

## The Broads Society

### *Minutes of the Southern Rivers*

Don Cleaver, Peter Waller and Mark Wells *Sub-Committee Meeting*  
*held on Wednesday 27 June 2012 at the Angel Hotel, High Street, Loddon*

**Present** Robin Godber (Chairman), David Capp, Colin Dye and  
David Trower

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

**1 Apologies for Absence**  
Don Cleaver, Peter Waller and Mark Wells

**2 Minutes of the last Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 April, having been circulated, were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman. The Administrator reported that she had posted an edited version of the minutes on the website.

**3 Matters Arising**

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

The planning application was still awaited. It was agreed that, when it had been received, a special meeting should be convened to which representatives of the local community and other interested parties should be invited.

3.2 Sculpture at Bramerton (Minute 7.3)

David Trower reported that the sculpture had not, in fact, been stolen but removed by the organisation who had installed it.

3.3 Navigation Hazard – Rockland Broad (Minute 5.3)

Robin Godber would raise the issue of overhanging trees with Trudi Wakelin at the next meeting of the Main Committee

**4 Matters Arising from the Main Committee held 18 April 2012 and the informal meeting with Trudi Wakelin**

All members of the Sub-Committee present, with the exception of David Trower, had attended the Main Committee meeting and had received a copy of the minutes of both meetings. The report by Robin Godber and the Administrator was therefore very brief.

## 5 Revitalisation and Promotion of the Southern Broads

### .1 Meeting with Visit Norwich and Norwich TIC

Robin Godber, David Capp and Colin Dye had met with representatives from Visit Norwich and Norwich TIC who, once the aims of the project had been explained, welcomed the initiative.

The next stage was to gather together a dossier of relevant visitor information on the Southern Broads which could be distributed via relevant outlets, such as boatyards, yacht stations and tourist information offices.

Robin had visited Norwich Yacht Station and was pleased to discover that the Broads Authority and Visit Norwich were trying to change the role of the Yacht Station to a Visitor Information Centre. More information for visitors was now available and staff had welcomed the Broads Society's proposals for improving the visitor experience.

### .2 Meeting with Sentinel Leisure Trust

Robin Godber and Colin Dye had visited Beccles and Oulton Broad Yacht Stations which were now run by the Sentinel Leisure Trust on behalf of Waveney District Council. They had received a very positive response. A major disincentive for visitors from the sea was the high rate of tolls for short visits. Robin had raised this with Trudi Wakelin and Jamie Knight, a member of the BA Navigation Committee who also served on the Tolls Working Group.

### .3 Broads Tourism Forum

Robin Godber had contacted Barbara Greasley, the Chair of the Forum, and would shortly be attending a meeting with her and the officers of the Forum. Colin Dye would also be attending.

### .4 Gt Yarmouth Tourism

This organisation had yet to be contacted.

### .5 River Chet

In her report to the Main Committee Trudi Wakelin had confirmed the Authority's concern about the condition of the River Chet. Robin Godber had followed this up with her and had also been invited to attend a meeting of Chedgrave Parish Council to be attended by representatives from the Broads Authority and other relevant organisations. The Authority planned to carry out limited dredging following repair of Hardley Flood Weir (see below) and to dredge the whole river in winter 2013. Progress would depend on work on the banks by BESL. The Broads Authority had agreed to remove some of the posts.

It appeared that co-ordinated pressure from a number of organisations, including the Broads Society, had brought about this successful result.

### .6 Hardley Flood Weir

Planning consent had been given for repair of the Weir. The work, funded jointly by the Broads Authority and Norfolk County Council, would begin in November.

.7 Sluttons Dyke

Bryan Read had spoken to Trudi Wakelin about the need for dredging. She had offered to attend a meeting of the SRS-C but, to save time, Robin Godber and Colin Dye had met her to discuss the problem. Trudi had that day navigated the Dyke by canoe to assess the situation. There was a long history attached to the Dyke. Prior to the passing of the Broads Act, May Gurney had dug dykes off Oulton Dyke which were not meant to be part of the navigable waters but to assist with the disposal of dredged material. The Broads Act required the Broads Authority to maintain all waterways which were navigable at the date the Act was passed. The present Sub-Committee believed that it would be a waste of money to keep these supplementary dykes open when more pressing work was required.

Trudi had been assessing the options for dredging Sluttons Dyke. It was too narrow for large dredging equipment and use of a sludge pump was not feasible. She had therefore contacted the owner of a small dredger/suction pump. It was hoped to include Sluttons Dyke in the 2013 dredging programme.

.8 Mast Lowering Facilities

Mast Lowering moorings at Beccles bypass bridge had been fenced off for safety reasons due to the failure of the piling. Land on the south side of the river was owned by Beccles Town Council. The Broads Authority hoped to arrange a 40 year lease but negotiations had been delayed. Trudi was considering the SRS-C's suggestion for mooring dolphins at St Olaves.

5.9 Moorings

The introduction of pontoons at Beccles Tea Gardens had proved very successful and it was hoped could be used elsewhere. David Capp suggested that Aldeby would also benefit from pontoons to increase the number of mooring spaces. Colin Dye pointed out that stern-on mooring was to be permitted at Bramerton during busy periods and double alongside mooring at Reedham.

## 6 **Planning Applications**

6.1 General Issues

In 2011, the Northern Rivers Sub-Committee had dealt with a major outline planning application for the development of the Deal Ground Site in Norwich. Since then the plans had been modified and the Broads Authority was no longer one of the planning authorities involved. The Society would be considering the full application in due course. Members of the SRS-C confirmed that they were content for the NRS-C to deal with this application.

6.2 Planning Applications

A list of planning applications dealt with since January 2012 had been circulated.

6.3 New Planning Applications

Applications received during the past ten days were considered. None of these presented any problems.

7 **A.O.B**

There was no other business.

8 **Date of Next Meeting**

Wednesday 10 October

There would be no meeting in August unless a matter of urgent business arose.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.00 pm.

Signed..... (Chairman)

Date .....