

The Broads Society

*Minutes of the Northern Rivers Sub-Committee Meeting
held on 11 June 2012 at 7.30 pm at the Hotel Wroxham*

Present: Lesley Bonshor, Keith Bacon, Michael Brandon-Jones, Peter Cobb, John Pitchers, Paul Savage and John Scott

In attendance: Carol Palfrey (Administrator/Committee Secretary)

1 To appoint a Chairman for the meeting

Paul Savage agreed to take the chair for this meeting. He also agreed to represent the Sub-Committee at the next meeting of the Main Committee on Tuesday 17 July.

2 Apologies

David Edleston, David Skinner and JohnWheeley
Absent without apologies – Robert Paul

3 Minutes of the meeting of 16 April 2012

The minutes had been circulated and were agreed and signed by the Chair of the meeting as a true record.

4 Matters Arising

4.1 Safety Issues (Minute 4.1)

At the last meeting John Wheeley had asked the Committee to reconsider its verdict that the response from Steve Birtles on safety issues was “satisfactory”. A copy of the correspondence with Steve Birtles and John comments had been circulated with the meeting papers.

Members believed in principle that the Broads Authority had a responsibility for safety but accepted the difficulties involved in providing advice or enforcing regulations. The committee would not wish to see proliferation of safety ladders and warning notices throughout the Broads. All navigable waterways presented dangers and individual responsibility on the part of users was an important factor. It was pointed out that the majority of fatalities on the Broads resulted from irresponsible conduct by those involved.

It was decided to defer action until the next meeting to enable John Wheeley to take part in the discussion.

4.2 Planning Application 3452 – The Glade, Beech Road, Wroxham (Minute 4.2)

The Administrator confirmed that a decision was still pending.

4.3 Planning Application 3474 – Utopia and Arcady, Mill Road, Stalham
(Minute 4.3)

The Authority had no objection to the demolition of the existing cottages but had asked the applicant to submit revised proposals for their replacement.

.4 St Benets Abbey (Minute 8.1)

Michael Brandon-Jones informed members of a recent Non-material amendment to install a culvert instead of a footbridge. It was noted that a new Project Officer had been appointed and planning permission given for the new car park (reported to the Main Committee by Trudi Wakelin).

5 **Matters Arising from the Main Committee held on 15 May 2012**

.1 The Administrator reported on the the main issues discussed.

The Main Committee had agreed that edited minutes of its meetings should be posted on the website as soon as the draft of full minutes had been approved by members via email. The present arrangement was to defer website posting until formal approval of minutes at the next committee meeting. This delay reduced the value of information to members. The Administrator suggested that the NRSC should adopt the same procedure and this was agreed.

5.2 The Administrator gave details of the report to the Main Committee by Trudi Wakelin. Trudi had covered the following topics: transfer of Breydon Water to the BA; investigations into the Prymnesium outbreak and fish deaths; volunteer recruitment; footpath maintenance; installation of new angling platforms; River Chet; repair of Hardley Flood weir; former Nancy Oldfield moorings at Ludham Bridge; introduction of double alongside mooring as selected locations; mooring at Ranworth Staithe; establishment of a Tolls Review Working Party.

6 **Issues Relating to the Society's Mission**

6.1 Areas of dereliction (to include abandoned vessels)

Peter Cobb expressed concern that no action on this issue had been taken since he had joined the NRS-C. Keith Bacon explained that the two Rivers Sub-Committees were at liberty to decide on special projects they wished to undertake. The issue of dereliction had been chosen some time ago by the NRSC but this could be changed if members believed there was a more valuable focus for their efforts.

It was agreed that members should by the date of the next meeting:

- i. revisit the list previously drawn up and report on the current situation (the Administrator would re-circulate the list with the minutes)
- ii. provide new examples on areas requiring attention

6.2 Moorings

Consideration of this issue would be deferred until the Broads Authority's new Mooring and Access Strategy was available.

7 Planning

7.1 Deal Ground Norwich

The Administrator had circulated details of a change to the original outline application. In the absence of any comments, she had not submitted a response to the planning authorities. However, she had recently been notified that a further revision would be sent out for consultation in the near future.

7.2 Planning Applications and decisions since 13 February

A list had been circulated. There were no applications to which members wished to draw attention.

7.3 New applications to consider

Ref 3524 - 15 Top Road, Belaugh

Orangery extension (retrospective) and replacement boathouse

Although there was no objection to extension of the orangery the Society strongly objected to the principle of retrospective applications. The Society had lodged an objection to the original application for a replacement boathouse.

John Pitchers had prepared a draft response maintaining the objection on the grounds that a two-storey boathouse is too large and urging the Authority to impose conditions on its use in the event of permission being granted. It was agreed that this should be submitted as the Society's official response with the addition of a reference to the possibility of using a 106 Agreement to enforce any conditions.

8 A.O.B

There was no other business

9. **Date of Next Meeting**

Monday 13 August 2012

Paul Savage tendered his apologies in advance

The meeting closed at 9.00pm

Signed

Date.....