

BROADS SOCIETY

Minutes of the Main Committee held on Thursday 4 November 2010 at Broad House Hotel, Wroxham

Present: Peter Horsefield (Chairman), Nick Barne, Chris Pulley (Treasurer), Richard Baguley, Nick Balls, David Capp, Paul Howes, Liz Goodyear, Richard Starling and Jill Wickens

In attendance: Carol Palfrey (Administrator)

1 Apologies for absence

Keith Bacon, Lesley Bonshor, Colin Dye and Ian Masters
Peter Waller did not attend.

2 Declarations of Interest

There were none.

3 Minutes of the Meeting of 16 September 2010

The minutes, having been circulated, were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true record, subject to replacement of "Goddard" (Minute 9.1) by "Goodyear"

4 Matters Arising

4.1 Role of the Broads Society (Minute 4.1)
A draft of the proposed article "Working on your Behalf" had been circulated. (See Minute 14.1 for additional item to be included)
The Administrator would prepare a final version and send it to the editor for publication in "Harnser", leaving it to her discretion to choose its position.

4.2 Project Officer (Minute 4.2)
It was noted that a meeting of the sub-group had been arranged for 16 November.

5 Finance

5.1 Receipts and Payments Account to 31 October 2010
The Treasurer had circulated a summary of receipts and payments together with a brief explanation of the figures. He had nothing further to add.

5.2 Other Financial Matters
The Treasurer gave advance notice that he would be standing down at the AGM in 2011. He would therefore be preparing one more set of annual accounts. He hoped that this length of notice would allow the Society time to find a replacement.

6 Publicity and Promotion

Nick Balls circulated the draft of a new publicity leaflet and invited members to let him have comments.

7 CNP

Paul Howes reported that he and Ruth Chambers would be meeting Lord Judd on Thursday 11 November to discuss the possible benefits and feasibility of National Park Authorities becoming Trusts, Charitable or otherwise.

The next meeting of CNP would be on 18th November. Peter Horsefield volunteered to attend as Paul Howes, the Society's CNP representative, would be standing down from the committee member at the AGM and would not be available. It was agreed to discuss a replacement for Paul at the next meeting. The Chairman expressed his belief that it was important for the Society to support CNP and undertook to deal with CNP issues during the interregnum.

8 Planning

8.1 North Rivers Sub-Committee

The minutes of the meeting of 18 October had been circulated.

8.1.1 Chairmanship (Minute 3.1)

Peter Horsefield explained that no-one had volunteered to fill this position which had been vacant ever since he had stood down. The Committee was therefore being managed by the Vice-Chairman, Lesley Bonshor, who at present did not wish to take on the role of Chairman.

8.1.2 Planning Application at Anchor Street, Coltishall (Minute 6.1)

Members' attention was drawn to the fact that the Planning Committee had approved this application despite the recommendation for refusal from Officers. It was understood that the grounds had been the financial implications of an appeal which represented a dangerous precedent. It was noted that Keith Bacon offered to raise this issue at the next twice yearly meeting of Parish Councillors and Planning Officers.

8.1.3 Hunsett Mill (Minute 6.2)

Members noted the proposal by the NRS-C to prepare an article for "Harnser" explaining their approach when considering planning applications.

8.2 South Rivers Sub-Committee

The minutes of the meeting of 21 October had been circulated. It was noted, from the number of issues discussed, that this had been a busy and fruitful meeting.

8.2.1 Lady Mayhew Trophy (Minute 4.3)

The Sub-Committee's suggestion that the award should be extended to cover a wider field of activities was deemed redundant since the award could be made to recognise any Broads-related voluntary activity which encouraged young people to enjoy the Broads.

8.2.2 Tree Clearance – Oulton Cut (Minute 5.1)

David Capp had drafted a letter for the Society Chairman to send to the Broads Authority pointing out the need to cut trees growing over the water.

8.2.3 24 Hour Moorings at Aldeby (Minute 5.2)

Robin Godber had drafted a letter for the Society Chairman to send to the Broads Authority suggesting an extension of these popular moorings.

