

AT A MEETING of the RIVER HAMBLE HARBOUR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE held at Warsash Sailing Club on 6 January 2012

**PRESENT**

**Chairman:**

**p Councillor S. D. T. Woodward**

**Vice-Chairman:**

**p Councillor Dr. R. J. Ellis**

**Councillors:**

p Mrs C. A. Bailey

p G. Burgess

p A. Broadhurst

p M.G. Cooper

p C. Davidovitz

a A. D. G. Evans

a A. Gibson

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**

a Mr M. Glanville

**Hamble River Boatyard and Marina Operators Association**

p Mr N. Kimish

**Berth and Mooring Holders Representative**

p Mr D. O'Malley

## **Royal Yachting Association**

p Mrs P. Dorothy

### **123 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A. Evans and A. Gibson and from Mr. R. Boisser and Mr. M. Glanville.

### **124 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.D.T. Woodward and V. Weston both declared interests by reason of their being Mooring or Berth Holders on the River Hamble, as did Mrs P. Dorothy, Mr. P. Middleton and Mr. D. O'Malley.

Councillors T.M. Cartwright, C.A. Bailey and V. Weston, along with Mr. D. O'Malley and Mr. P. Middleton, also declared interests as members of local Yacht or Sailing Clubs.

### **125 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the River Hamble Harbour Management Committee meeting held on 2 September, 2011 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### **126 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman welcomed back from maternity leave Alison Fowler, Environmental Officer and Councillor G. Burgess to his first meeting.

### **127 DEPUTATIONS**

It was confirmed that no applications to make a deputation at the meeting had been received.

### **128 HARBOUR MASTER'S REPORT**

The Committee considered the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services (Item 6 in the Minute Book) on

incidents and events in the Harbour for the period 2 September to 13 December 2011. Those incidents covering the period 2 September to 1 December 2011 had previously been reported to the Harbour Board. A separate annexe detailing incidents since 13 December 2011 was distributed to Members at the meeting.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted

## 129 **MARINE DIRECTOR'S CURRENT ISSUES**

The Committee considered the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services (Item 7 in the Minute Book) on the Strategic Vision, the proposed installation of three new navigation piles and a new navigation buoy, progress with the Asset Enhancement programme and information about the current regime for collecting Harbour Dues.

The Marine Director reported that feedback and comments on the draft Strategic Vision had been received from Hamble Parish Council, The Association of River Hamble Yacht Clubs and the Hamble River Boatyard and Marina Operators Association. The Management Committee Sub-Group had then met on 13 December to discuss how best to incorporate the comments received. As a result a revised final draft of the Strategic Vision was being presented to this meeting of the Management Committee. Whilst accepting it was not possible to incorporate all the submissions received, some of which contradicted each other, Members generally felt that the final draft before them represented a good balance of views between commercial and recreational users on the River. The Strategic Vision was not intended as a plan, but a statement of shared values and interest. As a living document it would be reviewed, modified and updated to reflect and guide the evolving needs of the River and aspirations of its users. It was now intended to be considered by the Board on 27 January 2012. The Chairman reported that if there were any further comments from interested parties these should be forwarded to the Marine Director at the earliest opportunity and in advance of the next Board meeting.

The Marine Director reported that following an internal review of the location and purpose of the navigation buoys and piles in the harbour, approval was being sought to install three new piles and one additional buoy. Members agreed the proposed new pile to assist navigators to negotiate the sharp turn on the approach to Swanwick Marina and the proposed new marker buoy to avoid the shallow mud bank which extends from Riverside Boatyard as detailed in the report. However, there was some discussion about the proposed additional sign at No. 1 pile. Some Members disagreed with the proposed recommendation on this as they felt it would not be effective. The Marine Director explained that there had been a number of instances whereby skippers entering

the River were unclear as to where the 6-knot speed limit started and the new signage was to rectify this. Alternative suggestions were made, including seeking volunteer boat owners to organise the presence of a boat at the River entrance at key times to act as a deterrent against any speeding in the area involved. It was also felt by one member that a greater presence of the Harbour Launch at the entrance to the Harbour would be beneficial. In conclusion, the Committee agreed to support the proposed additional sign at No. 1 pile but asked the Marine Director to investigate further opportunities for more Harbour Launch patrols where resources permit and to reassure himself that the proposed additional sign at No 1 pile was large enough to be clear, but not over intrusive.

