

The Broads Society

Minutes of the Northern Rivers Sub-Committee Meeting held on Monday 8th April 2019 at 7.30 pm at The New Victory Hall, Neatishead.

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

In attendance: Paul Rice (Broads Society Chairman) and Peter Smith (Chairman of Southern Rivers). Sarah Vergette (Administrator Secretary).

1 Apologies: Lesley Bonshor,

2 Minutes of the meeting of 11th February 2019.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were signed as a true record of the meeting.

3 Declarations of Interest

Paul Rice stated that he is on the Broads Authority Planning Committee. Keith Bacon stated that he has put in a planning application which will come through shortly.

4 Matters Arising

Nothing to discuss.

5 Minutes of the Main Committee

Paul Savage was pleased to report that he had presented with David Williams with a certificate from Broadsword for completing twenty-eight seasons with them.

Paul went on to say that there would be a Broads Enable meeting at the end of the month to discuss biodiversity. This will be held at Hoveton Village Hall.

Paul explained that the Glover Review had been discussed again and a new pressure group had been formed, they hope to use the Broads Society as a conduit to facilitate ideas with the Leaders Group. The Main Committee had written a letter to Councillor Nunn who is Chairman of the group to find a way of helping the relationship with the Broads Authority but to date no response had been received.

Paul Rice stated that everyone is waiting for the Local Elections, after these elections the Broads Society should offer support to new members. Paul Rice and Paul Savage had a meeting with Norman Lamb recently to try and persuade him to connect them to the Permanent Secretary for Defra.

Jill Wickens had suggested the Society should have a new Patron. If anyone has suggestions they should send them to the Administrator. Keith stated a Patron should be someone with influence in Norfolk not just a celebrity.

6

6.1 Disposal of Waste

There had been no problems.

6.2 Moorings

Keith reported that the annual litter pick had been carried out at Potter Heigham and Repps organised by the Thurne Bungalow Association supported by NNDC who had taken everything away except for a couple of pieces of asbestos.

The planning application for Marina Quays which has just been received has provision for moorings. The plans show one space for the purpose of de-masting. The rest is a mixture of visitor moorings and permanent residential moorings. There could be Dutch barges in the permanent moorings. Keith Bacon asked if a proportion would be social housing. The plans also show residential dwellings, David Edleston was concerned that the river is very shallow at low tide, he also expressed concern regarding the design of the residential dwellings. Four of the dwellings look like holiday cabins and the other three look like traditional dwelling but they will need to be built on stilts so will be quite high. They will then be higher than the existing marina building, the design is uncoordinated.

Paul Savage thought that there should be a site inspection and 18th March at 6pm was agreed.

6.3 Harnser

Jill Wickens has agreed to continue with Harnser and she has enough materials for the next issue. Following a discussion it was agreed to leave this matter with the Publicity Committee.

6.4 Glover Review – this was covered under the Main Committee item.

6.5 Acle Bridge

Paul Savage reported that a request had been made under the Freedom of Information Act to see the feasibility study, the project had not been approved by BA members. At the meeting on 22nd March Paul had put in three questions regarding this project. One question as about the money from Navigation income which had been used to purchase the site, Paul was told this would be paid back if the project goes ahead. A feasibility study should show the commercial viability on the impact of not having the stores. Planning permission had not yet been applied for. There could also be an impact on Whitlingham Country Park if this goes ahead. They would need to attract 90,000 visitors a year to make it viable.

A recent parish Forum was well attended where John Packman gave a presentation about the proposed Acle development. Keith Bacon stated that the site is actually in Fleggburgh.

David Edleston question where the evidence is that demonstrates a need for a visitor centre, it could destroy the sensitive site and character of the Broads. A site visit will be arrange at some time.

7 Planning

There is an application for a replacement bungalow/chalet at South Walsham which should be looked at.

Paul Rice stated that there had been complaints about an advertising trailer at Potter Heigham which is blocking the emergency access.

8 Any Other Business

Pat Simpson had mentioned the live aboards moored at Stalham Staithe at the Main Committee meeting. Robert Paul stated that these are both licenced and there are no powers to remove them.

David Edlston mentioned that there is a Heritage Lottery Fund project for the Stracey Arms Mill. A training day for Mills and the Marsh Folk will be held at Norwich Library on 3rd May, he will attend.

9 Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting was set for Monday 10th June in the New Victory Hall, Neatishead at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm.

Signed

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