

Broads Authority

Minutes of the meeting held on 18 March 2016

Present:

Professor J A Burgess – in the Chair

Mr K Allen	Mr P Durrant	Mr V Thomson
Mr J Ash	Dr J M Gray	Mr J Timewell
Mr L Baugh	Ms G Harris	*Mrs N Talbot (from
Mr M Bradbury	Mrs L Hemsall	Min 5/4)
Sir Peter Dixon	Mr G Jermany	Mr M Whitaker
Mr N Dixon	Mr G McGregor	

In Attendance:

Dr J Packman – Chief Executive
Mrs S A Beckett – Administrative Officer
Mr A Clarke – Senior Waterways and Recreation Officer
(Minute 5/1 to 5/10)
Dr D Hoare – Environment and Design Supervisor (Item
5/9 and 5/10)
Mr D Johnson – For Solicitor
Ms E Krelle – Head of Finance
Ms A Long – Director of Planning and Resources
Ms L Marsh – Head of Communications
Ms T Wakelin – Director of Operations

Also in attendance: Dr K Bacon – Chairman, Broads Forum and Chairman of Broads Local Access Forum

Also Present: Mr W Dickson, Mr B Wilkins, Mrs N Talbot* – Members of the Navigation committee as observers

5/1 Apologies and Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting including members of the public and Keith Bacon, Chairman of Broads Forum.

Apologies were received from Mr M Barnard, Miss S Blane, Mr P Rice and Mr P Warner. Mr L Baugh, Mr N Dixon and Mr P Durrant would be arriving later.

5/2 Chairman's Announcements

(1) **Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014**

Following a request from the Chairman, no members of the public indicated that they would be recording or filming the proceedings.

(2) **Staff Matters**

Adrian Vernon as Head of Ranger Services would be retiring at the end of the month having been with the Authority since 1993 for 23 years. Adrian had risen through all the roles to become Head of Ranger Services in 2011 which incorporated the role of Navigation Officer. The Chairman paid tribute to Adrian for his dedication, enthusiasm and professionalism when dealing with major incidents. He had been a keen player in developing important partnerships and particularly in setting up Broads Beat. He had lead the Ranger Team to become a high performing, integrated, multi-skilled service that the Authority could be proud of and he would be missed. On behalf of the Authority, the Chairman thanked Adrian and wished him well for the future.

Adrian thanked the Chairman for her kind words

(3) **Members leaving the Authority**

The Chairman reported that there would be three members leaving the Authority - Murray Gray and Phil Durrant as Secretary of State appointees from 31 March 2016 and George Jermamy a local authority appointee at the May elections.

- **Murray Gray** would be leaving after a total of 12 years with 7 years as Chairman of Planning Committee. The Chairman explained that the Planning Committee had given Murray a presentation and she had been particularly impressed by the comments from the planning staff and the respect with which he was held not only by the Authority's staff but also by staff and members from other authorities. The Chairman thanked Murray and wished him well for the future.

In response Murray thanked the Chairman commenting that when he joined the Authority he knew very little about the Broads. He had certainly learned a great deal to the extent that it was now part of him. He thanked in particular the planning officers for their support and greatly admired what the Broads Authority had achieved. He was only disappointed that certain recent issues had not yet been resolved while he was Chairman. He wished everyone success for the future. He would continue to be an ambassador for the Broads.

- **George Jermamy** would be leaving the Authority after a total of 13 years in three separate appointments. Although this would be his last Broads Authority meeting he would still be on the Authority until

May 2016 and would continue to serve on the Planning Committee. The Chairman paid tribute to George's common sense, depth of knowledge and expertise in local government which were all highly appreciated by the members and officers. He would be missed.

In response, George Jermany commented that he did love boats and had had one for 50 odd years. He thanked the Chairman commenting that he thoroughly enjoyed his time on the Authority and meeting everyone, which he hoped to continue doing when he was out in the Broads.

