

AT A MEETING of the RIVER HAMBLE HARBOUR BOARD held at the Royal Southern Yacht Club on 20 April 2012.

PRESENT:

Hampshire County Council

Councillors:

p K. Evans (Chairman)
p G. Hockley
p K. House

Independent Members

p Mr. D. Jobson
a Mr. C. Moody
p Dr. S. Tomson

Marine Director

p D. Evans

167. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Mr. C. Moody.

168. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were mindful that, where they believed they had a personal or personal prejudicial interest in any matter to be considered at the meeting, they should normally at the time of the debate declare their interest, and having regard to the circumstances described in paragraphs 8, 9, 10 and 12 of the County Council's Code of Conduct, consider whether to leave the meeting whilst the matter was discussed save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with Paragraph 12 of the Code.

169. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 27 January 2012 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

With regards Minute 161, it was noted that Trinity House were supportive of work being proposed to improve signage at No. 1 Pile.

The Hamble Riverview interactive map was discussed (Minute 162 refers) and it was agreed that an update be brought to a future meeting.

170. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements from the Chairman.

171. DEPUTATIONS

No deputations.

172. RIVER HAMBLE HARBOUR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 30 MARCH 2012

The Board received the Minutes of the recent River Hamble Harbour Management Committee and noted their content.

173. HARBOUR MASTER'S REPORT

The Board received the Harbour Master's report (Item 7 in the Minute Book) regarding recent incidents and events in the Harbour.

It was confirmed that the summer rota was due to begin and that three new members of staff had joined the team for the season. Two additional minor incidents in the Harbour, since the publication of the report were highlighted and it was confirmed that the pile replacement programme had been successful. A Member questioned the low level of criminal incidents in the report and it was explained that this was typical for the winter months, when boats were often unused.

The Deputy Harbour Master reported that a successful day and night audit of the condition, visibility and operation of the navigation markers by Trinity House had taken place. She also reported that the team had taken part in a very beneficial visit to the coastguard station.

It was resolved that the report be noted. The Board congratulated the Harbour Office team on the successful audit by Trinity House.

174. MARINE DIRECTOR'S CURRENT ISSUES

The Board considered the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services (Item 8 in the Minute Book), regarding a range of issues in the Harbour.

It was confirmed that the signage element of the asset enhancement project was due to be installed in the near future. Also that the education project was progressing. With regards to the access to water projects, it was noted

that proposals were being drawn up between local stakeholders on the Hamble side of the River with a particular focus on public access. Proposals for the Warsash slipway had been compiled by a consultant and a report would be available for consideration at the next meeting of the Board.

Members discussed the overall level of funding available for the asset enhancement programme and it was agreed to include a full breakdown at the next meeting.

It was resolved that the River Hamble Harbour Board note the report.

175. ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATE

The Board considered the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services (Item 9 in the Minute Book), regarding activities relating to the environmental management of the Hamble Estuary since January 2012.

The multi-agency visit to the River was highlighted to Members and it was confirmed that it had been of benefit to all involved. Members received and noted the updates in the report regarding works consents, the red tape challenge submission and the contribution made to the Solent Forum's Coastal and Marine Consents Guide.

Issues relating to the oyster population, bait digging, the Navitus Bay windpark and the aerial based map were raised and discussed by the Board.

It was resolved that the River Hamble Harbour Board note the report.

176. ASSET ENHANCEMENT RESERVE – CRIME DETERRENCE

With regards to this item all members of the Board who had previously declared themselves to be Harbour dues payers declared an interest as potential beneficiaries of the proposals. On the basis of legal advice received by the Management Committee on the same matter, it was determined that their interest was non-prejudicial as the proposals related substantially to the benefit of the wider River community and therefore they remained in the meeting and took part in the discussion.

The Board considered the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services (Item 10 in the Minute Book) regarding proposals for a crime deterrence measure.

In the context of ongoing crime, particularly theft, on the River, the Marine Director outlined a proposal for a crime deterrence project, as part of the wider asset enhancement programme. He explained how the forensic marker kits worked practically, outlined the potential financial implications and emphasised the importance of a concurrent media campaign to advertise the deterrence. Examples of the use of such marker kits in other situations were provided to Board Members.

The Board was supportive of the proposals in principle, but felt that evidence of the level of crime and an evaluation to assess whether this was the most appropriate and cost effective crime deterrence was needed. The importance of engaging the River community to ensure widespread take-up was emphasised. Concerns relating to data protection emerging from the Management Committee meeting were discussed.

It was resolved that the River Hamble Harbour Board broadly supports the proposals in principle and agrees to incorporate the project in a review of the asset enhancement programme and the associated financial situation at the next Board meeting. This should include:

- The formal view of River organisations and sailing clubs,
- An assessment of the crime incidence and value on the Hamble in the last two years,
- Details of how initial set-up and ongoing procedures would work and be funded.

177. RIVER HAMBLE GAMES

The Board considered the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services (Item 11 in the Minute Book), regarding the River Hamble Games in July 2012.

Members noted the proposed areas in which the Harbour Board could support the event financially and agreed that £2,500 be allocated for this purpose. The Board was pleased to note that the Games had also attracted considerable corporate support.

The Marine Director called for volunteers to support the event on the day.

It was resolved that the River Hamble Harbour Board agrees to allocate £2,500 to fund facilities needed for the running of the Hamble Games, as detailed in the report.

178. FORWARD PLAN FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

The Board considered the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services (Item 12 in the Minute Book), regarding forthcoming items for future meetings.

It was agreed that the additional item detailed in Minutes 176 should be added.

It was resolved to note the report.