

## BROADS SOCIETY

### Minutes of the Main Committee held on Tuesday 12 July 2016 at the Hotel Wroxham, Wroxham

**Present:** Robin Godber (Chairman), Keith Bacon, David Capp, Colin Dye, Peter Horsefield, Richard Reid (Treasurer), Pat Simpson, Jill Wickens

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

The Chairman asked members to observe a short period of silence in memory of Martin George and Standley Bushell, Vice-Presidents of the Society.

Prior to the business meeting, the Committee received an update from Trudi Wakelin (Director of Operations – Broads Authority). This is recorded in a separate note.

**1 Welcome and Apologies for Absence**

Not present: Anne Filgate, Paul Rice, Paul Savage and Peter Howe

**2 Declaration of interests**

None related to items on the agenda

**3 Minutes of the Meeting of 24 May 2016**

The minutes, having been circulated, were agreed and signed as a true record.

**4 Matters Arising**

4.1 Eel Sett (Minute 4.1)

Nothing further had been heard. The Chairman continued to raise the matter with John Packman. It was understood that the Broads Author, one of the three Trustees, was considering its position.

4.2 Royal Norfolk Show (Minute 4.2)

The Broads Village area had proved a great success and an ideal location for the Broads Society to exhibit alongside organisations related to the Broads.

The Chairman had been introduced to the Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall. There was unanimous agreement by those involved that participation in the Show had been worthwhile, especially as there had been no charge.

4.3 Broads Plan Consultation (Minute 4.3)

A response to the Consultation, incorporating all the points raised at the last meeting, had been submitted. The Society would revisit this matter when the revised version was available.

Pat Simpson enquired about input from the Broads Future Group, an initiative set up by local landowners. The Society's

comments had been collated and sent to Paul Thomas (Secretary of the Group) who had promised to keep the Society updated.

## **5 Finance**

### **1 Financial Report for the year 2015-2016**

The Financial report had been independently examined and circulated to Committee members.

It was proposed by Richard Reid, seconded by Jill Wickens, and unanimously agreed, that the report be submitted to the AGM for approval.

### **5.2 Financial Report for the Current Year**

The Treasurer circulated copies of the report to date. There were no surprises and it was anticipated that general income and expenditure would be as predicted. The Treasurer reported on the financial position of the Conference account under item 6.2.

The Administrator reported that she had been notified that the Society had been left a legacy of £1,000 in the will of long standing member, Barbara Henley. She would prepare a brief note for inclusion in Harnser.

## **6 CNP**

### **1 General Report**

There had been no meeting since the Committee last met. CNP was actively engaged in a number of issues as could be seen by the email correspondence forwarded by Peter Howe. However, none of these was relevant to the Broads.

Jill Wickens reported that CNP had joined with 38° to arrange a walk at Ranworth. This would be one of the countrywide events to celebrate CNP's 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

### **2 National Parks Societies Annual Conference 2016 – 21/23 October**

The planning team would be meeting at Belsey Bridge in August to check on the logistics. The Treasurer and Administrator would be meeting in August to allocate rooms using the facility on the Belsey Bridge website.

There was some concern at the low number of bookings received to date. The Treasurer had, as agreed at the last meeting, contacted the organiser of last year's conference and had been advised that it was normal for potential participants to defer making bookings until nearer the date of the event. The Treasurer had re-calculated the break-even position which was now 90 participants.

## **7 Wherryman's Way, Hardley Flood and the Future of Navigation on River Chet**

The Chairman had asked for these issues to be included on the agenda as they were of significant importance to all three aspects of the Broads Authority's responsibilities – conservation, recreation and navigation.

He reported as follows:

- Norfolk County Council were putting together an update of the situation to send to the local Parish Councils, South Norfolk Council and the local Business Association . Adrian Clarke (BA) will forward this to the BS.
- The Local Access Forum was putting pressure on NCC not to close the entire length of the footpath.
- Flow meters had been installed at Pyes Mill.
- Negotiations were taking place between the Environment Agency and BESL to decide who would pay for the computer modelling of the results.
- Natural England had no concerns about Hardley Flood.

There was general agreement that it was vital to maintain pressure on achieving a satisfactory outcome and a secure future for the footpath which was very popular with locals and visitors.

## **8 Broads Charitable Trust**

There had been a lack of applications for funding and the Trust had therefore placed an advert in the EDP; this had produced a number of applications.

With regard to the Broads Authority's application for funding mentioned by Trudi Wakelin in her report, Keith Bacon explained that the Authority could bid for funds for projects provided that the work was not part of their statutory responsibility.

## **9 Broads Forum**

The last meeting had been cancelled. As mentioned by Trudi Wakelin, Tom Williamson would be giving a presentation on Staithes at the next meeting.

## **10 Publicity and Promotion**

The final event in the 2016 calendar would be the Picnic in the Park on 24 July. This was part of National Parks week.

Jill Wickens gave notice that she would not be running the Society stand next year.

## **11 Harnser**

Jill Wickens asked for articles and annual reports for the October Harnser to be sent to her by the middle of August.

## **12 Website**

Nick Balls had provided a report confirming that the website was being constantly updated with new material and web links. The site was now using the latest version of Wordpress which provided more stability. Members were asked to notify Nick of any changes required.

**13 Issues of Concern**

The list of ongoing items of concern items was reviewed and any updates noted as shown below:

- 13.1 Pylons – Lowestoft to Norwich.
- 13.2 Solar Farm Development
- 13.3 River Chet, Wherrymans Way and Hardley Flood – see Minute 7
- 13.4 Water Quality
- 13.5 Climate Change Adaptation
  - 13.6 Acle Straight
  - 13.7 Norfolk Hub and the Norwich Northern Distributor Road (NDR)
- 13.8 Fracking – not an issue for the Broads
- 13.9 Refuse disposal - Paul Rice had been working hard to bring about a resolution of the problems. An article had been published in the EDP.

**14 Rivers Sub-Committees and General Planning Matters**

- 14.1 North Rivers Sub-Committee  
The minutes of the meeting of 4 July would be circulated.  
The success of the NRSC river trip was noted.
- 14.2 Southern Rivers Sub-Committee (SRS-C)  
The next meeting would not take place until 27 July.

**15 A.O.B**

Peter Horsefield drew attention to the uncertainty of the future of Norfolk Windmills Trust. It was agreed that the Society should try to ascertain more information about the current position and then air its concerns about the future custody of these iconic buildings.

**16 Date of Next Meeting**

Tuesday 20 September 2016 at 7.00 pm at the Hotel Wroxham

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.50 pm

Signed ..... (Chairman)                      Date .....