

AT A MEETING of the RIVER HAMBLE HARBOUR BOARD held at the Royal Air Force Yacht Club on Friday 29 November 2013 at 10am

PRESENT:

Hampshire County Council

Councillors:

- p K Evans (Chairman)
- p P Latham
- p K House

Independent Members

- p Ms N Hiorns
- p Mr D Jobson
- p Mr C Moody

Marine Director

- p D Evans

31. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None.

32. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were mindful that where they believed they had a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any matter to be considered at the meeting they must declare that interest at the time of the relevant debate and, having regard to the circumstances described in Part 3 Paragraph 1.5 of the County Council's Members' Code of Conduct, leave the meeting while the matter is discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with Paragraph 1.6 of the Code. Furthermore Members were mindful that where they believed they had a Non-Pecuniary interest in a matter being considered at the meeting they considered whether such interest should be declared, and having regard to Part 5, Paragraph 2 of the Code, considered whether it was appropriate to leave the meeting while the matter was discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with the Code.

Mr Jobson declared his interest as a midstream mooring holder.

33. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 27 September 2013 were confirmed as a correct record.

The jurisdiction of the Borough Councils' planning authorities over the River was questioned. The Marine Director confirmed the ambit of the Marine

Management Organisation included planning jurisdiction in waters below the Low Water mark. It was noted that the relevant reports of the respective Borough Councils were exempt and not available to the Harbour Board.

It was noted that a report would be presented to the next meeting of the Board on the discussions of the Hamble Estuary Partnership, following up the outcomes from the Oil Spill exercise held in July and the risk of a spill from the M27 bridge.

34. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman welcomed Captain Mark Capon, Designated Person to the meeting.

The Chairman announced that he would bring forward Item 8 (Review of Strategic Plan and Strategic Vision) to follow immediately after Item 5 (Deputations).

35. DEPUTATIONS

A deputation was received by the Harbour Board from Mr Colin Brookes, a midstream mooring holder (and member of the River Hamble Mooring Holders Association) with regard to the Review of the Strategic Plan and Strategic Vision (Item 8 in the Minute Book).

He drew attention to the proposed wording of Paragraph 4.5.2 of the Strategic Vision, to revise its second sentence to read, "Optimal use of space may involve the clearing of moorings from specific areas, but the Board accepts that moorings elsewhere will almost certainly need to be reconfigured [~~or expanded~~] to accommodate displaced boats." Mr Brooks submitted this change signalled the loss of an implied protection of midstream moorings insofar as it would present the opportunity for moorings to be replaced by the creation of long pontoons with their attendant prohibitive costs to local sailors and strengthen the impression of the River as a boat park.

36. REVIEW OF STRATEGIC PLAN AND STRATEGIC VISION

The Board received the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services proposing revisions to the Authority's Strategic Plan and Strategic Vision (Item 8 in the Minute Book).

Members debated the impact of the revision of Paragraph 4.5.2, as the Harbour Works Consent to the Crown Estate at Mercury Gardens had enabled the replacement of midstream berths with long pontoons.

Further revisions were identified during the discussion and Members agreed a new edition to reflect these and the conclusions of the working group in the report.

RESOLVED:

The Board noted the report and requested the Marine Director to issue a revised edition of the Strategic Plan and Strategic Vision incorporating the new material and otherwise approved the Strategic Plan and Strategic Vision documents.

37. HARBOUR MASTER'S REPORT

The Board received the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services summarising the incidents and events in the Harbour from 27 September 2013 (Item 6 in the Minute Book).

Since the report's compilation there had been no further incidents to report upon. During the period, the St Jude Day Storm (27/28 October) had crossed the South Coast and Harbour staff had patrolled the River checking and securing boats and berths. The Board noted and thanked the Marine Director for their presence and action during this period.

RESOLVED:

The Board noted the report.

38. MARINE DIRECTOR'S CURRENT ISSUES

The Board received the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services providing an update on issues in the Harbour including asset enhancement projects currently underway (Item 7 in the Minute Book).

Board Members were told of the progress made with the current projects: (i) Warsash Slipway; (ii) CCTV; (iii) Hamble Jetty pontoons and (iv) Sound systems for meetings.

The County Council's Highways Consultancy had indicated how the renovation of the Warsash Slipway could be completed with the project cost being consistent with earlier estimates. Cllr Cartwright had continued to be closely involved with the project and the Marine Director was asked to make the necessary planning and consents applications for works to be started in connection with the Council's procurement process. Preliminary discussions had been held with Natural England and they were content, but loss of intertidal mud might require a mitigation scheme. Board Members asked for Stewardship grant applications to be made to the Crown Estate and similar bodies.

The Marine Director was asked to bring further costings for CCTV and risk assessment to the January 2014 Board. Members noted the conspicuous contribution to River management since its introduction and the outline replacement costs in the report. Members were reminded that the equipment had been installed as a risk management tool as part of the Safety

Management System for the River rather than a specific counter-crime measure.

The Board indicated the works required at Hamble Jetty should be implemented from the Asset Enhancement Reserve, where necessary having pre-application discussions with Officers and the Local Area Committee of Eastleigh Borough to include the pontoon extension described by the Marine Director. Members noted the Marine Director's view that the works would follow on those of the Royal Southern and RAF Yacht Clubs currently scheduled for Winter 2014/15.

Members agreed that no further action was required in respect of a sound system whilst venues with good acoustics were available and consideration was given to room layout.

RESOLVED:

The Board noted the report.

39. FORWARD PLAN FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

The Board received the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services anticipating future business items of the River Hamble Harbour Management Committee and Harbour Board (Item 9 in the Minute Book).

The Marine Director was requested to revise the Forward Plan to include the items of business requested by the Board during today's meeting.

RESOLVED

The Board noted the report.