

AT A MEETING of the RIVER HAMBLE HARBOUR BOARD held at the Royal Air Force Yacht Club, Rope Walk, Hamble on 19 November 2010.

**PRESENT:**

**Hampshire County Council**

Councillors:

p K. Evans (Chairman)

p G. Hockley

p K. House

**Independent Members**

p Mr. T. Lovell

p Mr. C. Moody

p Dr. S. Tomson

**Marine Director**

p D. Evans

**77. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

All Members of the Board were present, but apologies for absence from the Assistant Director, Culture, Community and Rural Affairs were noted.

**78. 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.

79. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 10 September 2010 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Arising thereon:

**Minute 64 - Proposed Harbour Office Staffing Structure**

The Marine Director confirmed that appropriate special recognition payments would be made to those members of the Harbour Office team who had undertaken additional activities and responsibilities.

80. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman welcomed Graham Horton, Environment and Development Manager, to the meeting. Graham was replacing Alison Fowler, who was on maternity leave.

The Chairman referred to the current parking issues around the Harbour and confirmed that meetings had been held with Fareham Borough Council and Eastleigh District Council and that meetings had also been requested with Hamble Parish Council. The Chairman asked for a report to be taken to the January 2011 Board meeting.

81. **RIVER HAMBLE HARBOUR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE – 18 OCTOBER 2010**

The Minutes of the meeting of the River Hamble Management Committee held on 18 October 2010 were noted.

Arising thereon:

**Minute 68 – Chairman's Announcements**

It was confirmed that presentations to the Management Committee and Harbour Board regarding the exempt Cabinet report were being arranged.

### **Minute 71 – Review of Strategic Plan and 2011/12 Business Plan**

A proposed new approach of amalgamating the Strategic and Business Plans was explained to the Board and it was confirmed that the sub-group had already met with the Marine Director to progress this. A revised plan will be presented to the January 2011 Board meeting. Minute 84 refers.

## **82. HARBOUR MASTER'S REPORT**

The Marine Director presented the Harbour Master's report (Item 7 in the Minute Book) which outlined incidents from 7 September 2010 to 8 November 2010 inclusive.

Board Members were particularly interested in the incidents of the 6 and 9 October (para 3.17 and 18) regarding the salvage of the fuelling pontoon at Stone Pier Yard. The Marine Director confirmed the most likely solution was to manoeuvre the barge underneath the crane at the Yard in order to break it up. He acknowledged that any toxic sludge that may be inside the barge that would need to be contained, but pointed out that in its current position, the barge was not causing a problem and there was no environmental threat.

The Port Marine Safety Code compliance audit (para 7) was highlighted to Board Members and it was noted that satisfactory processes were in place.

With regard to the successful speeding prosecution (para 8), The Marine Director confirmed that some press coverage had resulted from the associated press release.

The planned capital dredge (para 9) was discussed and the scale of the operation was explained to Board Members. The possibility that the works may cause increase erosion of the banks in other parts of the harbour would require monitoring.

Issues around storage and workshop space (para 10) were highlighted to Members. The Marine Director explained that the possibility of building on the Harbour Master's Jetty at Warsash had been explored. The suggestion that such a building might also have been used as a classroom for school and youth visits was made, but it was acknowledged that this raised the question of what form training might take and who would run it. The Marine Director confirmed that more detailed proposals for long term storage would be presented at a future meeting.

Accordingly it was resolved that the report be noted.

**83. RIVER HAMBLE BUDGET MONITORING 2010/11 AND INVESTMENT UPDATE**

The Board considered the report of the County Treasurer and Director of Culture, Communities and Rural Affairs (Item 8 in the Minute Book), updating Members on the Harbour Authority's current financial position and suggesting a short-term approach to investing the Asset Replacement Reserve.

The County Treasurer outlined the main factors in the projected surplus of approximately £15,000 for 2010/11. The Marine Director confirmed that the unexpected loss of the storage facility had had little impact on the budget, but pointed out that any new storage facilities would need budgeting for.

The proposal to invest £450,000 of the Asset Replacement and Enhancement Reserves was discussed. The County Treasurer confirmed that by committing the money for 12 months, there was a small risk that better returns would become available in that time. However it was also noted that by the end of this timescale a County Council review of treasury management would be complete and it would be possible to reinvest the money on the basis of that review.

Accordingly, it was resolved:

That the financial position for 2010/11 be noted.

- (a) That £450,000 be invested for one year at an interest rate of 1.5% and a longer term view is taken when the review of the County Council's Treasury Management policies is complete.

**84. REVIEW OF STRATEGIC PLAN AND 2011/12 BUSINESS PLAN**

The Board considered the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Rural Affairs (Item 9 in the Minute Book) regarding the annual review of the Hamble Strategic Plan and 2011/12 Business Plan.

Further to the previous discussion under Minutes of the Management Committee meeting (Minute 81 refers) it was explained that the recommended new approach would result in a Strategic Plan with an associated Action Plan to replace the current Business Plan.

The Management Committee Minutes (Item 6 in the Minute Book) were examined in detail with reference to the draft Strategic Plan and Business Plan and the following points were noted.

- Para 4.1 It was agreed that the map should show all known land holdings.
- Para 5.1 It was agreed that the reference to "Strategic Principles" be removed as these were never adopted by the Harbour Board.
- Amendments to the Strategic Plan should be shown as tracked changes for clarity if it is practical to do so.

The Asset Enhancement projects currently under consideration were outlined to the Board and it was explained that costing these was difficult as the detailed specification of each project had not been discussed or agreed. Members felt that once the options had been presented it would be possible to reach a decision and move forward. Particular reference

was made to issues around the Hamble foreshore, where drawing up detailed plans was the next step.

Accordingly, it was resolved that the River Hamble Harbour Board support the development of a Strategic Plan plus Action Plan approach to replace the Business Plan and agree with the points raised by the Management Committee.

**85. M27 BRIDGE UPDATE**

The Board considered the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Rural Affairs (Item 10 in the Minute Book) regarding the pollution risk posed by the outfalls of the M27 bridge.

The Marine Director reported that a meeting with the Highways Agency and Enterprise Mouchel had provided useful information about the drainage outfalls and the length of the M27 that drained into the river. He advised the Board that the brief and costings for potential remedial action (1.10 in report appendix) was still pending.

Accordingly it was resolved that the report be noted.

**86. RIVER CAPACITY UPDATE**

The Board considered the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Rural Affairs (Item 11 in the Minute Book) regarding a review of mooring capacity.

The Marine Director described the consultation process that had been undertaken and the aerial photo evidence that had been used. He explained that the evidence suggested the current maximum mooring capacity had not yet been reached, leading to the conclusion that a review of mooring capacity was not required.

Accordingly it was resolved that the River Hamble Harbour Board agree that there is currently no requirement to conduct a detailed review of the moorings capacity of the harbour.

**87. FORWARD PLAN FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

The Board considered the report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Rural Affairs (Item 12 in the Minute Book) regarding items for discussion at future Harbour Board and Management Committee meetings.

It was highlighted that two of the independent members of the Harbour Board are due to be appointed or re-appointed before the July 2011 meeting and that the normal appointment process would be followed.

Accordingly it was resolved that the report be noted.