- **Phil Durant (8 years)** would be leaving the Authority after 8 years on the Authority having been a highly respected Member of the Navigation Committee and Financial Scrutiny and Audit Committee, as well as Lead Member on the Broads Flood Alleviation Project. He has also given substantial support for the 2015-16 Tolls Review Group, having been involved with three previous Tolls Reviews. The Chairman commented that his private sector and commercial experience had been very helpful to the Authority over the last 8 years.

In response Phil Durrant thanked the Authority for the experience he had gained from the challenges presented over his term of office. In particular he thanked the Director of Operations and Senior Waterways and Recreation Officer for enabling him to get out into the executive area. He thanked all the officers and members for whom he had a great deal of respect, for all the opportunities that the Authority had provided him.

(4) Member Development – Workshop on Governance: Chairing Skills Training

The Chairman informed Members that the training session on Governance to include the Role of Members as well as chairing skills had been re-arranged for 29 September 2016 starting at 10.00am when there would be a number of new members to induct to the Authority. She urged all members to attend.

(5) Various Events and Future Dates to Note

The Chairman drew attention to the following:
Public Consultation on Broads Plan/Broads Local Plan and Sustainable Tourism Strategy – two public meetings on 19 March at Oulton Broad Community Centre, Meadow Road and 23 March 2016 at Memorial Hall, Links Avenue, Brundall

Planning Committee – 1 April 2016 and 29 April 2016
Tolls Review Group – 21 March 2016 and
Navigation Committee – 21 April 2016

Broads Outdoors Festival 7 – 22 May 2016
Horning Boat Show – May Bank Holiday

National Parks UK and National Parks England – 8/9 June 2016 will be having their summer meeting in the Broads. It was hoped that a reception could be held on 8 June to which members of the Authority would be invited. This would provide Members of the Authority with an excellent opportunity to meet the Chairs and Chief Executives of all the 15 National Parks. Details to follow

5/3 Appointment of Co-Opted Member to the Broads Authority

The Authority received a report concerning the appointment of a co-opted Member from the Navigation Committee to the Authority. The Chairman of the Navigation Committee explained in detail the proceedings at the Navigation Committee meeting on 25 February 2016, and how he had received written notice prior to the meeting which set out major concerns relating to the conduct of a member. He decided to take it as an urgent item due to the legal, financial and ongoing risk to the Authority. He read out the motion of no confidence in James Knight as its Vice- Chairman requesting that he be removed from that position and that another member replace him as the appointee on the full Authority. This had been passed by 10 votes to 0 with 3 abstentions on the basis of *concerns that Mr Knight was not adopting the interests of the public generally and not taking collective responsibility for the decisions made by the Authority and that some of his actions and words may be damaging to the Broads Authority and to that extent he should be removed from a position of responsibility.*

The Navigation Committee then agreed unanimously to appoint Mrs Nicky Talbot as Vice-Chairman of the Navigation Committee and agreed by 10 votes to 0 with 3 abstentions to recommend to the Authority that Mrs Talbot be appointed to the Authority replacing Mr James Knight.

It was noted that at the Authority meeting on 20 March 2015, the Authority agreed that the term of appointment of the co-opted members of the Navigation Committee should be on an annual basis and therefore the current appointments would run until the Broads Authority meeting on 13 May 2016 for consistency.

Kelvin Allen proposed, seconded by Matthew Bradbury and it was

RESOLVED by 11 votes to 0 with 2 abstentions

that Mrs Nicky Talbot be appointed to the Authority until the Broads Authority meeting on 13 May 2016 replacing Mr James Knight.

*Mrs Talbot joined the meeting and took part in discussions

5/4 Introduction of Members and Declarations of Interest

Members introduced themselves and expressed declarations of interest as set out in Appendix 1 to these minutes.

5/5 Items of Urgent Business

The Chairman stated that an item of urgent business had been received concerning the problems with this year's toll plaques and the proximity of the start of the season. There was an urgent need to consider the options for this year and to take a decision before the 1 April 2016. It was therefore proposed and agreed that this item be taken between items 13 and 14 of the Agenda.

5/6 Public Question Time

A public question had been submitted by Mr Adam Manvell concerning the Injunctions relating to Thorpe Island. The Chairman read this out together with the Authority's response which is provided at Appendix 2 to these minutes.

