

MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING held at 2.00pm in Conference Room A,  
Portsmouth, Civic Offices on Friday 12 December 2008

Present

Representing Portsmouth City Council

Councillors Lee Mason (Chairman)  
Lynne Stagg  
Luke Stubbs  
Hugh Mason (Deputising for Caroline Scott)

Representing Havant Borough Council

Councillors Victor Pierce-Jones (Vice-Chairman)  
Frank Pearce  
June Hanan  
Virginia Wilson-Smith  
Jackie Branson

Representing the Advisory Committee

Mr Bob Russell OBE  
Mrs Helen Baldry

In attendance

Captain N Jardine, Harbour Manager  
Lyll Cairns, Engineer to the Board  
Katherine Rowberry, Environment Officer

43. **Apologies and Chairman Welcome**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Scott, Smith and Gale and from the Treasurer and Clerk to the Board. The Chairman welcomed all those present to the meeting. The Board requested that the Clerk and Treasurer be sent cards and best wishes for their speedy recoveries. The Harbour Manager showed the members the retirement gift he had purchased for Gower Lloyd. It was agreed that the Chairman and Harbour Manager should present the gift to Mr Lloyd at their earliest convenience.

44. **Members Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest from members.

45. **Minutes of the Board meeting held on 19 September 2008**

The minutes, as submitted, were considered  
(TAKE IN MINUTES)

**RESOLVED** that the Chairman sign the minutes as a true record of the meeting.

46. **Matters Arising**

MIN.28 - Councillor Hanan enquired if there had been any more prosecutions since the last meeting. The Harbour Manager stated that he would update members on the latest court cases when he presented his report under Agenda Item 6.

MIN.39 - Councillor Hugh Mason enquired if the wrecks listed on the previous report had now been disposed of. The Harbour Manager stated that

the wreck disposal process was ongoing and each wreck would be dealt with as and when resources were available.

47. **Minutes of the Advisory Committee meeting held on 4 December 2008**

The minutes, as submitted, were considered

(TAKE IN MINUTES)

Mr Russell summarised the minutes of the Advisory Committee, drawing member's attention to the following points;

- a) The Committee were pleased to note the installation of the recycling facility at the harbour office.
- b) The Committee had agreed to invite a representative from the Jet Ski Club to attend their future meetings.
- c) The recent open Maritime Working Group had not been a success and it was felt that a return to the previous Open Forum format was preferable. Councillor Pearce suggested a different time of the year might increase the attendance rate.

The Chairman of the Board thanked the Advisory Committee for their work over the past year.

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Advisory Committee be **NOTED**

48. **Harbour Managers Report**

The Harbour Manager's report, as submitted, was considered

(TAKE IN REPORT)

The Harbour Manager summarised his report and drew particular attention to the fact that the Marine Navigation Bill would not now come before parliament in the next parliamentary session. In response to Councillor Hanan's question regarding prosecutions the Harbour Manager stated that 7 further cases had been before the Courts on the 9 December. The level of costs awarded had been sufficient to cover the cost of each prosecution and 5 defendants had received fines. One defendant had pleaded not guilty and this case would be considered in early January. Councillor Pearce congratulated the harbour staff for their hard work during the season.

**RESOLVED** that the report be **NOTED**

49. **Clerks Report**

The Clerk's report, as submitted, was considered

(TAKE IN REPORT)

In the absence of the Clerk the Harbour Manager summarised the report and stated that he would be giving further information on the Section 31 objection in confidential session at the end of the meeting.

**RESOLVED** that the report be **NOTED**.

50. **Planning Sub Committee Decisions**

The report of the Planning Sub Committee decisions, as submitted, was considered

(TAKE IN REPORT)

The Engineer to the Board advised members that all the recent applications had been straightforward and he had nothing further to add to his report.  
**RESOLVED** that the report be **NOTED**

51. **Environment Officer's Report**

The Environment Officer's report, as submitted, was considered  
(TAKE IN REPORT)

The Environment Officer summarised her report and sought questions. Councillor Hanan enquired about the number of school visits and the response of the pupils. The Environment Officer stated that since her appointment she had dealt with visits from 2 schools. The Board members were keen to encourage more local schools to visit the harbour and Councillor Pearce agreed to liaise with the Environment Officer on this matter.

**RESOLVED** that the report be **NOTED**

52. **Pilotage Report**

The Harbour Manager's report, as submitted, was considered  
(TAKE IN REPORT)

The Harbour Manager pointed out that there had been a slight decline in the pilotage figures over the same period last year. It was uncertain how the current economic conditions would impact on the aggregate trade over the next 12 months.

