
The Broads Society

Minutes of the Southern Rivers Sub-Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 11th October 2017 at The White Horse Public House, Chedgrave

Present: Colin Dye (Chair), Robin Godber, John Cressey, Mike Gross. Ian Witard.

In attendance: Sarah Vergette (Administrator).

1 Apologies for Absence

Don Cleaver,

2 Minutes of the last Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 22nd August 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

Ian Witard stated that he had seen a piece in the paper saying that the Broads Authority had issued a navigation warning that they will be carrying out work on the Chet. Robin Godber stated that he had been keeping in contact with Adrian Clarke but nothing much had happened, the work will start in the winter.

4.2 Pyes Mill

The sunken boat is now up.

4.3 Landing Stage at Strumpshaw Fen

A response had been received from the Strumpshaw Estates stating the land is leased to the RSPB so the Broads Society should discuss a landing stage with them, it was agreed to discuss this with the RSPB next year.

4.4 Although Robin Godber had written to the Norwich Chamber of Commerce asking for a meeting with the Broads Society and sent the letter by recorded delivery no response had been received. It was agreed to ask Don Cleaver to go and see the Chamber of Commerce.

4.5 Beccles and Oulton Broad Yacht Stations

With regard to Pegasus at Oulton Broad there was no change, the contamination problem has stopped anything being done.

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

A copy of the minutes had been circulated. There had been no progress with regard to the Eel Sett. Robin Godber had suggested charging the Broads Authority rent for keeping their boats there.

Colin and Robin had been to view the archives which are currently being stored by Jill Wickens in her house.

Robin Godber will be attending the NPS Conference.

There had been a list of grants given by the Broads Charitable Trust. The Broads Forum had discussed mooring at Acle Bridge, there had been discussion regarding hen and stag parties. Colin Dye stated that the Broads Hire Boat Federation had brought out a code of practice to help deal with the problems which had occurred on the Broads this summer.

It had been agreed to award the Lady Mayhew Trophy to the Norfolk Schools Sailing Association.

Colin Dye had been out with Broadsword and they had cleared a long stretch of alders on the Ant.

6 Regeneration of the Southern Broads

Robin Godber stated that this matter had created interest in the beginning and it was a pity that the two things happening on the Southern Rivers were not working together.

7 Planning

Robin Godber stated that there had been a lot of development in Beccles in the gardens on the road from the church to the bridge, with no planning applications being submitted. Robin took this matter up with the Broads Authority as the properties do need planning permission for development because they are on the river. Residents have been sent a letter explaining what they need to do.

The list of parishes and who is responsible for looking at planning applications was discussed and parishes were allocated. The updated list will be circulated.

8. A.O.B

The Peer Review being held at the Broads Authority appears to have been a whitewash, Robin had spoken to Paul Rice about this matter. The Broads Society had been denied representation. When Robin had been Chairman of the Broads Society he had a meeting with John Packman every two months, it is important to keep the dialogue up. This matter should be put on the Main Committee Agenda for the next meeting.

Ian Witard stated that there had been a lot in the press recently about how the Broads Authority should be more open and accountable, they should be member led not staff led.

Robin Godber stated that it was very disturbing and he would say at the CNP Conference that there is a problem with the Broads Authority from a governance point of view. Colin Dye stated that lots of planning applications have gone to appeal and have lost the appeal. Paul Rice thinks that planning matters should be dealt with by the local authorities.

John Cressey stated that there is shortage of casual moorings since BESL had pulled out of piling works.

Colin Dye stated that this was his last meeting as Chairman of the Southern Broads Committee, he thanked members for their help and patience.

9. Date of Next Meeting

It was agreed the next meeting would be held on Wednesday 13th December at 7.30 in Brundall.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Signed..... (Chairman)

Date