

AT A MEETING of the RIVER HAMBLE HARBOUR BOARD held at Warsash Sailing Club on Friday 15 January 2016 at 10am

PRESENT:

Hampshire County Council

Councillors:

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

Independent Members

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

Marine Director

p J Scott

153. 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.

154. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Keith House (Councillor Price as the Liberal Democrat substitute Member was also unable to attend), Chris Moody and Nikki Hiorns.

155. 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. Mr David Jobson also declared Interests, in relation to Item 14 in the Minute Book, as a Director of RAF Yacht Club Holdings Ltd. and as an adjacent mooring holder.

156. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 25 September 2015 (Item 4 in the Minute Book) were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

157. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman informed Members that the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) had been sent correspondence, from the Chairmen of both the Hamble Board and Management Committee, in support of the Hampshire Constabulary Marine Unit and requesting that the proposed disbandment of the service be reconsidered. The Chairman noted that a response had not yet been received from the OPCC.

The Chairman registered his gratitude to Wendy Stowe and wished her luck in her new role as Beaulieu River Harbour Master.

The Chairman notified the Board that the Annual Hamble River Forum would be taking place on the 21 March 2016, at 7pm, at Warsash Sailing Club.

Due to the sad passing of a close family member the Board gave their condolences to Nikki Hiorns. The Board also wished Chris Moody well following his recent hospital treatment.

158. DEPUTATIONS

There were no deputations on this occasion.

159. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE RIVER HAMBLE HARBOUR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE – 11 DECEMBER 2015

The Board received and noted the draft minutes of the meeting of the River Hamble Harbour Management Committee held on 11 December 2015 (Item 7 in the Minute Book).

160. 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 25 September 2015.

An additional addendum outlining events that had occurred since the publication of papers was also distributed at the meeting. In particular, Members heard that works to Warsash Slipway were progressing well and that the County Council's engineering team had worked efficiently alongside contractors.

Members also heard that consultation with affected customers regarding the Crown Estate's replacement piling programme had begun and that, thus far, feedback received had been positive.

The Board RESOLVED to note the report.

161. 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 reported that, with regards to the Warsash Pontoon, preliminary correspondence with local residents had taken place and that a positive response had been received.

The Director noted that investigations and discussions with interested parties were continuing into safeguarding and improving access to mid stream moorings. Following Members' questions, the Director clarified that the potential development of Swanwick car park, to the east of Premier Marina, was under consideration and discussions were being held regarding possible improvements to this facility.

It was outlined that the total cost of the Warsash Slipway was £60,000. It was confirmed that the County Council's engineering fee, as previously agreed by Members, would be £15,000 and that this sum would be additional to the total cost for the works.

The Board RESOLVED to note the report.

162. 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 from August to October 2015.

It was reported the routine winter dredging process was underway at Mercury Yacht Harbour, Port Hamble Marina and Hamble Point Marina. Members also heard that the desktop study into the viability of using sediment management techniques to safeguard saltmarsh and mudflat habitat was ongoing.

The Board RESOLVED to note the report.

163. SAFETY MANAGEMENT AUDIT REPORT

The Board received the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services (Item 11 in the Minute Book) outlining the Harbour Authority's continued compliance with the Port Marine Safety Code.

It was reported that the Marine Director and Andy Langford, on behalf of Regs for Ships, conducted the audit of the Harbour Authority's Safety Management System on 15 October 2015. The Board heard that the Authority continued to comply with the Port Marine Safety Code.

It was confirmed that a series of internal quarterly safety and operational meetings had been established. The first meeting of the group had taken place on Friday 8 January 2016.

The Board RESOLVED to note the report.

164. REVIEW OF FEES AND CHARGES

The Board received the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services (Item 12 in the Minute Book) proposing fees and charges applicable to the River Hamble for commercial vessels.

The report proposed that no changes should be made to fees and charges from the previous year. This would also be in line with the freeze on Harbour Dues as previously agreed by the Board on 25 September 2015.

The Board RESOLVED to approve the fees and charges set out in the report and for these to be advertised on the River Hamble website.

165. RIVER HAMBLE 2016/17 FORWARD BUDGET

The Board received the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services (Item 13 in the Minute Book) presenting the outturn forecast for 2015/16 and the 2016/17 budget for the Board's approval.

The report presented the 2015/16 outturn forecast, as at Period 6. Members heard that the River Hamble is projected to achieve a surplus of £20,000 against a budgeted surplus of £23,000 for 2015/16. An appendix was attached to the report which detailed the proposed forward budget for 2016/17. An additional appendix was attached showing the River Hamble Fixed Assets register. It was noted that a more detailed review of the fixed assets would be undertaken by the Harbour Master with the objective of formulating a five year cashflow statement for the Asset Replacement Reserve. This statement would be brought to the Management Committee and Board meetings in June/July 2016.

Following Members' questions it was clarified that, under Section 3.6 of the report, the changes to the reconfiguration of some marinas, resulting in lower projected income for 2015/16, comprised of harbour works that had been applied for but not yet carried out or completed.

The Board RESOLVED to:

- i) Note the 2015/16 forecast outturn.
- ii) Approve the 2016/17 forward budget as set out in this report.
- iii) Approve that the level of Revenue Reserve is brought to the Board for further consideration with the final accounts for 2015/16.

166. HARBOUR WORKS CONSENT APPLICATION: INSTALLTION OF A MID-STREAM PONTOON ON ROYAL AIR FORCE YACHT CLUB MOORINGS

The Board received the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services (Item 14 in the Minute Book) setting out an application for Harbour Works Consent.

The Director presented the report and highlighted that no objections to the works had been received following the consultation. It was also emphasised that, although the proposal was within the Solent Maritime Special Area of Conservation, there would be no loss of habitat from designated sites and there would be no change to the type or frequency of activities that occurred in the location as a result of the proposal.

It was confirmed that the proposals met the requirements of the relevant authorities, such as Natural England, and that there would be no navigational issues presented as a result of the works.

The Board heard that recommendation 9f, to impose a three year project completion timescale from the date of Harbour Board approval, was legal in accordance with Section 17 (1) of the Southampton Harbour Act 1939 which allows the Harbour Board to give consent subject to such terms and conditions as it may think fit to impose. It was noted that extensions to this three year timescale could be granted on a case by case basis.

The Board RESOLVED to grant Harbour Works Consent for the proposal, as set out in Section 3 of the report, subject to the following conditions:

- a. That the proposal is to be built in accordance with the details, plans and method set out in paragraph 3.1.
- b. That replacement of piles F59, F60, F61 and F62 must be undertaken prior to the installation of the pontoon, and with written confirmation of the completed piling works to be given to the Harbour Master.
- c. That no multihull vessels are moored on the pontoon run.

- d. That 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.
- e. 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. Environment Agency guidelines should be followed and all reasonable precautions undertaken to ensure no pollutants enter the water body.
- f. That the development must be completed within 3 years from the date of the approval granted by the Harbour Board.

167. 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 15 in the Minute Book).

The Board RESOLVED to note the report.