5/7 Minutes of Broads Authority Meeting held on 22 January 2016

The minutes of the meeting held on 22 January 2016 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

5/8 Summary of Progress/Actions Taken Following Decisions of Previous Meetings

The Authority received and noted a schedule of progress/actions taken following decisions of previous meetings. It was noted that recent meetings had focused on strategic matters, whereas this agenda would be focusing on other operational areas of work being undertaken.

In particular, members noted the updates concerning:

Ludham Bridge Footpath link to St Benets

With the agreements all having been completed, the works on surfacing the footpath were now finished and once settled, the footpath would be opened for this season.

External Funding Opportunities (Minute 5/15 of 20 March 2015)

The Head of Strategy and Projects had been making good progress on the prospectus for how businesses would be able to support the Authority.

In addition the Authority had won an award of £12,000 from Tesco "Bags for Help" for the construction of a new wildlife pond at Whitlingham for pond dipping for educational visits and the relocation of the low ropes course, originally funded by South Norfolk Council, to the Outdoor Education Centre. The Authority had come first in a public vote in Tesco Stores.

A member referred to the Mend Our Mountains Campaign where nine of the National Parks had collaborated and had managed to raise £20,000 through crowdfunding. Matt Bradbury offered to provide further information on this and assistance relating to external funding opportunities.

Marine Management Organisation (MMO) Licensing of Works in the Broads (Minute 2/26 of 25 September 2015)

A member commented that it was hoped that a sensible methodology and arrangement could be agreed and urged Officers to pursue their efforts with the MMO in order to resolve this important matter relating to responsibilities for discharges and licensing works.

5/9 Operational Update

The Authority received a presentation on the operational work being undertaken by the Authority including that of the Ranger Team on patrolling, involving advice and guidance, enforcement, incident response, as well as events, education and practical works; the Construction and Maintenance Team involving practical, technical and environmental and conservation projects; and work relating to Asset Management and Safety. The Director of Operations provided details of the time allocation for the last year with navigation maintenance having the major share of 65% including dredging, moorings, signage; Conservation Management work including fen works and invasive species - 20% and Understanding and Enjoyment- 15% involving footpath cutting and countryside sites and projects. It was emphasised that since the re-organisation there was no longer a dedicated conservation team, but this had not reduced the amount of conservation work in total undertaken. This had been achieved through an efficient work programme with a shift in emphasis, improvements in technology and skills and development of relationships with the Wildlife Trusts and other organisations. The Authority had also facilitated other organisations to maintain habitats.

Attention was drawn to the development of the Apprenticeship Scheme involving three apprentices being mentored by three of the Senior Technicians which was proving very successful. The apprentices were being trained to at least a NVQ Level 2 and up to the standard of the skilled operational technician. The Authority could not guarantee a post at the end of their apprenticeship but those involved would definitely be considered if an opportunity arose. It was intended to continue the scheme and hopefully potentially increase it but at present there was no available funding for the latter.

In highlighting the priorities for 2016/17 the Director of Operations referred to the Waste Review where Members had requested wider discussions. Having contacted all the Navigation Committee, 9 members had expressed an interest and therefore it was intended that a workshop would be held by August 2016 to which all Broads Authority members would be invited and a report produced for the September Navigation Committee. Following notification from North Norfolk District Council that it would be withdrawing certain waste sites and only retaining three within the Broads, after successful

negotiation, the Council had now agreed to retain a further three sites and had also successfully negotiated with third parties to transfer sites at other locations e.g. the Public House at Hickling and the National Trust site at Horsey. However, it was understood that for three of the six sites, agreement was currently only until October 2016. A Member emphasized that there was a need to find a solution before the next season. Unfortunately public perception was that the Authority was responsible for waste management, which was incorrect, and therefore it was important to manage the outcomes.

A similar situation regarding responsibilities arose concerning maintenance of footpaths as had been demonstrated at a recent public meeting on the Wherryman's Way where Norfolk County Council was intending to re-route a section of the footpath to the north of Hardley Flood due to safety concerns about the condition of the bridge, revetments and riverbank. It was clarified that officers had been through a careful prioritization process with the Broads Local Access Forum for certain footpaths within the Broads area where it would be necessary for the Authority to be involved. Members considered that it was important for the Authority to continue negotiating and pressing Norfolk County Council on the importance of footpaths within the area.

