

Scolt Head and District Common Rightholders' Association

Founded 1984

Secretary Mr R Cooke

r.cooke33@btinternet.com

Minutes for Committee meeting held at 6:30 p.m. on Friday 28th May 2021 at

6.5.2021

Brancaster Village Hall in the main room socially distanced.

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Note: This meeting was for the committee to catch up with all that has been going on throughout the lockdown. This was a closed meeting for the committee members only owing to the virus restrictions that are in place.

Hold on

£65
£161
£162
£124

1. Present: Full committee bar:

2. Apologies for absence: Roger Raisbury

3. Minutes of the previous meetings which have been circulated to Committee: these are the reports from the Zoom working parties and minutes of September 18th 2020. Accepted

4. Treasurers report. £20,650 in main account. £2,340 to be transferred from minor account, £200 owing re round wire fence.

5. In view of the present circumstances the following agenda was a guide only.

6. CL124 and the RWNGC – [curtilage car park: fence has been built by the RWNGC separating the common from the car park. However, a wide gap has been left and the common is still being used as a car park by the RWNGC. Report from meeting of two Committee members with NE.](#) Chris and Stephen met with John Ebbage of NE on Tuesday 25th May. NE cannot do anything about the curtilage car park encroachment as it is not within the SSSI. The extensions to the main Beach Road Car Park, which are within the SSSI, were looked at and NE will investigate further. SH&DCRA will also investigate when the extensions were made. NE confirmed that the RWNGC should be consulting with the common rightholders.

7. Brancaster Parish Council and car park receipts: [Further research of the Brancaster Parish Council archived minutes revealed that there is an agreement dating from the 1950's that provides for compensation to common rightholders from car park receipts for loss of grazing. This is quite separate from the agreement relating to the round wire fence. All of the evidence was sent to the Council's external auditor who advised the Council to take legal advice. I have, on behalf of the Association asked the Council for details of their legal representative, more than once, but have not had a reply. The Association solicitor is considering the evidence at this time.](#) It was noted that Brancaster Parish Council (BPC) have ring fenced £10,000 of public funds for legal expenses. The Chair of BPC has contacted the Association secretary asking for a Zoom meeting with her and the BPC Clerk. After much discussion, including; that Chris and Stephen had already met with the Chair and Clerk; were BPC still claiming ownership

Vice Chairman: Mr S W Boocking

To take:

Wildfowl

Fish

Seaweed

Samphire

Sand

Shingle

Shellfish

Sea Lavender

Islanders

Herbage

Tangle

Bait

Reeds

Soil

Game

To graze:

Cattle

Horses

Geese

Sheep

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of the bulk of CL124 and, if not, why was it getting involved at all? The Committee strongly asserted that money made from using the commons should be spent on the commons. It was agreed that two others would attend the Zoom meeting with the Association secretary; Michael and Peter. The Association will inspect the BPC accounts and again report to their external auditors.

6.5.2022

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8. Solicitor/ Property holding update: The solicitor has put forward the idea that trustees could hold property for the Association. The Norfolk County Council Registration Authority has agreed that this is the case. The Association Constitution allows for the Committee to appoint trustees and the following committee members were appointed; Tom Gathercole, Michael Bucher, Peter Bickell and Brian Everitt. One trustee to be replaced/reappointed every year on a rolling programme.
9. Insurance: Enquiries are being made with insurance brokers for indemnity cover for the trustees and committee as allowed by the constitution.
10. NT, BCC and BFC: [The BCC and BFC Rules/Constitutions were returned to the NT with the basic changes agreed; just names and position changes; no constitutional changes. We have not heard from the NT re these changes since. We are still waiting for information from the NT concerning the moorings and leys. I have asked the NT, on behalf of the Association, for details of their agreements with the RWNGC concerning car par receipts on the basis that; a major organisation such as the NT cannot be taking tens of thousands of pounds from common land without there being some sort of agreement in place.](#) As well as failing to provide the above information, it was noted that the NT have not responded to the Association concerning changes made to the BCC and BFC Constitutions/Rules. However, meetings have been called for both committees. There was a strong feeling that SH&DCRA should call an end to both the BCC and BFC. It was decided however that the secretary should write to the NT to let them know that discussions between the NT and SH&DCRA were needed urgently to address the issues mentioned.
11. BONWA: [There has been a change of Secretary at BONWA. The BONWA Constitution has been circulated and contains a number of items that conflict with common rights.](#) Rod had personally been in contact with the secretary of BONWA and has suggested a number of changes to the BONWA Constitution. These were aired at the meeting and agreed that BONWA should place them on its AGM agenda. There was some concern about the way in which the new secretary of BONWA was appointed.

Vice Chairman: Mr S W Boocking

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There was a big discussion around why it is that the two gun clubs are holding so much money. The principle of money made using the commons should be spent on the commons applies.

6.5.2020

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RSGKTS

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- 12.** Holkham Estate, Burnham Overy Parish Council and BOHT: [Holkham Estate continue to blank the Association. Burnham Overy Parish Council are not pursuing ownership of Overy Marsh and half of the island. All of the evidence for ownership/trusteeship of the land is now with the Land Registry legal department. We are waiting for a formal refusal by the PC to comply with a FoI request and the MP is suggesting a complaint to the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman \(PHSO\). It seems that there are only three elected councillors left on the PC at Overy. BOHT is back up and running and it too continues to ignore SH&DCRA. A “ranger” has been appointed and moorings continue to be used and laid without any reference to common rightholders. It was noted that the newly appointed Ranger at Overy was being asked to carry out unlawful activities on the common. Signage not agreed with the Association can be taken down and visitors who are being asked to pay monies to the BOHT can be told to refuse. Burnham Overy Parish Council accounts will be inspected and a full report made to the council’s external auditors concerning the failure by the council to protect village assets.](#)

- 13.** Correspondence not covered by above – circulars noted.

- 14.** Reeves’ reports: Brian reported back from a meeting of the Sea Defence Committee. It was agreed that the secretary write to the RWNGC pointing out that repairs to existing defences were agreeable to the Association but that any new defences would need a licence from the common rightholders. The secretary pointed out to the committee that the RWNGC do not correspond with the Association but would do as required.

The matter of who is looking after the licences was raised and noted for action.

- 15.** A.O.B. Arrangements for the AGM; provisional date set at 24th September 2021 subject to Covid restriction. 6.00 p.m. Burnham Overy Village Hall.

- 16.** Date and time of next meeting; To be arranged.