

## **Strategic Review of Waste Facilities**

Report by Asset Officer

**Summary:** This report sets out the current position in relation to waste facilities throughout the Broads Authority's area.

Members views are sought in respect of provision of facilities at Ranworth Staithe and Ludham Bridge, as well as a proposal to increase yacht station fees to cover increased costs.

### **1 Background**

- 1.1 Changes in the Controlled Waste Regulations introduced on 1 April 2012 now specify that boat waste, where the boat is used for self-catering accommodation, is now classified as commercial waste rather than before when it was classified as household waste. The local authorities also confirm that waste from other vessels which do not come under this definition, although not specifically stated in the regulations, will be treated by them as commercial waste.
- 1.2 Under the new regulations it is designated that "the polluter" has to pay for the cost of both the collection and disposal of the waste and Norfolk County Council has confirmed that they will be charging the local authorities for the services backdated to 1 April 2012.
- 1.3 This has resulted in the local authorities reviewing their provision of waste facilities over the Broads area.
- 1.4 Both North Norfolk District Council and Broadland District Council consulted with Broads Authority officers, outlining their proposals in regard to the future provision of waste facilities in their areas.
- 1.5 A letter was received from Great Yarmouth Borough Council (GYBC) on 30 May regarding their intention to cease the provision of waste services at their ten locations from week commencing 16 June 2014. The Broads Authority had not been approached or consulted by the Council regarding this action prior to receiving this letter.
- 1.6 Following the withdrawal, due to issues with two waste sites at Thurne Dyke and Repps Staithe Potter Heigham, GYBC has retained a small litter bin at each site and are currently collecting waste daily.

## **2 Local Authority Position paper**

- 2.1 A position paper regarding the provision of waste facilities was produced in conjunction with the Norfolk Waste Partnership and the local authority officer liaison group but unfortunately the Broads Authority was not initially consulted or included in the preparation of the document.
- 2.2 The paper sets out policy in regard to future provision and concludes with the following key points;
- (a) The Broads Authority, Environment Agency, National Trust and Norfolk County Council will be expected to make arrangements for provision of services on their land.
  - (b) Owners of private moorings or where mooring charges are made will not be provided with free services
  - (c) Provision of facilities on other land such as Parish Council land will be determined locally. Facilities are more likely to be retained where they serve a mix of visitor uses; both boat and land transport and are associated with other service provision such as public conveniences.
  - (d) Implementation will be at the end of October 2014 to allow time for alternative arrangements to be implemented by those concerned.

## **3 Strategic Review of Future Provision**

- 3.1 A meeting was held on 8 September at the request of the Broads Authority where representatives from all of the local authorities, Norfolk County Council and the Broads Hire Boat Federation were in attendance. The local authorities have all now confirmed what facilities will be provided and those that will be withdrawn, and so together with facilities provided by Boatyards/marinas a map and list of waste provision sites has been produced (Appendix 1).
- 3.2 Broads Authority freehold sites where provision is currently provided by the relevant local authority and are to be withdrawn are Wayford Bridge, Dilham Staithe and Ranworth Staithe. Given the fly tipping issues at Ranworth Staithe when the compactor skip was removed last winter, it is recommended that the Broads Authority as landowner should continue to provide this service. Quotes have been sought, and the annual costs for an equivalent service to that being discontinued by Broadland District Council is approximately £ 3,000. However, the 24hr moorings at both Dilham Staithe and Wayford Bridge are limited moorings and it is suggested that the local rangers monitor the sites after the bins are removed to determine whether any future facilities are likely to be required.

## **4 Gaps in Future Provision**

- 4.1 With the planned removal of facilities at Womack Staithe, Ludham Bridge and Horning Ferry, it is likely that the facilities at Ranworth would become even more heavily used. On this basis, it may also be worth considering whether the Broads Authority would assist with retaining the provision of facilities at Ludham Bridge on Environment Agency owned land.
- 4.2 The Authority has also noticed an increase in volume of refuse disposal at Great Yarmouth Yacht Station and Norwich Yacht Station over the last season, at an additional £1,000 p.a. and it is expected that this trend will continue. Members' views are sought as to whether the overnight mooring charges should therefore be increased to cover these additional costs, although there is a risk that this would reduce the number of boats mooring up.
- 4.3 Whilst provision on the river Yare appears reasonable, the river Waveney is more poorly served, with no facilities downstream of Burgh St Peter, and other facilities only at the Yacht Stations at Oulton Broad and Beccles. However, the major difficulty here is no moorings with good access to enable bin lorry's to service facilities.

## **5 Provision of Information**

- 5.1 In order to avoid fly tipping as a result of boaters being ignorant of the location of facilities, it is intended that once agreed, this information should be produced for inclusion in the skippers manual which is placed on each hire boat, published on the Broads Authority and local authority websites, and included in relevant Broads Authority publications to ensure that the boating public are aware of the locations for waste facility provision.
- 5.2 Information signs could also be placed at Broads Authority moorings to provide information on the location of nearest sites both upstream and downstream of each mooring to aid boaters.

Background papers: Nil








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Broads Plan Objectives: TR2.2

Appendices: Appendix 1 – map of waste facilities

# Waste Facilities 1st October 2014

-  Boatyard
-  Broadland DC
-  Broads Authority
-  Great Yarmouth BC
-  North Norfolk DC
-  South Norfolk DC
-  Other