It was clarified that the income received for the Higher Level Stewardship scheme was not ring fenced but was included in the budget under land management; due to the staff time involved exceeding the income received.

Members thanked the Director of Operations for an excellent and informative presentation and congratulated staff on the achievements over the last year.

RESOLVED

that the report be noted.

5/10 Broads Water Plant Survey Results

The Authority received a report and presentation on the findings from the annual water plant survey carried out during 2015 which helped to provide a measure of the water quality status within the area. With detailed data over a period of thirty years, the Authority was therefore able to make comparisons and view improvements as well as seek improvements in survey techniques. It was noted that the Broads contained very special and rare species specific to wetlands some of which were not found anywhere else within the country.

A total of 28 Broads had been surveyed using the traditional standard rake sampling technique. The Waxham Cut was surveyed for water plants using a similar methodology, but specifically developed for rivers and channels. Barton and Hickling Broads had been surveyed using the more updated technology of hydroacoustic survey equipment, to gain greater accuracy and resolution of the volume of water plants growing in the water, and their spatial extent over the bed of these broads.

Members noted the findings and welcomed the combination of the different methodologies being used to enable accurate records to be taken at a high resolution. These were powerful tools for guiding site management and prioritization for areas of restoration and ecological enhancement, including those areas closed to navigation, as well as identifying impacts on navigation.

In answer to a member's concern, it was noted that the Authority worked with the Environment Agency especially concerning the Water Framework Directive and particularly closely with Natural England in exchanging data. The Environment Agency used a standard national modelling and monitoring system and was more concerned with the larger sites whereas the Authority could focus and provide detailed data on smaller sites.

The Chairman commented that if any member wished to be involved in the Annual Plant Survey for 2016 their contribution would be most welcome.

RESOLVED

that the use of the new methodology and the findings for the survey be welcomed and noted.

5/11 Strategic Direction

(1) Strategic Priorities for 2015/16 (including Broads Plan)

The Authority received a report setting out the Broads Authority's activities in delivering progress against the Broads Plan 2011 through the five key Strategic Priorities agreed at the Authority's meeting on 20 March 2015 for the year, where the Authority had been identified as the lead partner for the year 2015/16. Members noted that good progress was being made on the key priorities excepting the National Park branding which was awaiting the outcome of the Judicial Review. This was expected in April and a report would be provided on the outcome together with a report on the feedback from the consultation on the Sustainable Tourism Strategy.

RESOLVED

- (i) that the performance of the different projects to meet the Strategic Priorities for 2015/16 in the table at Appendix 1(a) to the report be noted.

(2) Strategic Priorities for 2016/2017

Members were reminded that at the meeting in November 2015, the Authority had resolved that the same five Strategic Priorities of 2015/16 be retained for 2016/17, together with two additional areas of focus, namely climate change and sea level rise as well as the Comprehensive Spending Review. However, in light of the positive

outcome from the Spending Review, it was no longer necessary to include the latter as a priority.

RESOLVED

- (ii) that the Authority adopts the draft detailed milestones for the Strategic Priorities for 2016/17 as detailed in Appendix 1(n) of the report.

5/12 Draft Budget 2016/17 and Financial Strategy to 2018/19

The Authority received a report setting out the proposals for the consolidated income and expenditure budget for 2016/17 as well as a three year Financial Strategy to 2018/19. The latter was based on the four year settlement for National Park Grant which included a 1.72% per annum allowance for inflation, the adopted overall 4.5% increase in navigation charges for 2016/17 and an assumption of 2.5% per annum increase in the subsequent two years. The format reflected the organisational structure of the Authority and was in line with the monitoring presented to the Authority throughout the financial year. It was noted that both the Operations and Planning and Resources Budgets had no capacity to take on additional projects or ad-hoc work in 2016/17.

