AT A MEETING of the RIVER HAMBLE HARBOUR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE held at The Royal Southern Yacht Club, Hamble on 18 March 2011.

PRESENT

Chairman:
p Councillor S. D. T. Woodward

Vice-Chairman:
p Councillor Dr. R. J. Ellis

Councillors:

p F. Allgood	p C. Davidovitz
p Mrs C. A. Bailey	p A. D. G. Evans
p A. Broadhurst	a A. Gibson
a M.G. Cooper	p A. W. Rice, TD

Eastleigh Borough Council

p Councillor Mrs S. Ingram

Fareham Borough Council

p Councillor T. M. Cartwright

Winchester City Council

p Councillor Victoria Weston

Association of River Hamble Yacht Clubs

p Mr P. Middleton

British Marine Federation

p Mr M. Glanville and p Mr. J. Eads

Hamble River Boatyard and Marina Operators Association

p Mr R. Boissier

Berth and Mooring Holders Representative

p Mr D. Jobson

Royal Yachting Association

p Mrs P. Dorothy

84. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors M.l Cooper and A. Gibson.

85. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were mindful that, where they believed they had a personal or personal prejudicial interest in any matter to be considered at the meeting, they should normally at the time of the debate declare their interest, and having regard to the circumstances described in paragraphs 9, 10, 11 and 12 of the County Council's Code of Conduct, consider whether to leave the meeting whilst the matter was discussed save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with Paragraph 12 of the Code. The normal declarations of interest applied among those present at this meeting.

Councillors S. Woodward and V. Weston all declared personal, non-prejudicial interests by reason of their being Mooring or Berth Holders on the River Hamble, as did Mr. R. Boissier, Mrs P. Dorothy, Mr. M. Glanville, Mr. P. Middleton and Mr. D. Jobson.

Councillors T. Cartwright, C. Bailey and V. Weston, along with Mr. D. Jobson and Mr. P. Middleton, also declared personal non- prejudicial interests as members of Local Yacht or Sailing Clubs.

Mr. M. Glanville declared a personal, non-prejudicial interest as an employee of the Marine Developments Ltd.

86. MINUTES

The Minutes of the River Hamble Harbour Management Committee meeting held on 7 January 2011 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Matters arising

<u>Marine Director's Current Issues (Minute 77)</u>

With regard to the Safety Plan for Marine Operations, a Member asked that his comment , in favour , of the provision of safety gaps in mooring and pile trots be added to the signed Minutes.

<u>Environmental Update (Minute 78)</u>

The Marine Director reported that negotiations were continuing over the Capital Dredge to be undertaken by Associated British Ports (ABP). The Management Committee asked to be notified by email of any significant developments and , if the awaited briefing document were to become available before the next meeting.

87. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman reported that Jon Eads of British Marine Federation would be stepping down as the primary Committee Member on the River Hamble Harbour Management Committee and his place taken by Michael Glanville the existing deputy Member.

88. HARBOUR MASTER'S REPORT

The Committee considered the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Rural Affairs (Item 6 in the Minute Book) on incidents and events in the Harbour for the period 28 January to 1 March 2011. The Marine Director circulated a supplementary report giving an update on more recent events (Item 6(a) in the Minute Book).

A member queried the cost of removing the large mooring weight from the River bed and asked who was responsible for meeting this expense, given that the weight appeared to be within the area of the River leased by Port Hamble Marina. The Marine Director explained that the bill for the divers was about £1000 and that the cost for the lifting barge had not yet been received. He also pointed out that the Harbour Authority has a duty, in accordance with the Port Marine Safety Code , to conserve the harbour and the safety of navigation therein (including the removal of dangerous obstructions), and that this duty extends right up to the Mean High Water mark, regardless of lease arrangements.

The Marine Director reported on the meeting held at Warsash Sailing Club on the evening of 9 February 2011 to review the Code of Practice for events in the Harbour. He was pleased to report that the new Code of Practice, introduced in 2010, was working well.

