

# The Broads Society

## *Minutes of the Northern Rivers Sub-Committee Meeting held on Monday 8 February at 7.30 pm at the Hotel Wroxham*

**Present:** Paul Savage, Keith Bacon, Lesley Bonshor,  
Michael Brandon-Jones, David Edleston, John Pitchers, David Skinner  
**In attendance:** Carol Palfrey (Administrator/Committee Secretary)

### **1 Apologies**

Peter Cobb

### **2 Minutes of the meeting of 14 December 2015.**

The minutes had been circulated and were agreed and signed by the Chair as a true record subject to the removal of Lesley Bonshor from the list of those present.

### **3 Declarations of Interest**

There were none

### **4 Matters Arising**

#### **4.1 Cess Staithe ( Minute 4.1)**

Keith Bacon reported the possibility of further developments.

### **5 Matters arising from the Main Committee held on 26 January 2016 and notes of the meeting with Trudi Wakelin**

#### **5.1 Jenners Basin – Thorpe Green (Minute 16.1)**

Paul Savage used this minute as an opportunity to report on his meeting with Jacquie Burgess (at Thorpe Green) to follow up presentation at the AGM, in particular her stated aim to improve the way the BA's communication strategies and the need for the Authority to be run by its members. Paul had given her a list of examples where communication could have been improved. He had pointed out the need for the BA to communicate good news as well as bad, for example the reduction in the number of moorings originally designated for closure. On the second issue, he detected signs that Authority members were playing a greater role.

For some time Paul had been attempting to contact Will Birchall in connection with his proposal that the BA should incorporate the provision of moorings in the Mills and Marshes Project but had received no reply. He had recently received a brochure from Mr Birchall together with an offer to make a presentation at a future meeting of the Main Committee. The Administrator would refer this offer to the Society Chairman for a decision.

#### **5.2 Norfolk Show (Minute 6.2)**

David Edleston, who had offered his help with at the Norfolk Show, expressed disappointment that the Society had decided not to exhibit in 2016, though he did understand the reasons. Keith Bacon reported recent his understanding that the organisers had made a firm decision to include an area focussing on the Broads which might affect the Society's decision.

#### **5.3 Solar Farm Development (Minute 15.2)**

David Edleston drew attention to the development at Salhouse which, because it was on undulating ground, and had a particularly adverse visual impact on the surrounding countryside and heritage buildings. He had taken a number of photos to illustrate his point.

5.4 Major Planning Applications in Norwich (Minute 16.4)  
Following David Edleston's proposal that these planning applications should be dealt with jointly by both Rivers Sub-Committees, the Main Committee had asked him to act as "lead consultee" to provide advice on the issues which the Society might wish to raise. David had agreed to this proposal.

5.5 Planning Applications for Flood Defence Work (Minute 16.3)  
From the outset, responsibility for dealing with these planning applications had been dealt with by Chris Groves in consultation with the Flood Protection Group. The only member of this group still involved was Keith Bacon. Paul Savage had attended a site visit in connection with an application at Upton and had expressed an interest in joining the group responsible for dealing with flood defence work. This had been agreed and Chris Groves would consult with him as well as Keith before preparing the Society's final response. Paul reported in more detail about the Upton site visit under item 7.2.

## **6 Norfolk Hub and NDR**

Work on Stage 1 was continuing.

## **7 Issues Relating to the Society's Mission**

7.1 Outing  
David Edleston had explored a number of options. It was agreed to arrange an outing on Saturday 23 April starting at Whispering Reeds boatyard, Hickling at 9.00 am and ending at 5.00 pm. The hire charge for a picnic boat accommodating 8 people would be £130. Participants would be:  
Paul Savage, Lesley Bonshor, Keith Bacon, John Pitchers, David Edleston, Michael Brandon-Jones and (probably) Peter Cobb. It was agreed that the remaining place be offered to the Society Chairman. David Edleston would liaise with the Administrator in connection with arrangements for paying a deposit.

7.2 Survey of waste disposal facilities  
Lesley Bonshor had taken a photo of the situation at Ranworth and agreed to send it to Peter Cobb for the collection.  
Keith Bacon reported that pressure for a solution was now coming from Parish Councils, the Broads Authority and local residents. Norman Lamb was now addressing this matter. Paul Savage had asked Angie Leaper (BA) for information on which facilities had been removed.

7.3 Moorings  
Referring to the site visit at Upton (Minute 5.5) Paul Savage explained that the proposal by the Environment Agency to remove the defined edge of the bank in this very narrow dyke would create problems. This was a busy area in the summer and provision of sufficient moorings was essential. Paul had pointed out the safety issues of the proposals to Kevin Marshall (BESL) and Paul Mitchelmore (Environment Agency). He had also written to the Broads Authority urging them to adopt a joined up policy for moorings.

7.4 Broads Forum  
Paul Savage had attended a meeting of the Forum and had gained the impression that the Broads Authority took notice of its views. However, owing to his other commitments, he was as yet undecided as to whether he would become the Society's official representative on a long term basis.

**8 Planning**

8.1 Planning applications since 12 October 2015

A list had been circulated.

8.2 Refusals

4062 – Fairview, Marsh Road, Cantley

The re-submission of a lapsed planning application for a new dwelling had been refused.

8.3 New applications to considered

One application at Stokesby gave no cause for concern.

8.4 Revised planning application for Ferry Boat Inn site, Norwich

David Edleston explained that application was being dealt with by two Planning Authorities: Norwich City Council for the building development and the Broads Authority for the cantilevered walkway. The original application had been refused on the grounds of scale and possible impact of the walkway on navigation. David showed members plans illustrating the differences between the original proposal and the revision. It was noted that the cantilevered walkway was no longer included.

It was agreed that David would prepare the response for the Administrator to submit to the City Council with a copy to the Broads Authority.

**9 A.O.B**

9.1 River Bure

John Pitchers reported the restoration of the river bank planting had been carried out in two locations and completed in late summer 2015.

**9 Date of Next Meetings 2016**

Mondays: 11 April, 27 June, 22 August, 10 October and 12 December.

The meeting closed at 8.50 pm

Signed .....

Date.....