Members noted that the Financial Scrutiny and Audit Committee had reviewed the draft budget at its meeting on 9 February 2016 where members gave consideration to the Navigation Committee's views from 10 December 2015. The Committee had agreed that a benchmarking activity should be undertaken with comparisons to similar organisations, with the aim of helping to identify areas for possible future savings. Some initial work had been undertaken in relation to the cost of dredging as set out in Appendix 1 of the report. Members considered that in addition to dredging, it was suggested that a benchmarking exercise in relation to administration costs be attempted.

Members noted the key assumptions applied in developing the draft budget including those relating to navigation tolls, discretionary support for the hire boat industry in terms of staged payment facilities, public sector salaries, changes to national insurance contributions, and pension lump sum deficit. It was noted that there could be changes to future years as a result of the recommendations from the Tolls Working Group.

Although the National Park Grant settlement for the next four years gave some confidence that the Authority could plan for this period, members sounded a note of caution for the longer term but were mindful that the Authority should continue to carry out its duties competently and efficiently to the best of its abilities and not be afraid to take opportunities where possible.

RESOLVED unanimously

- (i) that the 2016/17 Budget be adopted and the assumptions applied in the preparation of the Budget be endorsed;

- (ii) that the Earmarked Reserves Strategy for the period 2016/17 to 2018/19, and the proposed contributions to and from Earmarked Reserves for the period 2016/17 to 2018/19 be adopted.
- (iii) that the Authority undertakes benchmarking activity in relation to administration in association with the other National Parks as requested by Financial Scrutiny and Audit Committee set out in 1.5 of the report..

5/13 Financial Performance and Direction

Consolidated Income and Expenditure from 1 April to 31 January 2016

The Authority received a report providing details of the actual income and expenditure for the ten month period to 31 January 2016 together with a forecast of the projected expenditure at the end of the financial year (31 March 2016).

Members noted that the current forecast outturn position for the year indicated a surplus of £51,520 for the national park side and a surplus of £17,622 for navigation resulting in an overall surplus of £69,143 within the consolidated budget. This indicated a general reserve balance before year-end adjustments of approximately £1,005,000 and a navigation reserve balance of approximately £298,000 at the end of 2015/16. It was noted that this would mean the navigation reserve would fall below the recommended level of 10% of net expenditure to 9.8% during 2015/16, but this estimate would depend on the actual amount of interest received.

RESOLVED unanimously

that the Income and Expenditure from 1 April to 31 January 2016 be noted.

Annual Investment Strategy and Capital Financing

The Authority received the Annual Investment Strategy for 2016/17 as at Appendix 3 to the report.

RESOLVED

that the Annual Investment Strategy for 2016/17 be adopted.

5/13A Item of Urgent Business: Toll Plaques: Options for moving to a paperless Solution.

The Authority received a report on the difficulties that had occurred with the ink running on some of this year's toll plaques, the steps that had been taken so far and investigations made with the printing company on the option to rectify the situation, the costs of which would all be borne by the company. However, there would be considerable delay if the plaques were reprinted and

it was therefore necessary to proceed with a decision as soon as possible for the beginning of the season.

As a result of the investigations and discussions with officers and members, it was considered that this would be an opportune time to review the system. Consequently an alternative system that would not necessitate displaying a toll plaque was being considered, and the legal issues relating to byelaws investigated. In addition, consultations had taken place with all members of the Navigation Committee, representatives of the Broads Hire Boat Federation and the Norfolk and Suffolk Boating Association prior to presenting the proposals to this Authority.

The Authority considered the advantages and disadvantages with particular reference to the role of the Rangers in monitoring and investigating failure to pay a toll, the enforcement issues and how such a scheme could alter the way in which they worked. A change from the present system could possibly save time and enable the Rangers to focus on other duties to the overall benefit of the Authority.

