

The Broads Society

Minutes of the Northern Rivers Sub-Committee Meeting held on 10 February 2014 at 7.30 pm at the Hotel Wroxham

Present: Paul Savage (Chairman), Keith Bacon, Lesley Bonshor,
Michael Brandon-Jones, Peter Cobb, Robert Paul and David
Skinner

In attendance: Carol Palfrey (Administrator/Committee Secretary)

1 Apologies

David Edleston, John Pitchers and John Scott

2 Minutes of the meeting of 9 December 2013

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

3 Matters Arising

3.1 Cess Staithe (Minute 3.2)

The Main Committee had accepted the recommendation by NRSC that the Broads Authority should be asked to alert Parish Councils to the implications of failing to register their staithes. The Administrator had referred the request to Trudi Wakelin and asked her to forward it to the relevant BA officer.

3.2 Renewable Energy (Minute 3.3)

The Administrator reported that the application was to be considered by Broadland District Council on 5 February but she was not yet aware of the outcome.

[NOTE: the application received approval.]

4 Matters Arising from the Main Committee

The Chairman gave a brief resume of the matters discussed by the Main Committee at their meeting on 21 January including: co-option of Keith Bacon who would resume his role as Vice -Chairman; proposals for recruiting new committee members; the Acle Straight and the possibility of the Society changing its stance on dualling; River Chet dredging; Pegasus Boatyard; finance and proposals for cost saving; CNP; Broads Charitable Trust; Harnser and attempts to find a new Editor; Anglia Afloat (ideas for topics required); website development; list of issues of current concern; publicity and promotion.

Representations were requested from the BA on the issue of its statutory duty to prepare for climate change. No detailed proposals currently exist and the Society has decided to await these before making final comments.

[See minutes of the Main Committee meeting on the website for full details]

Trudi Wakelin had attended the first part of the meeting and provided an update on the following issues: dredging; mooring; St Benet's Abbey (see also Minute 7.1; tree clearance; sale of River Inspectors'

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launches; rise in criminal incidents; transfer of management of Trinity Broads to Norfolk Wildlife Trust; BA investment strategy including workshop on mooring priorities to which Paul Savage had asked to be invited; implications of the reduction in the National Park grant; Network rail strategy for bridges.

5 **Norfolk Hub**

This is a standing item which will be kept under review.

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

Bryan Read has kindly agreed to lead a walk. The Administrator was asked him to suggest possible dates (weekdays) in June or July.

7 **Planning**

7.1 Planning Applications and decisions since the October meeting A list had been circulated.

3782 – St Benet's Abbey – Proposed erection of 3 interpretation lecterns, telescope installation and listening bench.

There was unanimous support for improving interpretation of the site and members agreed that the lecterns were entirely appropriate. There was no objection to the installation of a telescope in the location proposed although there was some concern about the maintenance and the possibility of vandalism at this isolated site where there was no on-site custodian. However, the majority of members objected to the listening bench on the grounds that it would disturb the peace and the fact that it was located within the area of the church.

7.2 Refusals

3704 – Broads Edge Marina, Stalham – 12 new camping pitches
An appeal against refusal had been submitted.

7.3 New applications to consider

3790 – Horstead Lodge, Horstead – Installation of wind turbine 15 metre in height.

Although this was outside the BA executive area it would be visible from within it and it was therefore agreed to lodge an objection on the grounds of adverse visual impact.

Six other applications were considered, none of which gave no cause for concern.

8 **A.O.B.**

Members spent some time discussing the importance of informal moorings and the need to exert pressure on the Broads Authority for provision. Paul Savage intended to lobby for such provision during the forthcoming BA workshop on mooring strategy (Minute 4 para 2).

9. Date of next Meeting

Monday: 31 March 2014

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm

Signed

Date.....