
The Broads Society

Minutes of the Southern Rivers Sub-Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 22nd August 2017 at The Yare Public House, Brundall

Present: Colin Dye (Chair), Robin Godber, Don Cleaver, Ian Witard, Ian Northover-Smith, Penney Northover-Smith

In attendance: Sarah Vergette (Administrator).

1 Apologies for Absence

Mike Gross.

2 Minutes of the last Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 14th June 2017, having been circulated, were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

3 Declarations of Interest

There were none.

4 Matters arising

4.1 Hardley Flood, Wherrymans Way and River Chet

Mr Godber reported that he had spoken with Adrian Clarke from the Broads Authority and the situation remains the same as before. The metal posts will coming out next winter and the payments have been agreed. There will be dredging through the winter on the Southern Rivers, the spoil will be dumped on the banks and the pieces of trees will bind it together. The process is very slow as three or four agencies are involved but the pressure must be kept up for the work to progress. Colin Dye suggested that that Broads Authority should be contacted to ask for a timescale for all the works due this winter, Robin will contact them.

There are still problems with water levels and the boatyards are having difficulties launching.

4.2 Pyes Mill

Robin Godber stated that there are no problems with the live aboards, the moorings are being used by visiting boats. It appears that the boats from Thorpe Island are in the old Princess Cruisers basin.

Colin Dye said there had been reports of a person from a live aboard telling visitors that they have to pay at Loddon Staithe, this was reported to the police and has ceased.

4.3 Landing Stage at Strumpshaw Fen

There have been no further developments. Ian Wittard suggested approaching Strumpshaw Hall Estate as they might have somewhere that a landing stage could be put it. This would encourage visitors to the Steam Museum. Ian will draft a letter to the Estate Manager.

4.4 Robin Godber had written to the Norwich Chamber of Commerce asking for a meeting with the Broads Society to see what could be done to boost access into Norwich and attract visitors. He had not received a reply or acknowledgement. A letter will be sent by recorded delivery.

4.5 Beccles and Oulton Broad Yacht Stations

Penney Northover-Smith stated that with regard to Pegasus at Oulton Broad there was no change, they are still looking into the contamination and work should commence in three months.

5 Matters Arising from the Main Committee held on 11th July 2017

A copy of the minutes had been circulated. The Eel Sett is a long-running matter near to Hickling. Paul Rice is still asking for a meeting with the Broads Authority .

Robert Paul attended at the end of the meeting, he is writing the history of the Broads Society.

Tony Slack also attended the meeting as he was interested in the vacancy for Treasurer. He had agreed to take up the position.

It was noted the Peter Howe will be giving up as CNP representative. Robin Godber will attend the Conference in October.

Broadsword will start up again shortly, Colin Dye will be joining the group.

With regard to the Broads Charitable Trust if Strumpshaw Hall are interested they could be encouraged to apply to the Trust for a grant. It would be good to get a mooring at Strumpshaw.

Robin attends the Broads Forum meetings, there had been a report on the Upper Thurne Working Group for Hickling Broad. The work will continue. There had also been a presentation on riverside tree preservation and management. Over the years trees and scrub has grown up. Now agreement is needed from the Forestry Commission to cut down trees. The Local Plan was discussed with regard to planning issues.

There had been a problem with stag parties on boats. Boatyard accepting large group of all male or females should report this to the police and Broads Authority. They should be warned of the dangers whilst on the water. Colin Dye stated that antisocial behavior is a police matter and there is a clause in the hire agreement that a boat can be repossessed under these circumstances.

A calendar and Christmas card has been produced. If the calendar sells well this year it will be produced earlier next year and taken to events. A new marquee will be bought.

6 Regeneration of the Southern Broads

Robin Godber had downloaded the questionnaire regarding the River Wensum Strategy. This was discussed and the questions answered. Robin will complete the questionnaire online.

7 Planning

Robin Godber had been asked to look into a development at Cambridge House, Beccles. It is not always possible to see what is going on in the gardens but he had been alerted to a large summer house being built right on the water's edge. The Broads Authority were contacted and photos sent, an officer went to see the owners of the property and retrospective planning will be applied for.

The list of parishes and who is responsible for looking at planning applications will be circulated as there are some parishes which are not being covered at present.

8. A.O.B

There was nothing to discuss.

9. Date of Next Meeting

It was agreed the next meeting would be held on Wednesday 11th October at 7.30 in the Loddon area.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Signed..... (Chairman)

Date