Members considered the proposal would be an excellent opportunity to embrace a more up to date system but also considered the potential risks, if toll payers were not required to display a plaque. This might encourage greater toll evasion, leading to a loss of income, as well as reputational risk. However, the number of the boat and its name had to be displayed and therefore it would be possible to check with the Tolls office if the appropriate toll had been paid. There was the potential for the data base to be uploaded onto hand-held digital devices for use by Rangers in the field. Furthermore, the Collector of Tolls monitored the income on a very regular basis and would be able to track any significant divergences which might require remedial action. It was recognised that in certain parts of the Broads mobile phone coverage was limited which might limit the use of digital technology to check whether a boat had been tolled. A member commented that the introduction of an online system would also provide an opportunity for further justification and weight behind the case for increased and improved broadband connections across the Broads.

Members advocated the introduction of a paperless system to replace the Toll Plaque but given the potential risks, including reputational risk, agreed that it be considered as a trial for a year and reviewed at or before the end of December.

Michael Whitaker proposed, seconded by John Timewell and it was

RESOLVED by 14 votes to 1 abstention

that a paperless system replacing toll plaques be trialled for the coming year and its performance evaluated in Autumn 2016.

5/14 Royal Norfolk Show 2016

The Authority received and welcomed a report on the opportunity being provided by the Royal Norfolk Agricultural Association for the Broads to be allocated an area at this year's Royal Norfolk Show to promote the special qualities of the Broads to local people, highlight it as an important resource in the County and showcasing all those involved in various ways with it. The Head of Communications had contacted a number of non-profit organisations for them to sponsor and/or be involved in the event and the response had been very positive.

Members enthusiastically welcomed the proposal considering it to be an excellent opportunity to promote the Broads and particularly the work of the Authority. They noted the date of 29 and 30 June and many expressed an interest in supporting the officers during the event.

Members noted and approved the details proposed for the Authority's stand to include the presence of Ra, other facilities, for coordinating support and developing a unified brand and therefore were in favour of authorising the additional costs required

Phil Durrant proposed, seconded by Lana Hempsall and it was

RESOLVED unanimously

- to welcome the initiative to provide an area focused on the Broads at this year's Royal Norfolk Show; and
- to increase the Communications budget in 2016/17 by £7,500 to take account of the costs of the Authority's attendance, its lead in co-ordination other organisations' attendance and to support a unified branded presence.

5/15 The Port Marine Safety Code: To consider any items of business raised by the Designated Person in respect of the Port Marine Safety Code

The Director of Operations reported that there were no items which needed to be raised under this item.

5/16 Minutes Received

The Chairman stated that she would assume that members had read these minutes and the Chairman of each of the Committees would be available to answer any questions.

RESOLVED

(i) **Financial Scrutiny and Audit Committee - 22 September 2015**

That the minutes of the Financial Scrutiny and Audit Committee meeting held on 22 September 2015 be received.

(ii) **Broads Forum – 5 November 2015**

That the minutes of the Broads Forum meeting held on 5 November 2015 be received.

(iii) **Broads Local Access Forum – 9 December 2015**

That the minutes of the Broads Local Access Forum meeting held on 9 December 2015 be received.

(iv) **Navigation Committee – 10 December 2015**

that the minutes of the Navigation Committee meeting held on 10 December 2015 be received

(v) **Planning Committee:8 January 2016 and 5 February 2016**

that the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 8 January and 5 February 2016 be received.

5/17 Feedback from Members appointed to represent the Authority on outside bodies

Members of the Authority appointed to outside bodies were invited to provide feedback on those meetings they had attended on behalf of the Authority.

National Parks New Members Induction Course Dartmoor 8 – 10 March 2016

Vic Thomson provided the Authority with feedback on the Induction course attended by five of the most recently appointed Members on the Navigation Committee and Authority. The event had been attended by representatives from 10 National Parks with a mixture of Defra and Council appointees and one parish council appointee. There had been considerable focus on planning issues, particularly that of affordable housing. One of the most interesting, engaging and thought provoking talks was provided by the person who had been responsible for the Design Guide for the Brecon Beacons. Unfortunately there had not been a session on income generation. Another interesting factor from the conference was how Pembrokeshire had introduced a mentoring system in order to attract younger people particularly from ethnic minorities. The greatest benefit of the event had been the opportunity to meet representatives from the other National Parks and get to know new colleagues on the Broads Authority. It was hoped that more could be done to

encourage interaction with our own members. Vic Thomson commented that the Induction pack they had received would be available for members to view.

