

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BOATOWNERS

Minutes of the Council meeting held on 18th January 1997 at Hockley Port commencing at 1000hrs.

1. Apologies

Stephen Peters

Attending for items 8&9, J Dennison

2. Accuracy of minutes of Council Meeting 7th December 1996

Add after P. Lea - 'and any other member of Council who so wishes to attend meetings'; Subject to the above the minutes were agreed a true record & signed accordingly.

Dennis Smith also on Mr R E/Exec.

KS

3. Matters Arising not covered by the Agenda

i 4 Relations with BW:

a raised at NINF

b Meeting has been arranged

d 'Canal and Riverboat' contacted

ii The chairman reported that a meeting would be held with BW Management on March 6th at Watford.

iii 7 Future Council Meetings

Northfield not available for Feb. 22nd and December 6th. Alternative arrangements for Hockley if possible.

iv 14(b) River Trent Closure

Reported that this would not now take place.

v 14(f) EA reciprocal licensing arrangements

Fifteen day arrangement still not agreed. End of March is deadline for any action to be taken by the Association. Council agreed that EA had previously agreed to this arrangement and must honour their pledge.

vi The Chairman reminded Council any reports for circulation must be in the Admin. Secretary's hands two weeks before Council meetings

4. National Inland Navigation Forum Meeting 11th January Chairman's report

The Chairman amplified his written report. Council agreed that any boycotting of the BSS would be illogical. BW had indicated that they would use Section 8 powers on non-compliants where appropriate. It was rumoured that BW were having discussions with contractors over the lifting out and storing of craft. NABO would continue to support appeals and would request any BSS absurdities experienced by members for publication in the Newsletter. Council also agreed that NABO could not support any withholding of licence fees. A campaign for more funding for the Waterways would be supported. Individual letters from members to their respective MP's were needed. The Chairman would draft an outline letter to assist.

5. New Waterways Group

The Chairman reported that he had a request to address Council from Michael Handford, a representative of persons who wished to set up a new Waterways organisation representing Canal Societies. Council expressed no view as to the necessity or merit of this new group. It was agreed that Mr Handford could address Council. No other action would be taken at this time. Some Council members were concerned that extreme caution should be taken in this matter. The setting up of an Association of Inland Navigation Authorities, and the report of their first meeting was noted.

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11(a) Membership Records

Roger Davis reported that he had now completed his appraisal and re-arrangement of NABO membership records. This had revealed that a total of 374 members had subscriptions outstanding. Roger Davis proposed that the renewal forms should be revamped. Letters should be sent to members with subs outstanding more than six months. Members with less than six months outstanding would be sent reminders. Council recorded its thanks to Roger Davis for the large amount of work this operation had entailed.

(b) Association Accounts

The Treasurer amplified his report. The draft budget would have to be updated due to the information revealed in 11(a). Council thanked the Treasurer for his report.

12. AOB

(a) Boat Safety Scheme

Council noted the publishing of the appeals procedure, and that fire extinguishers ^{would} ~~would not~~ require the EM3 certification. *KE*

(b) Stourport Basin

Denis Smith reported on a proposed development in this area, and the lack of consultation with local boating interests. Council agreed that NABO would support local boaters in their complaints about the 3rd basin. Denis Smith would represent NABO.

(c) Kennet and Avon Cycleways

The secretary reported on the need for NABO to reply immediately to a questionnaire circulated by local BW Management on the future of cycling on the K & A. In response the Council stated:-

Cycle bells should be compulsory

Cyclists, with the exception of boatowners, should be in possession of a permit. An amount of £15 would not be excessive.

A speed limit would be desirable. Railings were not acceptable.

(d) Code for Anglers - redrafting

Philip Ogden reported on this matter giving a list of proposals. It was agreed that fishing in winding holes should be banned and fishing within 50metres of any boat should also not be allowed. The code should be re-issued every year to anglers and their associations. Council also agreed that the comments as drafted would form NABO's response to BW over the Code. *P. Foster also raised river problems with anglers. N/A.*

(e) EA Draft Navigation Strategy

This has been published. Chairman and River Rep to formulate NABO response.

(f) Lee and Stort IWA Complaint

It was agreed NABO would support the London IWA over their complaint about railings close to locksides in this area.

Next meeting on 22nd February 1997 at Hockley Port.

Meeting closed at 1358hrs.

*Agreed a time record
FM*