

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**Report**

Committee	River Hamble Harbour Board
Date:	29 November 2013
Title:	Marine Director's Current Issues
Reference:	5260
Report From:	Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services

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1. Summary

- 1.1. This report covers four issues which are under current consideration by the Marine Director, namely improvements to Warsash Slipway, the future of the Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) system, the Hamble Jetty pontoons and sound systems for meetings.

2. Warsash Slipway

- 2.1. Hampshire County Council's Highways Consultancy have been tasked to produce detailed drawings and specifications for the proposed works to the Warsash slipway, together with estimated costings. This work has not yet been completed but a verbal update will be provided at the meeting if new information is available at the time.

3. CCTV

- 3.1. The current CCTV system was installed in 2003. It consists of three trainable, zoom-able full colour cameras all linked to a display screen in the Harbour Office by a wireless network. At the time of installation, the system was built with cutting-edge technology but it is now out-dated and is no longer reliable. Availability of key components is poor and delivery times for replacements are becoming excessive. The system lacks any night-time (IR, thermal imaging or low-light) capability. Although there is no urgent requirement for a decision, this report is intended to high-light the issue, with a view to stimulating debate on options for the future. These options include the following:

- a. Invest in the current system to bring it up to date.

- b. Procure a new, purpose-built surveillance system, complete with night-time capability. This could also include, for example, radar coverage of the River entrance with auto-training of CCTV cameras onto targets which are exceeding a pre-set speed threshold, so that details can be recorded.
 - c. Discontinue CCTV coverage of the River.
- 3.2. At this stage, it is not possible to provide accurate costs for these options (apart from option c). Nonetheless, Harbour Board guidance on the preferred direction of travel would be most helpful. Reasonable costs associated with options a. or b. could be met from the Asset Replacement Reserve.
- 3.3. The existing system has a number of benefits and several shortcomings, as follows:

Benefits:

- Provides 24/7 recorded coverage of the River, from the entrance to Bursledon Bend. This can be used to monitor and, if necessary, track vessel movements, identify problems and task patrol boats. However, it is relatively unusual for initial identification of a problem on the River to reach the Harbour Office solely from CCTV.
- The system has been successfully used to provide evidence in a speeding prosecution and to identify times of arrival and departure of visiting vessels.
- A CCTV system has some value as a deterrent to potential speeders and thieves.

Shortcomings:

- The lack of a night-time capability means that the CCTV system is of very limited value in deterring or detecting crime on the River at night.
- The trainable cameras mean that the recorded images are limited to those within the field of view of the camera at the time. Experience has shown that it is not worthwhile or effective to programme the cameras to follow a series of pre-set moves during quiet periods. It is also impossible to 'zoom' into recorded images, which makes identification of people or boats (by name) from recorded images very difficult.
- Reliability and availability of the system is now mediocre and is getting progressively worse.

4. Hamble Jetty

- 4.1. The floating pontoon structure of Hamble Jetty was installed in 1993. It is heavily used by the public to gain access to the Hamble-Warsash ferry, the River Taxi and the River Bus. It is also used by a variety of vessels for drop-off and pick-up, and by visiting vessels for short stay or overnight stops.

- 4.2. Repairs and maintenance have been carried out as required over the years, in order to ensure that the pontoons remain as safe as possible for users. However, it is becoming increasingly difficult to carry out adequate repairs cost-effectively, because the underlying structure of the pontoons has gradually degraded.
- 4.3. It has already been proposed and agreed in principle (though not formally approved for Harbour Works Consent) that the capacity of the Jetty should be increased by constructing an L-shaped extension, to be funded from the Asset Enhancement Reserve. However, for safety reasons, this extension cannot be implemented until the recently consented works immediately upstream at the Royal Southern Yacht Club have been completed, currently scheduled for the winter of 2014-15.
- 4.4. It is therefore intended to proceed in two phases, as follows:
 - Phase 1 – as soon as possible, replace the existing pontoons, like for like, to be funded from the Asset Replacement Reserve.
 - Phase 2 – apply for consents for the proposed extension to the pontoon, with a recommendation that Harbour Works Consent should be conditional upon the works at the Royal Southern being completed before the extension to the Hamble Jetty is built.

5. Sound systems for meetings

- 5.1. Meetings of the River Hamble Harbour Management Committee and the River Hamble Harbour Board are 'meetings held in public', held at various venues around the River. A member of the public who attends these meetings has highlighted a difficulty with hearing the discussions between members and has asked that consideration be given to providing a sound system. Some recent meetings have used a "lollipop" mobile microphone provided by the host-Club that is passed from user to user. Options to improve the audibility are being explored, amongst which is the use of multiple switchable microphones connected to an amplifier and loudspeaker(s). Such a system would have to be transportable, straightforward to set up and easy to maintain. There is currently no such system available within the County Council and initial enquiries have been made regarding the purchase of a system indicating that a budget of about £5,000 would be required for a wired system with 12 microphones. A comparable wireless system would be about £15,000. There would be continuing maintenance and operating costs.

6. Recommendation

- 6.1 **It is recommended that this report be noted.**

CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:

Links to the Corporate Strategy

Hampshire safer and more secure for all:	yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
Maximising well-being:	yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
Enhancing our quality of place:	no
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

Document

Location

None

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:

1. Equalities Impact Assessment:

- 1.1. A full Equalities Impact Assessment for the River Hamble Harbour Authority's compliance with the Port Marine Safety Code has been carried out and this report does not raise any issues not previously covered by that Assessment.

2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:

- 2.1. The contents of this report will have no limited impact on crime and disorder, although installation of a night-time CCTV capability may have some deterrent value.

3. Climate Change:

- a) How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption? The contents of this report have no impact on carbon footprint or energy consumption.
- b) How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts? Not applicable to this report.