The Marine Director confirmed the requirement of the Harbour Authority to comply with the Port Marine Safety Code which required an independent audit to be undertaken . As the results of the most recent audit by Marine Enforcement Limited on 11 March 2011 had not become available until after the publication of the Management Committee agenda papers , it had been decided to circulate this information by email to Members prior to the meeting. The details of the audit from Marine Enforcement Ltd appear as Item 6(c) in the Minute Book. The Marine Director summarised the main points which had been raised in the audit letter and confirmed it was his intention to implement as appropriate each of the recommended actions which had been identified. The Committee noted the audit's conclusion that the Harbour Authority remains compliant with the Port Marine Safety Code and that a certificate had been issued to that effect.

The Marine Director advised Members that there was to be a major overhaul of the Harbour Office web-site. This was to ensure it contained only information that was appropriate and relevant. It was felt by one Member that the web-site might usefully include a link to the new risk-assessments and standard operating procedures. The Marine Director agreed to investigate this further.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted.

89. **MARINE DIRECTOR'S CURRENT ISSUES**

The Committee considered the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Rural Affairs (Item 7 in the Minute Book) detailing the Marine Director's current issues.

The report addressed three issues: an update on progress with further amendments to the River Hamble Strategic Plan and Vision; an update on progress with consultation on proposals for the Asset Enhancement Reserve, and a proposal to purchase a Bursledon rowing gig for use by the Harbour Office and the wider harbour community.

The Marine Director confirmed that the sub-group, consisting of Messrs Jobson, Glanville and Boissier, Councillors K. Evans and T. Cartwright, and himself had met on two occasions since the last Management Committee on 7 January 2011. At the first meeting, the sub-group had proposed a number of additions to the Action Plan and these were subsequently approved by the Harbour Board. At the second meeting, the sub-group had decided to ask Members of the Management Committee for their input to the Vision. The closing date set for any comments was 17 March 2011. However, only five responses had been received by this date , along with two requests to allow more time for comments. In the light of this, the Management Committee agreed to extend the period for responses to 31 March 2011.

The Marine Director reported on the consultation meeting on 10 March 2011 with those organisations and businesses with an interest in the future development of the Hamble foreshore. A note of the meeting had been taken and the item was to be considered by the Harbour Board on 8 April 2011.

Whilst receiving unanimous support by the Harbour Board at its last meeting, Board Members were most anxious that the Management Committee should be able to express their views about the proposed purchase by the Harbour Authority of a rowing gig , prior to the Harbour Board making a formal decision. The craft was estimated to cost £3,500, including all necessary equipment. Insurance and maintenance costs would be met by charging a modest daily hire charge for each individual making use of it. Harbour Authority staff had shown a keen interest to be fully involved . The gig would be clearly identifiable as belonging to, and sponsored by, the Harbour Authority. It was proposed to involve youth groups (e.g. Sea Scouts and Sea Cadets) and the wider harbour community. The Marine Director confirmed that a Member of his staff would wish to maintain the gig, if it was purchased .It was noted and that such work would be done in their own Warsash Yard.

In the ensuing discussion, Members supported the idea and the expected benefits as set out in the report. Whilst a contrary view was expressed as to whether proposed Harbour Authority ownership and future maintenance of the gig was the best course of action , the Management Committee supported the proposed procurement of the gig.

RESOLVED:

That the River Hamble Harbour Management Committee notes the situation on the Strategic Plan and Vision and on the Asset Enhancement Reserve and endorses the purchase of a Harbour Authority rowing gig.

90. **HARBOUR WORKS CONSENT - R.K. MARINE**

The Committee considered the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Rural Affairs (Item 8 in the Minute Book) about an application for Harbour Works Consent to construct a new boat hoist dock at R.K. Marine.

The Marine Director confirmed the construction of a new boat hoist was to allow the applicant to install a 40 ton capacity boat lift. The proposed works would require the installation of 13 piles to be driven into the sediment using a vibrating hammer, so as to allow the boatyard to lift larger and heavier boats out of the water. It was noted that the applicant anticipated using this facility for 4 or 5 lifts each week. The Marine Director highlighted his comments on the proposal as detailed in the report. They included a possible need for the applicant to manage large boats movements in/out of the hoist dock to reduce the risk to other River Users in the area concerned. This would be part of the risk assessment and be achieved by the applicant positioning ‘picket’ boats upstream and downstream of the entrance to R.K. Marine to warn River Users that there may be a large vessel undertaking manoeuvres.

