

AT A MEETING of the RIVER HAMBLE HARBOUR BOARD held at the Royal Southern Yacht Club on 28 September 2012.

PRESENT:

Hampshire County Council

Councillors:

p K. Evans (Chairman)

p G. Hockley

p K. House

Independent Members

p Mr. D. Jobson

p Mr. C. Moody

a Dr. S. Tomson

Marine Director and Harbour Master

p D. Evans

192. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Dr. S. Tomson.

193. 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 the Code.

194. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 20 July 2012 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

195. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman welcomed the new owners of Bembridge Harbour, who were observing the meeting.

196. DEPUTATION

A deputation was received from Mr Lucas Shotts, with regard to the consideration of the application for Harbour Works Consent at Deacon's Boatyard, item 8 in the Minute Book.

Mr Shotts explained that he represented a local business that wanted to expand. He briefly outlined the proposed application and highlighted his concern with condition iv. in the recommended conditions. He explained that he had measured a number of boats and that given the range of types of vessels in the River, a beam restriction for berthed boats was not practical.

The Chairman thanked Mr Shotts for his deputation and confirmed that the points he had raised would be addressed when the relevant item was discussed.

197. RIVER HAMBLE HARBOUR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 29 JUNE 2012

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

198. HARBOUR MASTER'S REPORT

The Board received the Harbour Master's report (Item 6 in the Minute Book) regarding recent incidents and events in the Harbour from 20 July 2012.

In summarising the incidents, the Harbour Master noted that the season was drawing to an end, but there had been some busy periods. Members noted the incidents and discussed in particular the involvement of the Coastguard on 21 July 2012.

The Designated Person updated the Board on the biannual Port Marine Safety Code audit, highlighting points concerning propeller guards, navigational aids and CCTV to be addressed. The Harbour Master explained why propeller guards were not appropriate for the majority of the use of the Authority's patrol boats, but that an additional engine kill switch would be fitted to mitigate risk. At the suggestion of the Designated Person, it was agreed that the Authority's position should be formalised in a risk

assessment. The recommendations relating to risk assessments for fire, navigational aids and CCTV were also accepted and agreed.

It was resolved that the report be noted and that the Harbour Master undertake the required work on the risk assessments.

199. MARINE DIRECTOR'S CURRENT ISSUES

The Board considered the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services (Item 7 in the Minute Book), regarding specific issues in the Harbour.

The Marine Director updated the Board on the latest position on the proposals for improvements to the Warsash slipway. It was confirmed that the Management Committee had formed a sub-group to consider the options in detail and provide recommendations. It was therefore proposed that the Board await the report of the sub-group and re-consider at the January meeting. It was noted that this may depend on the level of detail that the sub-group require as slipway usage data may only realistically be obtained in the summer months.

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

200. HARBOUR WORKS CONSENT APPLICATION – DEACON'S BOATYARD

The Board considered the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services (Item 8 in the Minute Book) detailing the application for Harbour Works consent to undertake a marina rebuild and associated capital dredge at Deacon's boatyard.

The Marine Director confirmed that consent had previously been granted for a similar application and that the significant difference on this occasion related to the Y pontoon. The conditions set out in the recommendations were addressed by the Board, with reference to the deputation heard on the matter and to the views of the Management Committee. Enforcement of the conditions was questioned and the Marine Director confirmed that on a day to day basis, most would be enforced by the Boatyard however he had authority to compel the Boatyard to do so if this was not happening. It was proposed and agreed that checks be carried out on the enforcement of conditions applied to previous consents that had been granted.

It was proposed and agreed that the recommended first clause of condition ii ("The speed limit within the Marina should be dead slow and") be removed.

It was proposed and agreed that the beam limit of 3.8 metres stipulated in condition iv be amended to 4.5 metres.

It was proposed that a condition be added to iv to “restrict mooring on either side of the Y pontoon to single mono-hulled craft and no rafting”. A vote was held and the Board decided against the amendment. It was clarified that the original recommendation to restrict rafting on the hammerhead and outer channel, with a (revised) beam limit of 4.5 metres was agreed.

It was resolved that the River Hamble Harbour Board grants Harbour Works Consent for the proposed works at Deacon’s boatyard with the following conditions:

- i. 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 reiterated in the Deacons Marina Visitors’ Guide.
- ii. 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
- iii. 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.
- iv. No rafting of vessels on the hammerhead berths or main channel side of ‘Y’ pontoon, and no vessels with a maximum beam of more than 4.5 metres to be berthed on the hammerhead or on ‘Y’ pontoon berths on the main channel side.
- v. Fixed and flashing navigation lights to be fitted on the hammerheads and ‘Y’ pontoon, as specified by Trinity House.
- vi. 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.
- vii. 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.
- viii. Removal of inshore berthing as indicated in drawings 10093/26 and 10093/27.

- ix. 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.
- x. 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.
- xi. Sufficient Tier 1 oil pollution response booming must be held to completely encircle the plant equipment being used.
- xii. 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.
- xiii. All relevant consents are to be obtained prior to commencement of the works, and a copy of each consent lodged with the Harbour Office.

201. **WORKSHOP BUSINESS CASE**

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

The Marine Director outlined the background to the requirement for a workshop and the relative benefits of each of the options set out in the report. It was felt that the minor practical problems associated with renting at Stone Pier Yard could be overcome, that this provided the quickest solution and that this made the most financial sense.

It was resolved that:

The River Hamble Harbour Board abandons the pontoon and workshop/store project in favour of leasing a unit in Stone Pier Yard.

202. **THREE YEARLY SAFETY CONSULTATION**

The Board 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 process of consultation was outlined and it was explained that there had been a small number of responses, but that all of these had been very useful. The concerns that had been raised were highlighted, in particular warning signs for cross tides, River speed limits, wash and the safety of paddleboarders. The Marine Director confirmed the action that was being taken on each of these and that responses would be sent to all consultees.

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

203. FORWARD PLAN FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

The Board considered the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services (Item 11 in the Minute Book), regarding forthcoming items for future meetings.

It was noted that in relation to other items on the agenda, a report on the findings of the Management Committee sub-group was now expected at the January 2013 meeting. Furthermore that feedback from the sub-group reviewing commercial harbour dues was expected at the November 2012 meeting.

204. HARBOUR DUES 2013

The Board considered the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services (Item 12 in the Minute Book), regarding the proposed level of Harbour Dues for 2013.

Legal advice was sought and it was confirmed that members of the Board who were also Harbour Dues payers had received a dispensation to take part in the discussion and that this would not be considered a prejudicial interest.

The proposals to increase the Dues were introduced and Members expressed the view that there was no justification to do so for 2013. It was felt that any pay increase awarded to Harbour Authority staff could be met from the existing budget.

It was resolved that the River Hamble Harbour Board approve the continuation of 2012 rates for Harbour Dues for 2013.