

MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING held at 2.00pm in Conference Room A,  
Portsmouth, Civic Offices on Friday 24 April 2009

Present

Representing Portsmouth City Council

Councillors Lee Mason (Chairman)  
Jackie Hancock (Standing Deputy)  
Mike Park (Standing Deputy)  
Steve Wemyss (Standing Deputy)  
Robin Sparshatt (Standing Deputy)  
Hugh Mason (Standing Deputy)

Representing Havant Borough Council

Councillors Victor Pierce-Jones (Vice-Chairman)  
Frank Pearce  
Jackie Branson  
Ken Smith

Representing the Advisory Committee

Mr Bob Russell OBE  
Mrs Helen Baldry

In attendance

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

79. **Apologies and Chairman Welcome**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Scott, Dineage, Stubbs, Fleming, Wilson-Smith, Hanan and Gale. The Chairman welcomed all those present to the meeting. The Chairman read out a letter from Gower Lloyd thanking the Board for his retirement gift. The Chairman also advised members that this would have been Councillor Gale's last meeting as he was retiring from the County Council. The Board requested that a letter be sent to Councillor Gale thanking him for his long service.

80. **Members Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest from members.

81. **Notes of the Board meeting held on 20 February 2009**

The notes of the inquorate meeting, as submitted, were considered  
(TAKE IN MINUTES)

**RESOLVED** that the Chairman sign the notes as a true record of the meeting and that the minutes requiring Board approval be resolved.

82. **Matters Arising**

MIN.66 a) refers - Mr Russell enquired if the City Council had responded to this item. It was stated that at present no written confirmation regarding the future of the Harbourside Caravan Park had been received.

MIN.67 refers - Enforcement - The Harbour Manager stated that the defendant mentioned in this item had again failed to appear at Court and had been fined £500 plus £1,500 costs in his absence. Councillor Pearce suggested that the local newspaper be informed of this case.

83. **Minutes of the Advisory Committee meeting held on 16 April 2009**

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;

Item 12 – Business Plan - Mr Russell reiterated the Committee's desire to ensure that the Business Plan included a statement affirming the Board's desire to maintain the harbour as "a place of quiet enjoyment".

Minute 5 - 2a) – The Environment Officer stated that she is still investigating the feasibility of producing poster size versions of the new signs.

Minute 5 – 2c) – Mr Russell raised the issue of providing compensatory habitat for private individuals maintaining their sea defences. The Engineer stated that the legal interpretation of this area of the Habitat Regulations is complex and under consideration by national policy advisors. However it is the Engineers understanding that private landowners that wish to continue to maintain their defences will not be responsible for compensating for adverse effect on European designated site(s). Any potential adverse effect from maintaining defences will be delivered through the Environment Agency Regional Habitat Creation Programme.

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

84. **Harbour Managers Report**

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

(TAKE IN REPORT)

The Harbour Manager advised members that the new RIB had been delivered. The mooring barge "Delilah" had required replacement shafts and this work was due to be completed shortly.

The new pilot was still undertaking familiarisation training and it was hoped he would be authorised by the middle of the summer.

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

85. **Clerks Report**

The Clerk's report, as submitted, was considered

(TAKE IN REPORT)

The Clerk stated that the Marine Bill had been renamed the Marine and Coastal Access Bill and would come before parliament this summer. The Clerk will update members on the progress of the Bill in future reports.

**RESOLVED** that

- 1) the report be noted
- 2) the reported changes arising from legislation and associated advice be applied to Board employment policies
- 3) that the Clerk negotiate and enter into a planning agreement in connection with Eastney Cruising Association's application for a careening apron.

86. **Planning Sub Committee Decisions**

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

(TAKE IN REPORT)

Mr Russell enquired about the works being carried out at Langstone Sailing Club. The Engineer stated that the works were being carried by a contractor on behalf of Southern Electric in order to bury overhead cables in the area. This item had previously been mentioned by the Harbour Manager at the Advisory Committee meeting held on 14 February 2008 (Min.9a) refers). In response to a question regarding the wind turbines at Fort Cumberland the Engineer stated that the 2 turbines were small and would be attached to the side of the building.

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

87. **Environment Officer's Report**

The Environment Officer's report, as submitted, was considered

(TAKE IN REPORT)

The Environment Officer advised members that the results of the Seal tagging project would not be published until all the tags had fallen off. It was hoped that the project would be an aid to researching the seal population and its range within the Solent area.

There was a general discussion on the issue of sewage discharges and the various organisations that carry out water sampling within the harbour.

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

88. **Pilotage Report**

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

(TAKE IN REPORT)

The Harbour Manager stated that the volume of trade through the two wharves in the harbour was down between 20-25% and the trend was expected to continue. This trend was likely to have a significant impact on the Board's income. Councillor Sparshatt asked the Harbour Manager to update the Board on progress with the Section 31 objection. The Harbour Manager advised members that no further contact had been received from the Department for Transport since the last meeting.

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

89. **Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer's report, as submitted, was considered

(TAKE IN REPORT)

The Treasurer gave a verbal update on the Board's finances and stated that the final accounts for 2008/09 would be submitted to the Board for approval at the June meeting. Due to tight deadlines for submitting the final accounts for approval it was imperative that the June meeting was quorate.

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

90. **Langstone Harbour Board Business Plan**

The joint report of the Harbour Manager and Treasurer, as submitted, was considered

(TAKE IN REPORT)

The Harbour Manager advised members that he and the Treasurer had resumed work on drafting the Board's Business Plan. It was hoped to formulate the plan in stages with the first stage being the adoption of the

Mission Statement, Strategic Aims and the plan Objectives. A number of members offered some minor changes to the three categories, which were noted by the Harbour Manager.

**RESOLVED** that the Board approve and adopt

- a) the Harbour Board's Mission Statement
- b) the Strategic Aims
- c) the Business Plan Objectives

91. **Review of Standing Orders**

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

**RESOLVED** that the change to the Board's Standing Orders is approved.

92. **Annual Harbour Tour 2009**

The Agenda Item, as submitted, was considered  
(TAKE IN AGENDA ITEM 14)

Following a general discussion on the available dates and the costs involved it was **RESOLVED** that the next Annual Harbour Tour would be held on Thursday 16 July 2009.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 3.15pm

Chairman