

MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING held at 2.00pm in Committee Room 1, Havant Civic Offices on Friday 19 September 2008

Present

Representing Portsmouth City Council

Councillors Lee Mason (Chairman)
Sarah Dineage
Luke Stubbs
Hugh Mason (Deputising for Caroline Scott)

Representing Havant Borough Council

Councillors Vic Pierce-Jones (Vice-Chairman)
Frank Pearce
June Hanan
Jackie Branson

Representing the Advisory Committee

Mr Bob Russell OBE
Mrs Helen Baldry

In attendance

Captain N Jardine, Harbour Manager
Mr Stephen Kerr, Clerk to the Board
Mr Christopher Braby, Treasurer to the Board
Mr Lyall Cairns, Engineer to the Board
Mrs Katherine Rowberry, Environment Officer

23. **Apologies and Chairman's Welcome**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Smith, Wilson-Smith, Fleming and Scott. The Chairman welcomed all those present and was pleased to welcome the Treasurer back from sick leave.

24. **Members Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest from members.

25. **Minutes of the Board meeting held on 20 June 2008**

The minutes, as submitted, were considered

(TAKE IN MINUTES)

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

26. **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising from the minutes of 20 June 2008.

27. **Minutes of the Advisory Committee meeting held on 11 September 2008**

The minutes, as submitted, were considered

(TAKE IN MINUTES)

Min 4 a)10 – Arrangements for EWG & MWG Open Meetings - Mr Russell drew attention to the Advisory Committee's intention to hold to separate open meetings this year to replace next year's Open Forum.

Min 5 EWG Minutes - AOB – Mr Russell advised members that the Advisory Committee had requested a presentation from Southern Sea Fisheries regarding the possible effects of shellfish dredging in the Solent.

Min 5 EWG Minutes – Sewage Outfall & Water Quality – There was a general discussion on the problems associated with the reporting of discharges after the

event. There was little evidence regarding the effects of swimming in polluted waters.

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

28. **Harbour Managers Report**

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

(TAKE IN REPORT)

Supply of Diesel Fuel - The Harbour Manager advised members that with effect from 1st November the derogation for rebated fuel for leisure boat owners would end. The Board will become responsible for collecting and repaying duty from these customers to HMRC.

Patrols – The 5 byelaw offences which had been heard on 9 September had resulted in 4 persons being fined and limited costs being awarded. The cost to the Board for each prosecution is £350 .. Since writing the report a further 7 offences have been sent for prosecution. Councillor Hanan enquired as to how the Board could encourage more responsible behaviour. The Harbour Manager stated that increased patrols and a range of regulatory measures had lead to an improvement in behaviour in the harbour this year. The Chairman and members wished to thank all the staff involved in enforcing the byelaws for their efforts this year.

RESOLVED that the report be **NOTED**

29. **Clerks Report**

The Clerk gave a verbal report as follows:-

- a) No decision has yet been received regarding a judicial review of the Section 31 decision.
- b) There have been no incidents expected to give rise to claims since the last meeting of the Board.
- c) The Clerk reported on a number of incidents of anti social behaviour which had occurred around Eastney point following the impoundment and sale of a vessel (Min.33 refers). Harbour staff had been subjected to verbal abuse and a catapult had been used to pelt staff in vessels whilst on duty in the area. The Clerk will be liaising with the Police in an effort to prevent staff being hindered and threatened whilst carrying out their duties in the harbour.

The Chairman and members offered their support to the staff and the Clerk in taking all necessary measures to prevent this sort of behaviour from continuing.

30. **Planning Sub Committee Decisions**

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

(TAKE IN REPORT)

The Engineer summarised his report and drew particular attention to Item 10 and the Sub Committee's concerns over the potential impact of the lighting on navigation in the harbour.

Item 11 – Seafront Master Plan – There was a general discussion on the impact of the various proposals in the Master Plan on the harbour. Mr Russell stated that the Advisory Committee felt that the proposals would have an adverse affect on the harbour as “a place for quite enjoyment”. Members agreed that although some facilities needed to be improved, i.e. resurfacing of the Council car park, the area should be protected from development.