**RESOLVED** that the report be **NOTED**

53. **2009/2010 Estimate and Scale of Charges**

The Treasurer's report, as submitted, was considered  
(TAKE IN ESTIMATES AND SCALE OF CHARGES)

In the absence of the Treasurer the Harbour Manager drew the members attention to a number of key elements in the report. Councillor Stubbs expressed some concern over the level of the precept. There was some general discussion over the way the Board was funded and the level of increase proposed. The recommendation was proposed by Councillor Hugh Mason and seconded by Councillor Pearce. 5 Havant votes in favour, 2 Portsmouth votes in favour. Councillors Stubbs and Stagg and Mr Russell and Mrs Baldry abstained from the vote.

**RESOLVED** that

1. the Schedule of Charges for 2009/10 be approved;
2. the Revised Estimates for 2008/9 be approved and the Treasurer be authorised to vire revised income and expenditure between estimate categories;
3. the Revenue Estimates for 2009/10 be approved;
4. the Precept for the year 2009/10 be set at £148,422 to be divided equally between Portsmouth City Council and Havant Borough Council.

Councillor Hugh Mason left the meeting after this item.

54. **Hayling Island Personal Watercraft Club (HIPWC)**

The Harbour Manager's report, as submitted, was considered  
(TAKE IN REPORT)

The Harbour Manager updated members on the success of the newly formed club over the past 12 months. Some early problems with processing membership information had been identified and it was hoped these would be resolved for 2009. There was a general discussion over the impact of personal water craft in the harbour and the Harbour Manager reassured members that he was monitoring all activities in the harbour. It was agreed that the incentive of a free permit for Club members should be continued in 2009 and the level of Club membership be monitored.

**RESOLVED** that the Board continues to encourage membership of HIPWC.

55. **Review of the Business Risk Register**

The Harbour Manager's report, as submitted, was considered  
(TAKE IN REPORT)

**RESOLVED** that the report be **NOTED**

56. **BPA Annual Conference**

The Harbour Manager's report, as submitted, was considered  
(TAKE IN REPORT)

The Chairman advised members that he had attended the Conference with the Harbour Manager and had been impressed by the knowledge and professionalism he had seen.

**RESOLVED** that the report be **NOTED**

57. **Replacement of Patrol Rib/Trailer**

The Harbour Manager's report, as submitted, was considered  
(TAKE IN REPORT)

The Harbour Manager stated that the Board's existing rib had proved a valuable tool in the enforcement of byelaws on the water and it was proposed that this would be retained if the Board approved the purchase of a new rib.

**RESOLVED** that

1. the Board authorise the purchase of a 6.4m Ribcraft with trailer and accessories at a quoted price of £25,237, the acquisition to be funded from 2008/9 revenue;
2. the existing patrol rib be retained as a stand-by patrol vessel for the summer season.

58. **Relaying of shellfish in Langstone Harbour**

The Harbour Manager's report and letter from the applicant, as submitted, was considered

(TAKE IN REPORT AND LETTER)

Councillor Pearce enquired if this proposal would give the applicant sole rights to the re-laid shellfish. The Harbour Manager stated that the applicant

would not have sole rights to any shellfish he placed on the seabed in the harbour and the area concerned would remain accessible to all harbour users.

**RESOLVED** that the relaying of shellfish in the area shown is permitted, provided that:

- (i) the applicant obtains assurance from Natural England that the proposal will have no adverse effect on the interest features of the European site.
- (ii) the applicant complies at all times with the requirements of the Southern Sea Fisheries District Committee with respect to the proposed fishery.

59. **Disposal of Wrecks**

The Harbour Manager's report, as submitted, was considered

(TAKE IN REPORT)

**RESOLVED** that the Board authorise the removal from the harbour, in accordance with Section 252 of the Merchant Shipping Act 1995, of the above vessel presently lying abandoned on the harbour foreshore and considered to be an obstruction and potential danger to navigation.

60. **Changes to VAT rate for harbour charges**

The Harbour Manager's report, as submitted, was considered

(TAKE IN REPORT)

**RESOLVED** that the Board approve any adjustment to the 2008/9 schedule of charges necessary to comply with the requirements of the Pre-Budget Report, including the rounding of certain charges to facilitate collection.

**Confidential item**

There were no members of the public or press present at the meeting for consideration of the confidential item.

After consideration of the confidential item the meeting closed at 4.10pm