

# BROADS SOCIETY

## Notes on an informal discussion with Trudi Wakelin, BA Director of Operations Tuesday 27 January 2015 prior to the formal meeting of the Main Committee

Trudi reported on the following issues:

### **1 Broads Authority Branding Proposals**

At its meeting on Friday 23 January, the Authority had approved the branding proposals by a majority of 11 to 3 with 2 abstentions. The Communications Team had been asked to develop branding guidelines leading to a “gentle introduction” of the scheme.

### **2 Broads Authority Stakeholder Survey**

The results of the Survey would shortly go to the Broads Forum for information and an action plan will be developed.

### **3 Broads Authority Climate Change Adaptation Plan**

The draft plan has been agreed by BA to go out for consultation shortly.

### **4 DEFRA Grant**

The Authority had not yet received confirmation of the grant.

*[Post meeting note, this has now been received as in accordance with budget anticipated]*

### **5 National Rail consultation on replacement of bridges**

The Authority was preparing its response to the consultation on the options to replace Trowse bridge and intended to object to the introduction of a fixed bridge. A copy of the draft response has been sent to the Committee members for comment.

A second study on swing bridges has been completed by consultants for Network rail. The Authority is awaiting Network rail confirmation of the proposed way forward and will consider the impact of any proposals for change.

### **6 BESL Flood Alleviation Work**

BESL had submitted an application for piling removal in Compartments 4 and 5 (right bank of River Thurne and Womack Water and left bank of Rivers Ant and Bure).

### **7 Moorings**

The Authority’s attempt to purchase moorings at Boundary Farm had failed. The moorings have been closed as the lease came to an end. The Authority would be exploring other options.

A 22m pontoon for de-masting had been installed on the lower Bure.

No agreement had been reached on moorings at Dove House Farm.

Confirmation had been received from the contractor that work at Turn Tide jetty would start in mid-February. The intention was to use hardwood piling instead of steel.

### **8 Hoveton Great Broad**

A second planning application by Natural England was due to be considered by the next Planning Committee. The BA would not be able to provide written support for Natural England’s bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund and Life European without significant improvements to the proposals for access.

### **9 Lake Review Project**

The BA had organised a workshop on the project for April 2015.

## Questions from Committee members

### Upper Thurne Working Group – Dredging of Hickling Broad – Keith Bacon

Trudi confirmed that the bar at the north end of the Broad would be removed this winter and the sediment used for bank protection subject to the planning application being granted. More widespread dredging work would depend on Natural England consent. Discussions were underway with landowners regarding the creation of lagoons for sediment disposal. This was a high priority for the Officers and the Navigation Committee, although no budget has been identified as yet.

### Waste Collection in the Broads – Nick Balls

There had been no update on the situation during the last two months. However, it was proposed to publish a leaflet showing the location of refuse disposal sites throughout the Broads. The BA had taken over responsibility for waste collection at Ranworth. Negotiations were in progress for the development of commercial trade waste facilities between business and councils.

### Pontoons – Paul Savage

Trudi believed that the standard length of a pontoon was 20 metres but undertook to check this information.

### Stakeholder Survey – Keith Bacon

Keith enquired whether the results of the Stakeholder Survey would be made available on the BA website. He believed that many residents and visitors did not understand the BA's responsibilities.