



The Association of Nene River Clubs

NBC OCC EBC BBC PYC MLWC MCC

ANRC Committee Meeting Friday 8th. November 2019 **Held at Elton Boat Club**

Members Attending:-

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Name</u>
ANRC	Adrian Cleave	John Harris	Graham Rogers	Jenny Sullivan	
EBC	Ron Smith				
OCC					
NBC	Mike Thorne				
PYC	Ian Simons	Ken			
MLWC	Sylvia Keane	Bernard Keane			
MCC					
BBC					
GUESTS	Dave Peryer	John Haywood			

Apologies for Absence:-

J Anne-Marie Cairney			
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Minutes of Last Meeting Friday 20th. September 2019

Proposed by: John Harris

Seconded: Ian Simons

Matters Arising:-

ANRC Lunch

The Woolpack at Islip has now been chosen and booked for 26th. January. JS is maintain a list of confirmed bookings.

Captain's Report incl. Website update

Web Hits 1/9/19 – 7/11/19 – 1,781

This time of year is generally quiet for the ANRC and since agreeing to explore the possibilities of having a Sunday Lunch, instead of a Dinner Dance, our normal gathering has made it even quieter. There is more from Jenny regarding the Lunch in January later.

On Wednesday, I attended on behalf of the ANRC, the Anglian Regional Waterways Group EA meeting at Brampton. This was a most interesting meeting, highlighting several things of interest to the ANRC. I have the latest works spreadsheet for all the rivers in the region, this clearly highlights that the River Nene is receiving the most funding and work than any other river. I'll pass around the current sheet for your perusal. They presently have £3.4m and have been told to submit their proposals for another £1.6m for the additional work need to complete their projects. Hopefully they will have some other money they can transfer into this region's budget to cover the cost.

The matter of a Boston to Peterborough wetland corridor, which could be open to boaters, is being planned. This is to move quantities of water from the wetter areas to our region and to create an additional reservoir, similar to Grafham Water. They are optimistic that this should be an open water, to include boats, rather than underground pipes.

We also attended a workshop, hosted by the EA called a Strategic Review of Navigation Charges. This showed the proposed design for a new charging formula with effect from 2021. A firm of consultants attended, taking input from all of us who represent the users. Some highlights, although not set in stone are the boat class definitions. An example of these is an unpowered boat is one that can be portable and be removed from the water, usually by hand. Those boats, which simply disconnect the engine or don't have an engine and cannot be taken out of the water easily by hand, will fall under the powered/ non portable category and as such be charged accordingly. The other division was private and business use, of which 98% are private with 2% for business use.

The new formula is proposing not just length, but length by beam and identifying the square footage of the boat. The square footage figure is then round down to the nearest metre and charged accordingly. Thames region currently use this formula, which is presently £20.17 per square metre, which won't be the same for this region, there could be winners and losers. Watch this space.

I shall be chairing the Nene Task Group meeting next week, which specifically addresses matters relating to the River Nene. One interesting item will be the suitability of training and using volunteers, similar to those used by CRT and on the River Great Ouse. Volunteers are presently used to assist in Northampton Marina and provided there are suitable facilities, they could be used to operate locks along the river. Some possible locations are Western Favell, with the boat club nearby, Wellingborough and Oundle, all have rest facilities nearby. This is still in its early stages and contact will need to be made with the facility owners if this is felt suitable.

Below is a copy of a letter sent by Adrian regarding repairs to Oundle bridge:-

Dear Sir/Madam,

I have noticed that the bridge repairs to Oundle Bridge, begin on Monday 11 November 2019 and will continue for 30 weeks until 8 June 2020. It was stated that much of this work will be undertaken under the bridge at the river level, as well as road surfacing later.

The Association of Nene River Clubs, of which I am the Chair/Captain, represent 1200 boaters who are based on the River Nene, as well as visitors from the canal system, who travel up and down to river between the Grand Union Canal and the Wash and the Middle Level towards the River Great Ouse. During the main boating season, there are many movements of craft up and down stream, which travel under that bridge. Given that craft will intend to use the river as early as March April next year, in order to attend the annual ANRC Rally, which this year is at March in Cambridgeshire. Can you please provide an indication what access will be available for boaters during the repair?

We are in close contact with the Environment Agency on all matter relating to the River Nene and I am sure consideration has been given to addressing this issue and look forward to hearing from you regarding the provision of keeping the waterway open, of which I hope you can confirm.

Yours faithfully

Adrian D. Cleave JP

Secretary' Report

Good evening everyone,

Well, as you can see, despite announcing my resignation last month I am still here and if nobody steps forward to take on the role of secretary I will continue till the next AGM.

Please, if you haven't already done so, ask your club members whether any of them would like to volunteer for this role. I will support anyone who volunteers to ensure things keep running smoothly.

Other than that it has rather quiet of late but I am looking forward to the Sunday Lunch in January and hope to see you all there.

Thank you

Graham

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer reported that despite some expense for new marquee sections and a new storage container we have made a slight profit so far this year and will most likely carry this profit through to year end.

Membership Report

JS reported that we now have 165 individual members plus the Member Clubs.

JS distributed membership renewal forms and cards for 2020 membership to each of the club reps.

A discussion followed on the merits of individual membership and how best to promote this to potential new members. AC will prepare some notes for circulation and possibly post on our website.

Club Reports

- NBC** Once again we have reached the end of the boating season.
This year, sadly, we at NBC lost two longstanding members Mick Cotton and Vera Leader.
We had a reasonable social year, the main functions including the ANRC rally which we hosted were well attended and fun but the trips out not so well attended. One of our boats made it out onto The Wash and a few made it onto the Canals but most of us never got past March (the town not the month).
We stopped recruiting this year as the waiting list for moorings had reached double figures but we have just about caught up. We are still full but have managed to accommodate all our members boats and fit in several short term visiting boats.
Strong Stream Advice and wintery weather have just about finished our season off so Happy Christmas and Happy boating next year.
- EBC** The club currently have 3 or 4 empty moorings so have capacity for some new members
Repair work to the weirs is still outstanding and hopefully will soon be underway.
- PYC** Our laying up supper was well attended and included many new members which is encouraging.
There will be a film night on 16th. November showing 'Rocket Man' all welcome.
- MLWC** 28th. September saw a very good day for our annual BBQ and my 'Birthday Bash'
19th. October another successful event with 'Eeyor Racing' (?Don't ask me I only type up the minutes)
16th. November will be our laying up supper at the conservative club.
29th. November is the March Xmas lights switch on with our Tombola in the town Square and 14th. December will be our 'Bring a Plate' event.
There will also be a 'Rally planning' meeting tomorrow.
- MCC** Nothing to report this month.

Agenda:-

Navigation Updates

PYC suffered some flooding reportedly due to a faulty river level sensor.

The proposed FOTRN moorings at Rushden Lakes are still under negotiation.

Proposed development and new access road to the west of Rushden Lakes will not impact on cruising.

Rally updates

More information will be available after the next planning meeting but all is proceeding well with the abr being provided by 'The Ship' public house.

A.O.B.

The 'Brain of the Nene' quiz date was provisionally set for the 14th. of March to be confirmed by OCC.

Meeting Closed.....20.50

Next meeting.....Friday 10th. January at EBC.

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