8.2.4 Moorings at St Olaves Bridge (Minute 5.4)

Peter Waller had drafted a letter for the Society Chairman to send to the Broads Authority suggesting the installation of floating pontoons to provide moorings for yachts and pointing out that the moorings at Haddiscoe Bridge are occupied by large narrowboats.

- 8.2.5 Breydon Water (Minute 5.5)
The Main Committee considered that concerns about navigation across Breydon Water were best left to the Norfolk & Suffolk Boating Association to address. Richard Baguley confirmed that NSBA were already aware of the problems.
- 8.2.6 Waste Water (Minute 5.7)
The Committee noted concerns raised by Berry Powell about disposal of additional surface water resulting from new development and the potential for pollution of the Broads. Peter Horsefield pointed out the difficulties of managing water quality arising from the split of responsibilities between the Environment Agency and Anglian Water. (See also Minute 14).
- 8.2.7 Tree Clearance – Burgh St Peter (Minute 9.1)
David Capp had drafted a letter for the Society Chairman to send to the Broads Authority thanking them for the extensive tree clearance work upstream of Burgh St Peter.

9 AGM 2010

A nomination for the election of Mark Wells had been received, leaving only one more vacancy to be filled.
Approximately 50 members had booked for lunch so far. A few more bookings were anticipated.
Nick Barne undertook to make arrangements for a PA system.
All other arrangements were in hand.

10 Website

- 10.1 Richard Baguley reported that the transfer to a new server had been successfully completed. A facility to open pages for comment was available if required.
- 10.2 It was hoped that the handover of website management to Liz Goodyear, now in progress, would be completed in January.

11 Harnser

Committee members once again congratulated Jill Wickens on an excellent edition of "Harnser". Jill reported that she had been pleased to receive complimentary feedback from members but expressed her view that the quality of the magazine depended entirely on the contributions she received.

The Administrator reported that the 500 Club special offer announced in "Harnser" had resulted in 5 new members.

12 Social Events

Jill Wickens reported that the Social Committee had drawn up a list of suggestions for future events which would be circulated at the AGM so that members could indicate their interest and provide contact details, especially email addresses (if available).

Liz Goodyear would be leading a walk at Potter Heigham on Saturday 11 June.

13 Norfolk & Suffolk Broads Charitable Trust

Nick Barne passed around a copy of the Trust's logo for all Members to see.

The Trust had received a grant of £9,500 from the Geoffrey Watling Charitable Trust to fund interpretation boards at Geldeston Locks, to mount an exhibition on the site's history at the Beccles Museum and also to introduce a system which would benefit school visits by explaining the history of the site.

14 A.O.B.

14.1 Water Quality – Hickling Broads

Richard Starling drew attention to recent comments by Martin George about the poor water quality in Hickling Broad and said that there were suspicions that this could be due to industrial pollution. Paul Howes volunteered to draft a letter for the Society Chairman to be sent to the Environment Agency (copy to Brendan Joyce NWT) enquiring about water quality monitoring in Broads as a whole, but with particular reference to Hickling. It was agreed that reference to this letter be included in "Working on your Behalf" to be published in the next edition of "Harnser".

14.2 Broads Forum

Richard Baguley offered to represent the Society from January 2011 if required.

14.3 Len Ramuz Trophy

Martin George had passed to Peter Horsefield the "Len Ramuz Trophy" which he had been given for safe keeping when he became Chairman. It was agreed to investigate the origin and purpose of this trophy and also to seek a valuation.

14.4 "Anglia Afloat"

Paul Howes confirmed that he would be willing to continue as the Society's correspondent for the time being as he had 2-4 articles already in hand.

15 Next Meeting

The next meeting would take place in January 2011. The Administrator would circulate a list of possible dates after the AGM.

The agenda would also include discussion of new recruitment literature including the introduction of the strap line "Friends of the Broads".

Before closing the meeting, the Chairman thanked both Richard Baguley and Paul Howes for their contributions as Committee members.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.30 pm

Signed Date