
The Broads Society

Minutes of the Southern Rivers Sub-Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 11th November 2020 by Zoom

In attendance: Paul Rice, Broads Society Chairman, Colin Dye, Robin Godber, Chris Mutton, Ian Wittard, Paul Savage (Chairman of North Rivers Committee) and Sarah Vergette (Administrator).

1. **Apologies for Absence:** There were no apologies.

2. **Minutes of the last Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 26th February 2020, having been circulated, were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

Peter Smith stated that Planning Permission agreed by BA in Dec 2019 had been issued for Sandersons at Reedham in April and the site is now up for sale.

3. **Declarations of Interest**

There were none.

4. **Matters Arising**

4.1 River Chet

Peter Smith reported that the situation with the footpath is ongoing. £30,000 has been received for a survey in order to see what can be done for the Wherryman's Way. Chedgrave Parish Council have a working party who are involved.

4.2 Pye's Mill/ Loddon Staithe

Nothing to discuss.

4.3 Whitlingham Country Park

Whitling Country Park put an article in Harnser and there was an offer to the Society to go and have a look around in due course.

5. **Matters Arising from the Main Committee**

Nothing to discuss.

6. **Request from Thorpe Town Council**

Dr Thomas Foreman contacted Peter Smith to ask if the Broads Society would like to join with Thorpe Town Council to debate Broads issues. Paul Rice thought this was a good idea.

Paul Savage had been invited to join this meeting, Paul has drafted a response to Dr Foreman but it needs approval from the Trustees before it can be sent. Paul Savage went on to say that it would be a good idea to engage with the MPs and Local Government. Dr Foreman will coordinate a meeting. Paul also stated that there have been changes in the BA's powers, under the regulations they can deal with sunken boats.

The Broads Authority want to amalgamate the tolls income with the National Park Grant. This would allow them spend it on things like visitor centres. They need to take navigation seriously and work in an efficient way.

Colin Dye stated that live aboard boats should have their own category for safety standards, they should be fit to live on and should pay tolls as a liveaboard. Colin thought the Broads Society should be involved in this matter. Paul Rice agreed and said that the BA should set aside sites and specific places for liveaboards. Broads Beat have been carrying out safety checks on liveaboards.

Colin Dye proposed that the Broads Society should look into this matter, this was seconded by Paul Rice with everyone in agreement. This will be taken to the next Main Committee meeting.

Peter stated that the Waveney River Centre will be their weekly hire boats to the Northern Rivers next year.

Colin said that people should be encouraged to use Oulton Broad Yacht Station which he believed was under new management. Peter added that Beccles Yacht Station was now run by the Town Council & a Trust

Since the meeting the following information has been obtained

<https://www.yachtstation.co.uk/oultton-broad-moorings/>

Chris Mutten thought that there was milage in promoting wild moorings. The Broads Authority removed a sign from his land for free mooring because they said the rhond was dangerous.

7. Regeneration of the Southern Broads

Attempts to contact the Norwich Green Party following their work to remove underwater debris but no response has been received. There has been underwater clearance in the Norwich rivers. Robin Godber stated that previously a lot of work had been done to contact the Chamber of Commerce and Norwich Society but again no replies were received.

8. Planning

Peter reported that there had been a few problems with the BA website not showing the Society's comments regarding planning application, hopefully this has now been resolved. It was agreed the method of circulating and reporting on planning application is working well.

Chris asked if there had been any comments on the new pontoon at Carlton Marshes, a lot of money was spent for only two boats to be able to moor there.

Peter said that under pressure from Ben Falat of Norfolk and Suffolk Boating Association its location had been revised In answer to a question regarding its need Peter noted it was to support the new SWT Visitor Centre.

A recent application to re-build one of the private quays at Oulton Broad had led to a query about the removal of on old Wherry mooring post which could be exposed & cause a hazard.

9. Any Other Business

Peter reported that Nick Balls has updated the website regarding Christmas cards and calendars and the AGM information. Peter suggested that Sarah should contact Ben Falat, who is also on Oulton Broad Parish Council, to see if he would be interested in joining Southern Rivers there is no one representing that area. Chris Mutten proposed that Ben Falat should be contacted, this was seconded by Paul Rice with everyone in agreement.

10. Date of next Meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting would take place in January.

The meeting closed at 7.05pm.

.....
Chairman

.....
Date

