

Minutes of the Northern Rivers Sub-Committee Meeting

held on Monday 24th April at 7.30 pm at 5 Bittern Close, Barton Turf.

Present: Paul Savage, Keith Bacon, Lesley Bonshor, Michael Brandon-Jones, Peter Cobb, David Edleston and Robert Paul .

In attendance: Sarah Vergette (Administrator/Committee Secretary)

- 1 Apologies
John Pitchers
Paul Savage welcomed Sarah Vergette as the new Administrator.
- 2 Minutes of the meeting of 13th February.
The minutes, having been circulated, were agreed and signed as a true record.
- 3 Declarations of Interest
There were none.
- 4 Matters Arising
It was agreed the minutes would be amended to thank David Skinner for his efforts over the years.
- 5 Matters arising from the Main Committee held on 10 January

The Minutes had been circulated for information.
The following issues were highlighted:
 - 5.1 Eel Sett
A meeting is to be arrange between Angie Leeper of the Broads Authority, Paul Rice, Keith Bacon and a member of the Kinder family who wishes to continue. It was noted that the Broads Authority do not want to be involved with any expense.
 - 5.2 David Edlestone remarked that the last two Harnsers had been much better quality and had been produced at a better price.
- 6 Norfolk Hub and NDR
- 7 Issues Relating to the Society's Mission
 - 7.1 Outing
David Edleston apologised that he had been busy and had not made any progress with regard to hiring a boat. Paul Savage said that Nancy Oldfield Trust have some boats, it may be possible to hire one at a reduced rate. Robert Paul has a boat moored at Ludham Bridge which could be used. Paul Savage stated that monitoring of the banks on the Ant had not been finished. There are a lot of informal moorings near Ludham Bridge beyond Barton Broad that are recognised. The Committee could look at the condition, they could also go on to Hunsett Mill in the autumn. Peter Cobb suggested that this should be called a river inspection not an outing.
 - 7.2 Survey of waste disposal facilities
North Norfolk District Council has come to an arrangement with Ludham Parish Council for the bins to be emptied at Womack Staithe and Ludham Bridge. Peter Cobb hoped that a similar arrangement could be made for Horning.

7.3 Moorings

Peter Cobb asked if there had been any progress. Paul Savage said that Mike Whittaker was no longer going to chair the Navigation Committee and a meeting would not take place. Peter Jermy from the Wherry Trust had asked for an update for the next Forum meeting. Paul Savage would be talking to Barbara Greaseley From Norfolk Broads Direct as what she says has more impact due to obtaining feedback from visitors.

Paul Savage went on to say that when companies build new boats they are building them as “double deckers” which are unable to get under Wroxham and Potter Heigham bridges. Customers then complain that they can find nowhere to moor. When the policy had been formulated it had not been calculated which are the busiest moorings. Support is needed from people with a financial interest in the Broads. Paul Savage stated that this needs a lot of solid work with proper recordings, there are other ways or creating moorings other than with steel piling. Paul Savage will report at the next meeting.

8 Planning

8.1 System for dealing with planning applications

Peter Cobb stated that he was concerned that the new system was not as effective, he thought it was too easy for a planning application to be missed. It was agreed that the planning list would be sent out marked for the attention of the person who is responsible for the parish concerned but others still invited to comment.

8.2 Boundary Farm, Oby

The owner does not want the responsibility for piling, the Broads Authority will install floating pontoons in front of the bank which are at 45 degrees. Lesley Bonshor remarked that people complain if they cannot find informal moorings. Paul Savage stated that people need to go out with cameras and record spots and tell visitors. It is part of the Broads Authority’s policy to produce leaflets telling people where they can moor.

8.4 General Planning Matters

David Edlestone said that he had written to the owners of Back Water thanking them for allowing a visit. David suggested that he would write a brief article for Harnser to be positive about the design of the building. He had taken photos and had asked the owners of Back Water for permission to use them.

Lesley Bonshor repeated the comment from the previous meeting regarding that work on an iconic thatched boat shed, on Malthouse Broad, Ranworth, which was being re-roofed with plastic sheet, had been stopped by the BA, pending agreement about re-roofing with a more appropriate covering.

There is an issue regarding Paul Rice who was going to chair a Broads Authority site visit for an application which the Northern

Rivers Committee had commented on. Paul Rice had not taken part in the discussions regarding the application and had therefore not declared an interest. Paul Savage had written a draft response to the Broads Authority making it clear that Paul Rice takes no part in planning matters.

9 A.O.B

Keith Bacon stated that Hickling Broad had been purchased by the Norfolk Wildlife Trust this will have a big impact on businesses near Hickling Staithe.

10 Date of Next Meeting

There was much discussion regarding a venue for future meetings. Lesley Bonshor asked if it was necessary to meet every two months now that planning was more streamlined. It was agreed to meet quarterly. The Administrator will investigate the possibility of using Hoveton Community Centre. The next meeting will be held on Monday 12th June.

The meeting closed at 9.05 pm

Signed

Date.....