

AT A MEETING of the RIVER HAMBLE HARBOUR BOARD held at the Royal Southern Yacht Club, Hamble-le-Rice on Friday 25 September at 2pm

PRESENT:

Hampshire County Council

Councillors:

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

Independent Members

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

Marine Director

p J Scott

141. BROADCASTING ANNOUNCEMENT

The Chairman announced that the press and members of the public were permitted to film and broadcast the meeting. Those remaining at the meeting were consenting to being filmed and recorded, and to the possible use of those images and recording for broadcasting purposes.

142. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Mr Chris Moody.

143. 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 and, having regard to 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 Personal Interest in a matter being considered at the meeting they considered, having regard to Part 5, Paragraph 4 of the Code, whether such interest should be declared, and having regard to Part 5, Paragraph 5 of the Code, considered whether it was appropriate to leave the meeting while the matter was discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with the Code.

Mr David Jobson declared Personal Interests of: memberships of the Royal Southern Yacht Club; RAF Yacht Club; Royal Yachting Association and as a Midstream Mooring Holder.

144. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 17 July 2015 (Item 4 in the Minute Book) were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

145. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman welcomed the new Marine Director, Jason Scott, who started in post on the 23 July 2015.

146. DEPUTATIONS

A deputation was received relating to Item 11 in the Minute Book (Harbour Works Consent Application – Brooklands Quay Slipway Extension).

At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr Alex Benfield addressed the Board. Members were informed that the proposals were entirely within the boundary of the property and that the slipway extension would be entirely for private use. The Board were told that consultation had taken place with various organisations and that the design specification had been updated to accommodate the responses received. Mr Benfield noted that the client welcomes the opportunity to work with the Harbour Authority.

The Chairman thanked Mr Benfield for his input and suggested that the Harbour Works Consent report (Item 11 in the Minute Book) be brought forward for consideration.

147. HARBOUR WORKS CONSENT APPLICATION: BROOKLANDS QUAY SLIPWAY

The Board considered the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services (Item 11 in the Minute Book) setting out an application for Harbour Works Consent made by Marina Projects Limited on behalf of their client.

The Board heard about proposals to construct an extension to an existing private slipway and the implementation of a mitigation package to recreate the intertidal habitat. It was proposed that construction would begin in summer 2016. A technical note was appended to the report outlining the details of the proposed extension.

Following the discussion held at the Management Committee, at its meeting on 4 September, the Marine Director confirmed that, in accordance with Trinity House's recommendation, the end of the slipway would not be marked. The Marine Director confirmed that the slipway itself would be marked on hydrographic charts.

Members discussed the environmental impact of the proposed works and felt it was important to be continually mindful to mitigate the permanent loss of mudflat habitat. It was decided that the suggestions to mitigate habitat loss as a result of this proposal were sufficient.

Members also discussed the possibility of the slipway being used for commercial purposes and agreed that private usage would be preferred. It was agreed that the Harbour Authority did not possess the power to overwrite permitted development rights. However, it was agreed that the use of the slipway, in terms of the volume and nature of boats, could be monitored and it was highlighted that the Harbour Authority has a duty to regulate safe and appropriate use of the river.

The Board RESOLVED to approve that:

- a. A detailed method statement must be submitted by the applicant and approved by the Harbour Master in advance of any work commencing.
- b. A minimum of 7 days advance notice of the start of the works must be given to the Harbour Master in order that a Notice to River Users can be issued.
- c. The dock-head structure must be removed prior to commencing construction of the slipway.
- d. Vibro-piling must be used as standard, percussive piling should only be used if needed to drive a pile to its design depth. A soft-start procedure should be used if percussive piling is required. No percussive piling to be used during the sensitive period for overwintering birds, 1st October to 31st March inclusive.
- e. In accordance with Environment Agency guidelines, all reasonable precautions must be undertaken to ensure no pollutants enter the water-course. Ensure that any coatings/treatments on the materials used are suitable for use in the marine environment and are used in accordance with best environmental practice. All equipment and debris associated with the works must be removed from the area within 24 hours upon completion of the works.
- f. Works must be completed within 3 years from the date of the approval granted by the Harbour Board.

148. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE RIVER HAMBLE HARBOUR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE – 4 SEPTEMBER 2015

The Board received and noted the draft minutes of the meeting of the River Hamble Harbour Management Committee held on 4 September 2015 (Item 7 in the Minute Book).

149. HARBOUR MASTER'S REPORT

The Board considered the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services (Item 8 in the Minute Book) regarding incidents and events in the Harbour from 18 July 2015.

An additional addendum outlining events that had occurred since the publication of papers was also distributed at the meeting.

Discussion was held over the reported incidents of swimmers in the river. The Marine Director noted that the Harbour Authority was working with the Royal National Lifeboat Institution on a programme entitled 'Respect the Water' which aims to engage and educate children, by targeting local schools, in the lead up to summer 2016.

The Board RESOLVED to note the report.

150. MARINE DIRECTORS CURRENT ISSUES

The Board received the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services (Item 9 in the Minute Book) regarding issues currently under consideration by the Marine Director.

It was confirmed that the necessary consents and exemptions had been obtained and confirmed for the Warsash Slipway works including associated variations for the agreed reduced scheme. It was reported that no bids had been received following the initial invitation to tender. The Board were informed that, in order to expedite the construction process, bids to tender from alternative contractors had been sought and that two of these companies were due to submit costing plans to the Marine Director the following week. It was confirmed that the intended start date for the works was October 2015.

At the meeting of the Board on 17 July 2015, and following the refusal of the Hamble Jetty extension project, it was requested that the design and cost estimates for the Warsash Link Pontoon be formally re-submitted for a Board decision. The documents were appended to the report. This proposal would link the Harbour Master's Warsash Jetty and the Fisherman's Pontoon and would significantly increase the number of tender berths at Warsash.

The Board heard of proposals to utilise the £49,300 reserve, originally identified for transfer from the Revenue Reserve to the Asset Enhancement Reserve, to commit to a zero percent increase in Harbour Dues for the year 2015-16.

The Board RESOLVED to :

- a. proceed with applications for permissions to develop the Warsash Link Pontoon.

- b. commit to a zero per cent increase in Harbour Dues next year.
- c. note the remainder of the report.

151. ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATE

The Board received the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services (Item 10 in the Minute Book) summarising activities relating to the River Hamble Harbour Authority's environmental management of the Hamble Estuary during June and July 2015.

It was reported that the contract for the desktop study, to ascertain the viability of employing sediment management measures to conserve the saltmarsh and mudflat habitats within the Hamble Estuary, had been awarded to AHTI Limited. It was confirmed that the study would run until March 2016 when the final AHTI report would be produced.

The Board were encouraged to view the minutes and presentations from the recent Hamble Estuary Partnership (HEP) meeting which was co-ordinated by the Environment and Development Officer.

The Board RESOLVED to note the report.

152. FORWARD PLAN FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

The Board received a report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services anticipating future business items of the River Hamble Management Committee and the Harbour Board (Item 12 in the Minute Book).

It was noted that a Harbour Works Consent report would be brought to the meeting of the Board on the 15 January 2016.

The Board RESOLVED to note the report.