

AT A MEETING of the RIVER HAMBLE HARBOUR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE held at Warsash Sailing Club on 7 September 2012

PRESENT

Chairman:
p Councillor S. D. T. Woodward

Vice-Chairman:
a Councillor Dr. R. J. Ellis

Councillors:

p Mrs C. A. Bailey	a C. Davidovitz
p G. Burgess	a A. Gibson
p A. Broadhurst	p F. Pearce
p M.G. Cooper	p A.W. Rice, TD

Eastleigh Borough Council

p Councillor S. Hamel

Fareham Borough Council

p Councillor T. M. Cartwright

Winchester City Council

p Councillor Victoria Weston

Association of River Hamble Yacht Clubs

p Mr P. Middleton

British Marine Federation

p Mr M. Glanville

Hamble River Boatyard and Marina Operators Association

p Mr. R. Boissier

Berth and Mooring Holders Representative

a Mr D. O'Malley

Royal Yachting Association

a Mrs P. Dorothy

156 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Gibson, Davidovitz and Ellis and Mrs Dorothy and Mr O'Malley.

157 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members were mindful that where they believed they had a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any matter 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 was 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 whilst the matter was discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with Code..

Councillor S.D.T. Woodward declared an interest by reason of being a Mooring or Berth Holder on the River Hamble, as did Mr. P. Middleton and Mr Boissier. Mr Glanville declared an interest as an employee of Marina Developments Ltd.

Councillors T.M. Cartwright, C.A. Bailey, S. Hamel and V. Weston, along with Mr. P. Middleton, also declared interests as members of local Yacht or Sailing Clubs.

158 **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the River Hamble Harbour Management Committee meeting held on 29 June 2012 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

159 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman welcomed to the meeting Councillor S. Hamel, who was attending her first meeting of the Committee as the newly appointed, co-opted Member for Eastleigh Borough Council.

160 **DEPUTATIONS**

Deputations were received:

Mr Clifford Hughes spoke about his objections to the proposed modifications to the Warsash Hard. He outlined his experience of the area and explained that in his view, the proposals would not meet the

needs of River users, would create a marine hazard, would generate parking problems and were not in line with the County Council's policy on the Hamble estuary. Furthermore, he felt that there were a number of health and safety risks, which had the potential to become an insurance liability.

Following this deputation, the Chairman announced a change to the published agenda, in order that the item relevant to the deputation could be considered by Members. He confirmed that the remaining deputations would be heard following that item.

161 **MARINE DIRECTOR'S CURRENT ISSUES**

The Committee considered the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services (Item 7 in the Minute Book) on current issues for the Marine Director, principally the recent consultation on the Warsash slipway proposals.

The Marine Director outlined the background the development of the proposals for the slipway and explained that the consultation had been designed to generate views on possible options, rather than finalised plans. Responses to the consultation had been mixed and had not led to any comprehensive alternatives being identified. He confirmed that in his view, the slipway was in a poor state and solutions needed to be found for it, with seaweed and the concrete base of the maintenance piles being the principle areas for concern.

Members discussed the proposals and the responses to the consultation, with reference to the deputation. There was general agreement that the slipway needed improvement, however it was also cautioned that there was no need for a rushed decision and the Marine Director confirmed that further deterioration was unlikely to occur rapidly. It was proposed that taking the options presented as a starting point, a Member working group be convened to consider the needs of slipway users and to develop a detailed specification for consideration by the full Committee at a future meeting.

RESOLVED:

That Councillors Cartwright (as Chairman), Pearce and Weston, with Mr Middleton form a working group to consider all aspects of developing the Warsash slipway, including the existing proposals and report back to the full Committee at a future meeting.

162 **DEPUTATIONS (CONTINUED)**

Mr David Anderton spoke on behalf of the River Hamble Mooring Holders' Association on the matter of Harbour Works Consent for Deacon's Boatyard and it was noted that his late application to make a deputation had been accepted by the Chairman. Mr Anderton

welcomed the revised plans for modifications to the Deacon's Boatyard, but expressed concerns about the length of an extended Y-Pontoon, in particular relating to navigational safety. He explained that in the view of the Mooring Holders' Association, this would partially block the main channel and make entry and exit to the Boatyard difficult at low tide. An annotated chart was displayed to demonstrate this point. Mr Anderton also expressed concerns that the conditions of acceptance recommended in the report were not specific enough and that the use of signage would not overcome safety issues. He concluded that the Association was broadly in support of the proposals with the exception of the extension to the Y-Pontoon.

Mr Lucas Shotts and Dr Paul Tosswell spoke on behalf of Deacon's Boatyard on the matter of the application for Harbour Works Consent. Mr Shotts explained that the Boatyard was a local business that needed to develop to meet demand. The principle behind the proposals was to give Deacon's Boatyard shore connections to their moorings, which was a feature of every other similar marina in the Hamble. Dr Tosswell questioned the accuracy of the chart displayed by Mr Anderton and highlighted the charts published with the reports as a more accurate alternative.

Following these deputations, the Chairman announced a change to the published agenda, in order that the item relevant to the deputations could be considered by Members.

163 **HARBOUR WORKS CONSENT APPLICATION – DEACON'S BOATYARD**

The Committee considered the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services (Item 8 in the Minute Book) regarding an application for Harbour Works Consent from Deacon's Boatyard.

The Marine Director outlined the background to the application and, addressing the deputations, confirmed that he also considered the chart displayed by Mr Anderton to be inaccurate.

Members discussed the conditions laid out in the recommendations and the Marine Director explained that greater precision was not possible. He confirmed that responsibility for both judgement and enforcement on any potential breach of the conditions would lie with him, through the use of Special directions if required, and assured Members that the conditions listed would be upheld.

The Committee welcomed the investment into the River through this development and agreed that previous planning concerns had been addressed.

