “Liaison Officer”

There were two main issues which needed to be resolved before further progress could be made.

a) Support and Co-operation from the Planning Sub-Committees

The Chairman stated that it was essential for members of the Planning Committees to be assured that the introduction of this post would not adversely affect their role and value to the Society.

It was therefore agreed that the Administrator should arrange a joint meeting of both planning committees which would give all members the opportunity to consider and discuss the implications. Keith Bacon and Bryan Read would present the proposals.

b) Agreement on arrangements for Line Management

The Sub-Group’s report concluded with the statement that the Society Chairman must be the line manager for this post. Peter Horsefield confirmed that he would be willing in principle to line manage the post holder for the duration of his term of office as Chairman which could continue until November 2012 provided he stood for re-election at this year’s AGM.

There followed a discussion on succession planning. Nick Barne suggested setting up a “Nominations Committee”. Following up on this, it was agreed that Nick, Bryan Read, Peter Horsefield and Keith Bacon should meet to consider the options. There was support for the view that, if an individual not

already serving on the committee was eventually to become Chairman, it would be ideal for them to have a year's experience as an ordinary member.

## **7 Corporate Membership**

It was suggested that development of a Corporate Membership Scheme might be a suitable task for the Liaison Officer and it was therefore agreed to leave this matter in abeyance.

## **8 Publicity & Promotion**

### **8.1 Film Project**

Reporting on Ian Master's behalf, Mark Wells confirmed that £7,400 had been received from the BA Sustainable Development Fund. A contribution of £4,800 would be required from the Society. Members expressed disappointment at the misleading report in the EDP which made no mention of the Society or the Broads Authority. Mark gave assurance that Ian had plans in place for major media coverage once filming began in Spring 2012.

Jill Wickens requested an article for "Harnser" within the next two weeks.

### **8.2 General Promotional Activity**

Nick Balls and Jill Wickens had distributed the new leaflets to 15 different locations and had also mounted a display as part of the Broads Event at Whitlingham Park. The Administrator provided details of an event at the Forum organised by BESL in which the Society might consider participating.

Members congratulated Nick and Jill for all their efforts to promote the Society.

## **9 NORFOLK AND SUFFOLK BROADS CHARITABLE TRUST**

Nick Barne reported that the official unveiling of the interpretation boards would take place on Tuesday 24 May at 11.00 am. The event would include tours of the site and a talk about educational opportunities for children. TV and press coverage were anticipated.

## **10 CNP**

Peter Horsefield, the Society's CNP Representative, had nothing to report.

The Chairman was strongly of the opinion that the CNP representative must be a member of the Main Committee and stated his intention to continue as the Society's representative for as long he remained in office unless another member of the Committee expressed interest in taking on this role.

## **11 Planning**

### **11.1 North Rivers Sub-Committee**

The minutes of the meeting of 11 April had been circulated. The entire meeting had been devoted to a discussion of the planning application development of the Deal Ground Site at Norwich. Cally Smith (BA) had attended the first part of the meeting to explain the complex proposals.

Bryan Read offered to arrange a walking tour to view the site and would discuss arrangements with the Administrator.

11.2 South Rivers Committee

The minutes of the meeting of 28 April had been circulated. It was noted that only two members had attended. Colin Dye reiterated his concern that South Rivers Committee had not been invited to attend the meeting to discuss the Deal Ground, an omission for which the Administrator had already apologised. Members of the SRS-C would be invited to take part in the planned walking tour.

**12 AGM 2011**

It was confirmed that the AGM would be held at the Norfolk Broads Yacht Club on Saturday 26 November. .

**13 Website**

The presentation on the website was deferred until September. Nick Barne pointed out that there was very little activity on the Forum.

**14 Harnser**

Richard Starling provided details of a book by Marjorie Blamey describing the Broads 1937-1999.

The Administrator offered to provide a short item to encourage nominations for the Lady Mayew Trophy.

**15 Social Events**

Jill Wickens had tendered her resignation as Social Secretary due to lack of support for social events. This was a particular problem when members indicated their intention to take part and then failed to confirm their attendance. The Ghost Walk in Norwich had been cancelled because of lack of support and very few people had signed up for the Walk on 11 June. Jill handed over the list of names to Liz Goodyear. Richard Starling reported that path closures might necessitate re-routing the walk.

Jill reported that the Annual Service at Beccles United Methodist Church had been a great success.

**16. A.O.B.**

Liz Goodyear suggested that the Society should ensure that it was following best practice with regard to Data Protection matters.

**17 Date of Next Meeting**

Tuesday 26 July 2011

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

Signed .....  
Chairman

Date .....