

AT A MEETING of the RIVER HAMBLE HARBOUR BOARD held at the Warsash Sailing Club on 27 September 2013.

**PRESENT:**

**Hampshire County Council**

Councillors:

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

**Independent Members**

p Mr. D. Jobson  
a Mr. C. Moody  
p Ms N Hiorns

**Marine Director**

p D. Evans

**18. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Mr Chris Moody.

**19. 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.

Mr Jobson disclosed an interest as a Midstream Mooring Holder.

**20. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 26 June 2013 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

It was confirmed that collection of Harbour Dues would be subject to further review by the Board in Spring 2014 (Item 3 in the Minute Book).

Members were told the legal advice to Eastleigh Borough Council on their requirement for planning consent for works beyond the low water line was subject to legal-client privilege and not available to the Harbour Board (Item 10 in the Minute Book).

Review of Strategic Plan and Strategic Vision – the Chairman reported the working group had met twice; he expected one further meeting at which he hoped the Management Committee’s comments could be absorbed into a new edition of the Strategic Vision (Item 15 in the Minute Book).

Members agreed with the Chairman’s proposal for the resolution to Item 16 in the Minute Book to be amended to read,

“(ii) The amount to pledge to match that formally confirmed by Hamble Parish Council subject to a maximum of £70000 and expiring on 4 March 2014; ...”

## **21. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman welcomed Ms Nikki Hiorns as the Environment Member in succession to Dr Susie Tomson and Cllr Peter Latham who had replaced Cllr Rob Humby and Captain Richard Eastham on behalf of the Designated Person.

The Chairman announced that he would bring forward Item 10 (Harbour Works Consent Application) on the Agenda to follow immediately after Item 6 (Deputations).

## **22. DEPUTATIONS**

A deputation was received by the Harbour Board with regard to the Harbour Works Consent application from Premier Marinas (Item 10 in the Minute Book).

Mr Peter Bradshaw, Chief Executive of Premier Marinas told the Board granting the application was for a minor design change and as a whole would mean a reduction in environmental impact whilst also generating substantial benefits to the local economy.

## **23. HARBOUR WORKS CONSENT APPLICATION: PREMIER MARINAS – SWANWICK MARINA HOIST DOCK**

The Board received the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services (Item 10 in the Minute Book) in respect of the application for Harbour Works Consent.

The Board heard that the reduction in the available turning circle in the Main Channel from the pontoons' re-siting represented 4% whilst the re-siting of the hoist dock had no impact on the Main Channel. Concern regarding manoeuvring large boats into the hoist dock area when there was a fast tidal stream was allayed by the Applicant's assurance that its risk assessments would include a need to manoeuvre only at times of slack water.

Members noted the recommendation of the Management Committee in support of the application.

The Board voted on the recommendations in the Report and it was resolved:

That the River Hamble Harbour Board grants Harbour Works Consent to the applicant for its application for the proposal as shown in the drawings listed at paragraph 3.1 and subject to compliance with the conditions set out in paragraph 9 of the Report, namely

- (i) Vibro-piling should be used as standard. In the event that it is necessary to use percussive piling methods, then this should only be undertaken in order to drive a pile to its design level, using soft start techniques.
- (ii) Dredging and piling works shall take place only in a period between 30 November and 15 March to prevent harm to migratory salmonids. If such works are to extend outside of this time period the applicant must seek advice from the Harbour Authority and Environment Agency prior to commencement.
- (iii) Best practice to be employed when operating machinery and in the use of material appropriate for the marine environment.
- (iv) A minimum of seven days advance notice of the start of the works is to be given to the Harbour Master in order that a Notice to River Users can be issued.

#### **24. RIVER HAMBLE HARBOUR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE - 9 SEPTEMBER 2013**

The Board received and noted the Minutes of the River Hamble Harbour Management Committee meeting on 9 September 2013.

#### **25. HARBOUR MASTER'S REPORT**

The Board received the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services (Item 7 in the Minute Book) regarding recent incidents and events in the Harbour from 26 June 2013.

It was resolved that:

The River Hamble Harbour Board note the report.

## **26. 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 specific issues in the Harbour.

The Marine Director introduced the report highlighting progress being made with current projects at the Warsash Slipway and Fishermen's Jetty.

Mr Jobson was keen for the Authority to monitor the effectiveness of seaweed clearance (currently budgeted at £10000 annually) at the Warsash Slipway. Members were told the recent weekly collection of four and a half tonnes was composted and exported for agricultural use. Regular clearance considerably improved launching from this well-used public amenity.

It was resolved that:

The River Hamble Harbour Board note the report.

## **27. ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATE**

The Board considered the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services (Item 9 in the Minute Book) in respect of the environmental management of the Hamble Estuary during July and August 2013.

The Marine Director explained the focus of the report was on emergency response (planning and rehearsal).

The exercise described, demonstrated the effectiveness of the Harbour Authority's ability to deploy absorbent booms in the event of an oil spill (or similar environment hazard) into the River from the M27 road bridge. It was reported the installation of interceptor pipework to minimise environmental damage to the River remained a low priority for the Highways Agency when compared with the need for immediate life-saving measures to be taken if an oil tanker vehicle were to be involved in an accident on the bridge.

It was noted that the table-top exercise at BP Hamble had revealed that berth holders at Hamble Point Marina could be at risk and should therefore be included in the Contingency Advice leaflet circulation made by BP Hamble.

It was confirmed that the Harbour Authority's newsletter would emphasise the requirement to use authorised routes and carriers for returning domestic animals into the United Kingdom, even if they have a valid Pet Passport.

It was resolved that:

The River Hamble Harbour Board note the report.

**28. HARBOUR DUES 2014**

The Board considered the report of The Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services (Item 11 in the Minute Book) which was introduced by the Marine Director.

Members were told the proposed increase of 1% would enable the Harbour Authority to meet the 1% pay award by the County Council effective 1 April 2013 and to anticipate any award made in April 2014 without jeopardising the improvement and maintenance projects already under way.

Members were told there had been no increase over the previous two years and no increase for 2014 meant it was possible the Authority could be in deficit in 2014/15. There was broad agreement that the Board should be mindful of maximising revenue whilst containing operating costs and that a surplus of modest levels was acceptable.

A vote was held and it was resolved that:

The River Hamble Harbour Board approves an increase in Harbour Dues for 2014 of 1% with relevant rounding down to the nearest 10p per metre.

**29. REVIEW OF STRATEGIC PLAN AND STRATEGIC VISION**

The Board received a verbal update from the Chairman regarding the meeting of the working group for updating of the Strategic Vision (Item 20 in the Minute Book).

It was resolved that:

The River Hamble Harbour Board note the update.

**30. FORWARD PLAN FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

The Board considered the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services (Item 13 in the Minute Book), regarding forthcoming items for future meetings.

It was resolved that:

The River Hamble Harbour Board note the report.