

The Broads Society

Minutes of the Southern Rivers Sub-Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 24 April 2013 at The Angel, Loddon

Present Colin Dye (Chairman), David Capp, Don Cleaver and Robin Godber

In attendance: Carol Palfrey (Administrator)

1 Apologies for Absence

David Trower.

2 Minutes of the last Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 February 2013, having been circulated, were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

3 Matters Arising

3.1 Redevelopment of Pegasus Site, Oulton Broad (Minute 3.1)

Chris Groves had represented the Society at a site visit and a copy of his report had been circulated with the meeting papers. Robin Godber had since spoken with Chris whose principal concerns related to the boatyard, and particularly to the lack of adequate winter storage. It was Robin's view that the logistics of the boatyard should be left to NSBA to address; he believed the Society should be more concerned with the overall ambience of the site and its impact on the locality. In this connection, the main concerns related to access. Commodore Road was normally restricted to single track because of roadside parking and Caldecott Road, again a single access route, was subject to frequent flooding. It was surprising, therefore, that the Highways Authority had not identified access as a problem. A further concern was the increase in the height of the tallest buildings to 3.5 storeys instead of the 2.5 storeys stated in the Design Brief.

The application was due to be considered by the Broads Authority's Planning Committee on Friday 26 April. Unfortunately, Robin was unable to attend. Chris Groves had offered to attend if no one else was available. However, David Capp volunteered to go if he was free; he would check his diary and report back.

3.2 River Chet (Minute 3.2)

Work on the Weir at Hardley Flood was under way and the planning application for work on the southern bank of the Chet had been submitted. It was noted that a recent planning application to increase the mooring capacity at Pyes Mill by enlarging the basin had been withdrawn.

4 Matters Arising from the Main Committee held on 13 March 2013

The Administrator reported on the following items discussed:

4.1 AGM

At this year's AGM on Saturday 23 November there would be a showing of an archive film instead of an invited speaker.

- 4.2 Report by Rob Rogers of the Broads Authority (standing in for Trudi Wakelin)
Rob provided an update on: proposal to erect pylons from Lowestoft to Norwich; solar farm development; Pegasus site development; water ski-ing on Breydon; tolls and the Breydon contract; River Chet; water quality.
- 4.3 Society sub-committees and members with special responsibilities
A complete list is given in the Society Directory. The Administrator would circulate a copy to sub-committee members.
- 4.4 Finance
The Treasurer elected at the AGM had resigned. The Committee had therefore appointed Richard Reid. He would be supported by the Finance Committee and would work in collaboration with the Administrator who would continue to maintain the financial records.
- 4.5 CNP
The basis on which the capitation fee is levied is to be changed and it is hoped that the method chosen will lead to a reduction in the Society's total contribution.
- 4.6 Publicity and Promotion
At the date of the Main Committee meeting, the Society's a decision on the application for a stand at the Royal Norfolk Show was awaited. Robin Godber reported that the application had now been approved and the Society had been allocated a larger site in a prominent location at no extra charge. A Society member had offered to make a donation to cover the cost of hiring the site.
- 4.7 Photographic Competition
Publicised in the April issue of "Harnser".
- 4.8 Broads Charitable Trust
The Trustees are inviting suggestions for new projects to fund.

5 Society Website

This topic was discussed at the Main Committee and the Administrator had raised it as a separate agenda item at the recent meeting of the North Rivers Committee. She had urged NRSC members to explore the new website and to complete the questionnaire which was a public document and therefore did not require membership numbers to gain access. Colin Dye confirmed that he had completed the questionnaire. Other members of SRSC undertook to do so as soon as possible.

The Administrator had arranged a meeting with Nick Balls and Jill Wickens to convey the NRSC's suggestions about "Harnser" and the website and would include any additional comments arising from the SRSC meeting.

6 Regeneration of Southern Broads

Colin Dye and Robin Godber had met Alec Hartley from the Wensum River Parkway (WRP) – a sub-section of the Norwich Society – to discuss their mutual interest in exploiting the potential of the river through Norwich as an attractive venue for visitors. WRP's aim was to regenerate the river and riverside from Whitlingham to New Mills and in 2009 had published an impressive document entitled "Regenerating Norwich as a River City". Colin and Robin had been invited to the next meeting of the WRP; those attending would include Adrian Clarke (BA) and representatives from Norwich City Council and Visit Norwich. Robin undertook to contact the Chair of Visit Norwich.

Colin Dye drew attention to the erroneous belief of many people that the River Wensum was not navigable above Bishops Bridge. At the WRP meeting he intended to suggest that he should take a cruiser up the river to demonstrate that this was possible. It was agreed that SRSC should make Norwich the focus of their regeneration project for the immediate future.

The Southern Broads had, as promised, been allocated a three page feature in the latest issue of Broadcaster.

7 Planning

7.1 Planning Applications

A list of planning applications dealt with since the last meeting had been circulated.

7.2 New Planning Applications

One new planning application for change of use was considered which gave no cause for concern.

8 A.O.B

Planning Applications – General

Colin Dye reported that the Broads Authority was intending to introduce charging for mooring at Reedham Quay. The Administrator said that she needed to contact Adrian Clarke to remind him that he had offered to provide copies of the consultation on the new Mooring and Access Strategy and she would take the opportunity to ask him if this information was correct.

Bearing in mind that the Reedham/Cantley area was really part of southern Broadland, it was suggested that responsibility for these parishes should be transferred to the Southern Rivers Sub-Committee. The Administrator undertook to contact NRSC. [Subsequent to the meeting the Administrator contacted the NYSC who had confirmed that they would have no objections to the SRSC dealing with planning applications in Reedham and Cantley.]

8 Date of next Meeting

Wednesday 12 June 2013

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.30 pm

Signed..... (Chairman)

Date