Norfolk Mills and Pumps Trust

The Chairman reported that the Trust would be meeting with the HLF in March 2016 to discuss the possible submission of a Round 2 application for funding conservation work at Stracey Mill, Acle and securing Transition funding from the HLF to help restructure the Trust.

National Parks England and National Parks UK

The Chairman reported that she had attended the meeting of National Parks England and National Parks UK with the Minister for National Parks on 10 and 11 February 2016. The Minister for National Parks attended the meeting on 10 February and re-iterated his support for the Park Authorities. The next meeting with National Parks England would be in April.

Norfolk and Suffolk Broads Charitable Trust

John Ash reported that the Chairman, Chief Executive and Matt Bradbury would be meeting with the Trust on Monday 21 March to consider more collaborative working.

Whitlingham Charitable Trust

Louis Baugh, Mathew Bradbury, Gail Harris and Vic Thomson. The Trust would be meeting on 23 March 2016.

Upper Thurne Working Group

Kelvin Allen reported that the last meeting had exposed the challenges relating to the workings of the Upper Catchment and the lack of funding available to take projects forward.

Climate Change Adaptation Partnership

John Ash reported that he had met with the UEA Phd. student who was working on climate change adaptation in the Broads and had helped to identify data sources.

5/18 Items of Urgent Business

There were no other items of urgent business.

5/19 Formal Questions

There were no formal questions of which due notice had been given.

5/20 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Authority would be held on Friday 13 May 2016 at 10.00am at Yare House, 62 – 64 Thorpe Road, Norwich.

5/21 Exclusion of the Public

RESOLVED

that the public be excluded from the meeting under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 for the consideration of the item below on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined by Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act as amended, and that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public benefit in disclosing the information.

Members of the Public left the meeting

5/22 Exempt Minutes of the Broads Authority meeting – 22 January 2016

The exempt Minutes of the Broads Authority meeting on 22 January 2016 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

The meeting concluded at 13.30pm

CHAIRMAN

Code of Conduct for Members

Declaration of Interests

Committee: Broads Authority 18 March 2016

Name	Agenda/ Minute No(s)	Nature of Interest (Please describe the nature of the interest)
George Jermany	-	Toll Payer
Kelvin Allen	-	Member of Broads Angling Strategy Group Member of Waveney River Trust
Michael Whitaker		Toll payer, Hire Boat Operator and Chair of the BHBF
Mathew Bradbury		Toll Payer, BCU Member, Trustee of Whitlingham Charitable Trust
Gail Harris		Whitlingham Charitable Trust Trustee Director Cllr Norwich City Council
Guy McGregor	-	Member of Suffolk County Council
John Ash		Toll Payer as Chairman/Trustee Wherry Yacht Charter Charitable Trust. N&SB Charitable Trust
Louis Baugh	5/8 and 5/16	BLAF Minutes 2/ Ludham Footpath. Management and interest in part of the route
Jacquie Burgess	-	Toll Payer

Public Question Time

Question submitted by Adam Manvell

Can you please explain the degree to which Norwich City Council (NCC) were involved in the delineation of their riverbed property as regards setting the terms for the recent preliminary injunction obtained by the BA against Mr Woods at the High Court on the 11th March?

The injunction obtained by the authority means that the use of an asset owned on behalf of the people of Norwich has been limited in a manner whereby riparian owners on the north bank continue to enjoy unrestricted mooring rights unlike Mr Woods on the south bank. This therefore maintains the discrimination evident in Joseph Stannard's famous painting of the 1824 Thorpe Water Frolic which shows the gentry on the north bank and the mill workers on the south side. Such discrimination has no place in 21st century Britain and it is imperative that the BA provide evidence that the highest levels of the democratically elected NCC were aware of this decision regarding the asset they hold for and behalf of the people of Norwich."

Broads Authority Response

Norwich City Council is not the planning authority for the area concerned but does own the riverbed. Norwich City Council is supportive of the Broads Authority in its action and has provided a statement in support.