The Marine Director reported the Harbour Board had agreed to make an application to Eastleigh Borough Council for planning permission to extend the Hamble Jetty. However, the Board had decided not to proceed with the proposals to provide additional "toast rack" tender storage on the Hamble and Warsash jetties, but instead asked that some additional works be carried out to investigate other options to enhance tender storage ashore and afloat. Further information was to be provided to the Board regarding the possibility of funding improvements to the slipway at Shore Road, Warsash and the concrete shipway at Hamble dinghy compound.

The Committee in noting the details of the regime for collecting Harbour Dues for various categories of vessels felt this was something the Committee's Sub-Group should meet to discuss in more detail. It was noted that all members could feed in their thoughts to members of the Sub-Group for these discussions.

Accordingly, it was

RESOLVED:

That the River Hamble Harbour Management Committee

- (a) advises the River Hamble Board to publish the Strategic Vision;
- (b) notes the progress report of the Asset Enhancement programme;
- (c) in noting the information on the collection of Harbour Dues asks that arrangements be made for its Sub-Group to be reconvened to consider this matter in more detail with a report back to the next meeting of the Committee;
- (d) advises the Harbour Board to approve and fund the proposals for new navigation marks and signage and to note the further actions which the Committee is asking the Marine Director to

take on this item.

**130 ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATE**

The Committee considered the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services (Item 8 in the Minute Book) on issues relating to the environmental management of the Harbour.

The Environmental Officer outlined the present position regarding the new marine licensing system. In response to the Marine Management Organisation's undertaking to review the matter in April 2012, the RHHA was preparing case studies to support its concerns over both the span and fee structure of the system. The Committee welcomed this and the new guide being drafted by the Solent Forum which would provide an invaluable future resource for potential applicants throughout the Solent.

The remaining areas of the report were briefly detailed by the Environmental Officer, in particular reporting that the planning application by Royal Southern Yacht Club for 'bridge between landing pontoon, first mooring pontoon flat link between first and second pontoons' (paragraph 2.8 ) had subsequently been withdrawn and therefore no further action was required by the RHHA. It was confirmed that after some two years of complex, yet successful negotiations between RHHA and Associated British Ports, the Southampton Channel Dredge - River Hamble Safeguarding agreement had now been signed. Notwithstanding this , the project was not likely to begin before 2013. The Environmental Officer concluded by providing a demonstration of the new interactive mapping system of the River Hamble that brings key geographic and photographic information together in one place, in support of the Strategic Vision. Members congratulated the Environmental Officer and her temporary predecessor, Graham Horton, for their valuable work on this new initiative which was expected to go live in a month or so. The Committee would be advised of this date in due course.

**RESOLVED:**

That the report be noted.

**131 RIVER HAMBLE BUDGET 2011/12 AND 2012/13**

The Committee considered the report of the County Treasurer and Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services (Item 9 in the Minute Book) on the Harbour budget for 2011/12 and 2012/13. The key features of the budget were explained to Members. It was estimated that there would be a budget surplus of £23,375 in 2011/12 and of £18,795 in 2012/13. They also noted the estimated reserves and commended the position.

RESOLVED:

That the Management Committee note the report and recommend it to the River Hamble Board for approval.

**132 REVIEW OF FEES AND CHARGES**

The Committee considered the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Rural Affairs (Item 10 in the Minute Book) regarding a review of fees and charges applicable to the River Hamble.

The annual review of fees and charges was outlined and supported by the Committee. It was

RESOLVED:

That the Management Committee advises the River Hamble Harbour Board that the fees and charges set out in the report should be adopted and advertised on the River Hamble website.

**133 FORWARD PLAN FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

The Committee received and noted 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.

**134 RIVER HAMBLE GAMES - 21 JULY 2011**

Susie Tomson, a Member of the River Hamble Board, gave a short additional verbal presentation to the Committee on plans for a River Hamble Games on 21 July 2012. It was to involve participation by up to twenty teams of various age groups taking part in kayaking, rowing, running, sailing and swimming events. A good response to the Games had already been received and the Marine Director was to undertake a risk assessment to ensure the events proceeded safely on the day. The Committee thanked Susie Tomson for her presentation and noted that a more detailed e-version would be circulated to Members in the near future.