

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**Report**

Committee	River Hamble Harbour Board
Date:	15 July 2016
Title:	Proceedings of the Annual Forum
Reference:	7627
Report From:	Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services

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1. Summary

- 1.1 The purpose of this paper is to report on the proceedings of the River Hamble Annual Forum held on 21 March 2016.

2. Background

- 2.1 The eleventh River Hamble Annual Forum was held at Warsash Sailing Club and Chaired by Councillor S D T Woodward. Around 50 members of the public were present, along with members of the Harbour Board, Management Committee and Harbour Office staff. Details of the proceedings are at Appendix 1.
- 2.2 This year, the structure of the meeting was changed in response to comments received from some River users. The hope was that this change would improve structure to the evening and allow a greater range of topics to be discussed for the wider benefit. A number of presentations were given by organisations represented on the Management Committee and this year, an attempt was made to focus on youth.
- 2.3 No formal deputations were made but there were a number of questions from the floor. These were answered as fully as possible at the time. A brief synopsis of the answers is provided (in italics) at Appendix 1.

3. Recommendation

- 3.1. That the River Hamble Harbour Board notes this report.**

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.)	
<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
None	

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:

1. Equality Duty

1.1. The County Council has a duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ('the Act') to have due regard in the exercise of its functions to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act;
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, gender and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

Due regard in this context involves having due regard in particular to:

- a) The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant characteristic connected to that characteristic;
- b) Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- c) Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

Equalities Impact Assessment:

1.2 A full Equalities Impact Assessment for the River Hamble Harbour Authority's compliance with the Port Marine Safety Code (including environmental responsibilities) 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. This report does not deal with any issues relating to crime and disorder.

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.

**River Hamble Annual Forum 2016 – Report of Proceedings
21 March 2016**

Warsash Sailing Club

The meeting opened at 1930

Present:

Cllr Sean Woodward (Chairman)

Councillor Keith Evans (Chairman, Harbour Board)

David Jobson (Member, the Harbour Board)

Councillor Peter Latham (Vice Chairman, Harbour Board)

Dermod O'Malley (Hamble River Berth and Mooring Holders' Representative on the Management Committee)

Ken Munro (Commodore Hamble River Sailing Club, representing the Combined Clubs)

Jason Scott – Marine Director and Harbour Master

Alison Fowler – Environment and Development Manager

And 50 members of the public

Apologies:

Chris Moody, Nikki Hiorns, Rupert Boissier, Nicola Walsh.

Councillor Woodward welcomed members of the public and introduced members of the Harbour Board and Management Committee.

A number of presentations were given by the Association of River Hamble Yacht Clubs, the Hamble River Berth and Mooring Holders and a representative of the Sea Scouts, who had been invited to represent the views of Young People. These presentations gave those organisations' perspectives on their interaction with the Harbour Authority, reflecting on what had gone well and also, on what they felt needed improvement.

The Marine Director presented his Annual Report which was subsequently made available on the Harbour Authority website.

Questions and contributions from the floor:

Mr Ken Munro

Asked what the RHHA perceived to be its greatest risks.

The Marine Director explained that he had inherited a good Safety Management System and a strong Oil Spill Response Plan, which was recognised by the MCA as being best practice. Nevertheless, the Harbour Authority would not be complacent. At the most recent review of the SMS, a new Harbour Master and new Designated Person, Mr Andrew Langford had had the opportunity to look at the SMS with fresh eyes and a number of sensible modifications to the existing system had been identified. Staff churn, with a new Harbour Master in July 2015 and a new Deputy in April 2016 meant that there was renewed focus on Business Continuity and the written mapping of processes.

Mr Chris Pilling

As a member of Warsash Sea Scouts and the father of a young family, called for greater consideration among River users from the perspective of the small craft user.

The Marine Director agreed the need for the River to be safe for all and offered examples about how that might be improved. He used the example of last year's Bursledon Regatta when, despite the issuing of Notices to River Users, some boat skippers had not been aware of that event and been frustrated with the volume of traffic over that weekend. He therefore welcomed the agreement of Boatyard and Marina operators in helping highlight better forthcoming events to the owners of boats who might not live locally.

Mr David Anderton

Noted the lack of electricity and water on the Hamble Jetty and asked what plans there were for improving the facilities there for visiting yachtsmen.

The Marine Director recognised that the facilities at the Hamble Jetty were modest and that there was room for improvement. Last year's decision to turn down a development of that jetty had meant that the focus for development for the benefit of all River users had shifted for the moment to the provision of enhanced public facilities at Warsash. In the mean time, revisiting what might be done to enhance the facilities at Hamble was, however, on the Marine Director's 'radar'. Lower charges on the Hamble Jetty reflected the lesser services on offer.

Mr John Mitchell

Asked for an update on Highways England's potential scheme to control pollution run-off arising as a result of an incident on the M27 Bridge.

The Environment and Development Officer gave an update on the pollution risks to the River environment associated with run-off from the M27 Bridge, highlighting the roles of the different authorities involved. Although the water quality in this location meets required standards, the Environment Agency is awaiting the outcome of a recently submitted bid for Highways England funding towards a scheme to address the direct run-off. RHHA conducted its oil boom deployment exercise in this location in 2013.

Mr Jeremy Clark

Asked whether further donations were likely to be made by the Harbour Authority to the Hamble Lifeboat Headquarters project.

Cllr Evans gave an update on the condition of the Hamble Lifeboat building. The Trustees of the Lifeboat were engaged in legal correspondence with the original building contractors to gain clarity over the issue of a building certificate. The building was largely complete although there was a list of outstanding items requiring work. The Harbour Authority, having donated £70000 to the building, would await the outcome before making a decision on whether to contribute further.

Mr Jeremy Clark

Asked whether Patrol Officers should not patrol singly.

The Marine Director replied that patrols were on occasion, conducted by a single Patrol Officer. The occasions upon which officers should patrol singly or in pairs depended on a number of factors, not exclusively including the task, the weather and the time of day. These were the subject of a risk assessment in the Safety Management System.

Cllr Woodward then carried out the draw for the tender berthing allocations at Hamble and Warsash and closed the Forum, thanking everyone for their input.