RESOLVED:

That the River Hamble Harbour Management Committee advises the Harbour Board to grant Harbour Works Consent for the proposed works at Deacons with the following conditions:

- 1.1. The Marina operator is to issue clear written instructions to all berth holders regarding the Marina's safety requirements and the risks associated with turning at the upstream end of the 'Y' pontoon, to be re-iterated in the Deacons Marina Visitor' Guide.
- 1.2. The speed limit within the Marina should be dead slow and the Marina safety requirements must stipulate that all vessels, upon exiting the marina, are to give way to vessels using the main channel of the River. Warning signs, at least 1.5 metres wide and 1.0 metres high, are to be placed at each exit to that effect, at the developer's expense prior to the first vessels occupying the new layout.
- 1.3. Vessels berthed on the Marina hammerheads must not be so high-sided that they unsafely obstruct visibility, and individual vessels must not exceed half the total length of the hammerhead berths.
- 1.4. No rafting of vessels on the hammerhead berths, and no vessels with a maximum beam of more than 3.8 metres to be berthed on the hammerhead or on 'Y' pontoon berths on the main channel side.
- 1.5. Fixed and flashing navigation lights to be fitted on the hammerheads and Y pontoon as specified by Trinity House.
- 1.6. Prominent signs, at least 1.5 metres wide and 1.0 metre high, are to be erected on the upstream side of the A27 bridge and at the downstream end of the Z piles, at the developer's expense, worded as follows: "Beware of vessels leaving the Marina". Detailed design and exact locations to be agreed with the Harbour Master before commencement of the works to the pontoons.
- 1.7. Details of the proposed lighting, both during construction and once operational should be submitted to and approved by the Harbour Master prior to construction commencing.
- 1.8. Removal of inshore berthing as indicated in drawings 10093/26 and 10093/27.
- 1.9. A vibro piling methodology is to be used as standard with percussive piling only used if needed to drive piles to their design depth. Piling works to occur between 30 November and 31 March. Works can commence between 16 September and 30 November but must stop if the Environment Agency informs the Harbour Master that the autumn salmon run has commenced.
- 1.10. Dredging to only occur between 16 September and 31 March. Any movement of the dredge barge must be cleared with the Harbour Office on VHF Channel 68. Should the barge or any other plan be required to move outside Harbour Office hours, an 'All Ships' broadcast call must be made on VHF Channel 68 to advise other river users of the move. Excess spoil must not be washed off

the barge while the barge is in transit. Spoil disposed of in this manner may affect the navigation channel, water quality and the oyster beds which lay from Stone Pier Yard to the beacon No. 1 at the entrance to the harbour.

- 1.11. Sufficient Tier 1 oil pollution response booms must be held to completely encircle the plant equipment being used.
- 1.12. Should there be an incident outside Harbour Office hours and the Harbour Master is not contactable, the Coastguard should be contacted. The Coastguard hold all contact details if required in an emergency.
- 1.13. All relevant consents are to be obtained prior to commencement of the works, and a copy of each consent lodged with the Harbour Office.

Following conclusion of this item the Chairman adjourned the meeting for approximately 30 minutes, for the Committee and members of the River Hamble Harbour Board to receive an informal presentation about the role of the Crown Estate

164 **HARBOUR MASTER'S REPORT**

The Committee considered the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services (Item 6 in the Minute Book) on incidents and events in the Harbour from 20 July 2012.

The Marine Director gave additional details on several of the incidents listed in response to questions from the Committee. In particular, Members discussed thefts in the River and updates were provided on the success of the Hamble Games and on recent external Audits.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted

165 **WORKSHOP BUSINESS CASE**

The Committee considered the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services (Item 9 in the Minute Book) setting out the business cases for two possible solutions for the provision of workshop and storage space for the Authority.

The Marine Director outlined the ongoing requirement to replace the Authority's workshop and storage facilities, explaining that although plans were underway to build a new unit, a leased option at Stone Pier Yard had become available. The pros and cons of both building and renting were detailed, as were the financial commitments relating to

each option. He confirmed that appropriate security measures would be taken in either case.

RESOLVED:

That the River Hamble Harbour Management Committee supports the advice to the River Hamble Harbour Board to abandon the pontoon and workshop/store project in favour of leasing a unit in Stone Pier Yard.

166 THREE YEARLY SAFETY CONSULTATION

The Committee considered the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services (Item 10 in the Minute Book) setting out the results of a recent consultation with Harbour users highlighting safety related issues.

The Marine Director provided a background to the consultation and informed the Committee that the responses received had generally been positive. Members discussed the use of club volunteers and the importance of maintaining secondary channels for small craft. It was agreed that the Marine Director would thank all consultees for their input.

RESOLVED:

That the Management Committee note the report.

167 FORWARD PLAN FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

The Committee received and noted the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services (Item 11 in the Minute Book) with regard to the key issues anticipated to appear on future River Hamble Harbour Management Committee and Board meeting agendas.

It was noted that the outcome of the working group (Minute 161 refers) needed to be added to the forward plan.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted and the amendment made as described.

168 HARBOUR DUES 2013

The Committee received the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services (Item 11 in the Minute Book) regarding the level of Harbour Dues for 2013.

The Marine Director confirmed that Harbour Dues had been frozen for the previous year and explained that the proposed two percent increase was to cover a possible pay award to staff. Views from Members were mixed, which some in favour and others concerned that any increase would put pressure on commercial operations and was unnecessary given the current year's surplus.

A proposal was put forward that the Harbour Dues remain unchanged in 2013 and a vote was called:

Supporting – 7 Members

Against – 6 Members

RESOLVED:

That the River Hamble Harbour Management Committee recommend zero increase in Harbour Dues for 2013 to the River Hamble Board.