RESOLVED that the report be **NOTED**

31. **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.

Signage – Councillor Stubbs enquired about the possibility of a sign detailing the history of the tank traps at Eastney. The Clerk advised Councillor Stubbs that the City Council may be able to help him with this matter.

Recreation Disturbance Study – Mr Russell stated that the Advisory Committee wished to have an input into any responses the Board might submit to this study. The Harbour Manager stated that the Board would not be required to submit any written responses to the study.

RESOLVED that the report be **NOTED**

32. **Pilotage Report**

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

The Harbour Manager pointed out that the total number of trips by commercial vessels was down on the same period last year. It was difficult to ascertain a reason for this but the two wharves appeared to be committed to trading through the harbour.

RESOLVED that the report be **NOTED**

33. **Sale of the vessel "Joanne One"**

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

The Harbour Manager gave a brief summary into the background to this report. The Board members wished to express their support for the Harbour Manager and staff for the actions in this matters.

RESOLVED that the report be **NOTED**

34. **Income and Expenditure to end of July 2008**

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

The Treasurer summarised his report and advised members that due to the drop in commercial activity highlighted in the Pilotage Report the Board is unlikely to achieve the budgeted income from commercial dues this year. The Treasurer was pleased to report that the Board was now debt free. The proposed replacement of the bridgehead bearing plate works to the Hayling pontoon may be delayed due to the need to consult Natural England. The Engineer stated that he is developing the proposal and undertaking his pre-works investigations and is hopeful the works could still be completed in this financial year.

RESOLVED that the report be **NOTED**

35. **Internal Audit Report June 2008**

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

The Treasurer advised members that due to his absence from work for the last 3 months he would not be able to do any further work on the Business Plan until next year and work on the Office Procedure Manual would continue as time allows.

Councillor Pearce requested that the Board investigate the charges levied to mooring holders on Warner's and Hayling Health Society land.

RESOLVED that

- 1) the report be **NOTED**
- 2) the Board approve the principal that all items appearing on the Charges Schedule regardless of value may be invoiced in order to recover the debt.

36. **Safety Review**

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

RESOLVED that the report be **NOTED**.

37. **Incident Data**

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

The Harbour Manager pointed out that this report had only been running for a couple of years so it was difficult to make a comparison in the reported incidents. Councillor H Mason queried the apparent increase in the incidence of vandalism & interference. The Harbour Manager stated that reporting of these incidents had improved.

RESOLVED that the report be **NOTED**.

38. **Proposed Channel Dredge, Bedhampton Channel**

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

Following some general discussion it was

RESOLVED that the Board offer no objection to the proposal to dredge Bedhampton Channel provided that post-dredge hydrographic and environmental monitoring is undertaken to determine actual impacts and inform any decisions relating to maintenance dredging in the future.

39. **Disposal of Wrecks**

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

Mr Russell asked the Harbour Manager if he had further information on the damaged houseboat in the Kench. The Harbour Manager stated that he had written to Hayling Health Society and a response had been received. The Society has written to the owner requesting that he carries out repairs.

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

40. **Replacement of Slipway Trolley**

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

Councillor Branson expressed surprise at the price variations in the three tenders. Councillor Pearce enquired if the Board would receive a guarantee on the finished trolley. The Harbour Manager stated that the recommended company had been in business for 40 years and the Board would be appropriately certificated on completion.

RESOLVED that the quotation for R M Trailers in the amount of £6,600 (exc. VAT) be accepted and that the project be funded by virement within the existing budget.

41. **Oil Spill Response Arrangements**

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

RESOLVED that the Board agree to the transfer of its agreement with OSRL for the provision of tier 2 response services to Adler and Allan Ltd, Winchester.

42. **BPA Conference, Milford Haven, 9-10 October 2008**

The agenda item, as submitted, was considered
(TAKE IN AGENDA ITEM 20)

RESOLVED that the Chairman and Harbour Manager represent the Board at this year's conference.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 3.50pm

Chairman