

The Broads Society

Minutes of the Southern Rivers Sub-Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 22 February 2012 the Angel Hotel, High Street, Loddon

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

In attendance: Carol Palfrey (Administrator)

1 Membership

The Main Committee had appointed the following members:

Chairman - Robin Godber

Members - David Capp, Don Cleaver, Colin Dye, David Trower, Peter Waller and Mark Wells

2 Apologies for Absence

Peter Waller

The Administrator had heard nothing from Mark Wells and would contact him.

3 Minutes of the last Meeting

The notes on the special meeting held on 15 December to consider the future of the Southern Rivers Sub-Committee had been circulated. The recommendations had been supported in full by the Main Committee.

4 Current Issues

4.1 Redevelopment of Pegasus Site, Oulton Broad

A note on the presentation to the Main Committee by Mr Edward Gilder, Land & Planning Manager, Badger Builders, had been circulated. Robin Godber and Colin Dye, who had been present at the meeting, said that they had been impressed by the proposals which they considered to be positive development for the area.

4.2 Closure of Vauxhall Bridge

Norfolk County Council had sought permission to close Vauxhall Bridge in May in order to carry out major repairs. It appeared that that there had been insufficient consultation of stakeholders likely to be affected by the closure. Colin Dye provided copies of email correspondence between David Broad, Chair of the Broads Authority Navigation Committee and other interested parties. The closure had been postponed and was likely to take place in October.

Colin believed that the Broads Society should be included in consultations on issues of this nature. It was therefore agreed that the SRSC should raise this issue at the next meeting of the Main Committee and recommend that the Society Chairman should write to Norfolk County Council asking that the Society be included in any future consultation on matters affecting the Broads.

[The Society is now receiving regular email notification from the Broads Authority of any matters relating to proposed bridge closures or other impediments to navigation].

5 Matters Arising from Main Committee – 24 January 2012

The Administrator reported on the major issues discussed.

6 Revitalisation and Promotion of the Southern Broads

At the special meeting on 15 December 2011, it had been agreed that the newly convened Sub-Committee should adopt “Revitalisation and Promotion of the Southern Broads” as its major project.

Members drew attention to the potential of the Southern Broads and its facilities as a major visitor attraction for both UK and foreign visitors, and believed that it was not being adequately promoted by the three major Tourist Agencies responsible: Gt Yarmouth, Lowestoft and “Visit Norwich”.

It was agreed that the most effective way to proceed would be to work with the Broads Authority and to offer the Society’s help in promoting the Southern Broads, attracting more visitors and improving facilities. To this end, it was agreed that a useful first step would be to invite the Officer responsible for producing “The Broadcaster” to a meeting of the Sub-Committee to find out what was already going on and whether there was anything further which could be done to encourage visitors to the Southern Rivers.

The next stage of the project would depend on the outcome of this meeting but it was hoped that it would be possible to convene a meeting of representatives from the Broads Authority and Tourist Agencies mentioned above.

7 Planning Applications

7.1 General Issues

There were no general planning issues.

7.2 Planning Applications

A list of planning applications dealt with since 1 June 2011 had been circulated.

7.3 New Planning Applications

Recently received applications were considered.

8 **A.O.B**

8.1 Wherry Hotel, Oulton Broad

The original planning permission had allowed some flexibility over the height of the proposed extension. This had now been agreed.

8.2 Membership

Under the rules, the Sub-Committee had power to co-opt additional members. David Capp had been in contact with someone who might be interested in joining the Sub-Committee and would follow this up by inviting him to the next meeting as an observer.

9 **Date of Next Meeting**

It was agreed that Wednesday evenings were convenient. The Administrator would circulate a list of dates for agreement once she had sorted out her own Wednesday evening commitments in April. It was also agreed that the Angel was an excellent venue. Robin Godber would book the room once a date had been fixed.

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.40 pm.

Signed..... (Chairman)

Date