Members’ attention was drawn to the third recommendation within the report and for the need to amend its wording to show that the planned date of piling works was to occur between 1 November (and not 1 September) and 15 March in any year only, to avoid the salmonid migration window.

The Marine Director reported receipt of a letter of objection to the application from Mr. T. Blewett and read the contents of the letter to the Management Committee. The Marine Director agreed to ensure that a formal response to Mr. Blewett's concerns was available for consideration by the Harbour Board.

In the ensuing discussion, the Marine Director explained that the risk assessment to be supplied to the Harbour Office by the applicant would only cover the construction works. Day-to day operations of the yard are subject to the operator's own risk assessments and the Harbour Authority seeks self-certification that these are in place.

In the light of Members' comments, the Marine Director agreed to take the necessary action to ensure that RK Marine's operating procedures were sufficiently robust to satisfy Members' concerns. In addition, the Marine Director agreed to review the risk assessment of the proposed movement of the applicant's larger boats on the River and the associated control measures (including the use of 'picket 'boats upstream and downstream of the entrance to R.K. Marine at busy periods), for consideration by the Board , prior to making a decision on this item. Accordingly, it was

RESOLVED:

That the River Hamble Harbour Management Committee advises the Harbour Board to grant Harbour Works Consent for the proposed works to R.K. Marine with the following conditions:-

(a) A satisfactory risk assessment for the construction works must be supplied to the Harbour Office prior to commencement of the works.

(b) A suitable set of operating procedures, to include the use of 'picket' boats, are to be agreed between the operator and the River Hamble Harbour Authority.

(c) A vibro piling methodology is to be used.

(d) Piling works to occur between 1 November and 15 March in any year only to avoid the salmonid migration window.

(e) All other consents are to be obtained prior to commencement of the works, and a copy of each consent lodged with the Harbour Office.

91. HARBOUR WORKS CONSENT - WARSASH JETTY

The Committee considered the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Rural Affairs (Item 9 in the Minute Book) about an application for Harbour Works Consent to install a new section of pontoon on the Harbour Master's Jetty at Warsash.

The Marine Director confirmed that a new storage and workshop facility was planned to be constructed upon the new pontoon section. It would allow River Hamble Harbour Authority staff to carry out small maintenance tasks and provide a convenient storage area for emergency equipment such as that needed in the event of an oil spill. It was noted that detailed design work and costings have not yet been carried out, pending planning approval and Harbour Works Consent. Full specifications, together with an analysis of the costs and benefits would be presented to Members in due course.

RESOLVED:

That the River Hamble Harbour Management Committee advises the Harbour Board to grant Harbour Works Consent to install a new section of pontoon on the Harbour Master's Jetty at Warsash subject to the following conditions:

(a) all other consents are to be obtained prior to commencement of the works;

(b) a vibro piling methodology is to be used;

(c) piling works to occur between 1 November and 15 March in any year only to avoid the salmonid migration window.

92. PROGRESS TOWARDS ACHIEVING SELECT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee considered the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Rural Affairs (Item 10 in the Minute Book) setting out progress towards achieving the Select Committee's amended recommendations.

The Marine Director introduced the report and invited Members to comment on the detailed recommendations of the River Hamble Select Committee, as amended and approved by the Harbour Board, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report. It was noted that comments on progress towards implementation were in italics after each recommendation.

Mr. D. Jobson reported that he had a number of questions/comments. The Management Committee asked the Marine Director to discuss these with Mr. Jobson outside of the meeting. Also, the Marine Director undertook to let Councillor V. Weston have a copy of the latest version of the Action Plan.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted.

93. FORWARD PLAN FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

The Committee received the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Rural Affairs (Item 11 in the Minute Book) with regard to the key issues anticipated to appear on future River Hamble Management Committee and Harbour Board meeting agendas. It was

RESOLVED:

That the forward plan be noted.

94. PRESENTATION BY JON EADS OF BRITISH MARINE FEDERATION

At the conclusion of the meeting, the Management Committee received a short presentation by Jon Eads of the British Marine Federation. The presentation highlighted the current shape of the marine industry, the impacts of the recession and how the River Hamble is fairing as a result of this. A copy of his presentation is set out as Item 12 in the Minute Book.

The Management Committee thanked Mr. Eads for attending and for his most interesting and informative presentation.

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