

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
THE SALCOMBE HARBOUR BOARD
HELD AT KINGSBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES ON MONDAY, 30 JANUARY
2012**

Members in attendance			
* Denotes attendance		∅ Denotes apology for absence	
*	Cllr R J Carter (Chairman)	∅	Mr J Barrett
*	Cllr M J Hicks	*	Mr T Bass
*	Cllr K R H Wingate	*	Dr C C Harling (Vice Chairman)
*	Cllr S A E Wright	*	Mr H Marriage
		*	Mr M O'Brien
		*	Mr P Waring

Item No	Minute Ref No below refers	Officers in attendance and participating
All agenda items		Salcombe Harbour Master and Democratic Services Manager

SH.46/11 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Salcombe Harbour Board held on 7 November 2011 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman, subject to inclusion of the following footnote under the second paragraph of Minute SH.42/11 '*Matters for Future Consideration*':

(NOTE: The consultation period was subsequently extended to 20 January 2012 and a public notice to this effect had been published in the Kingsbridge and Salcombe Gazette).

SH.47/11 URGENT BUSINESS

The Chairman advised that there were four items of urgent business which he had agreed could be raised at this meeting.

Firstly, in relation to the recent fatality, which was also presented to the last Board meeting (minute SH.45/11 refers), the Harbour Master informed that he had just returned from the inquest. During the inquest, the Coroner had wished to thank the Harbour Authority for producing such a comprehensive report and had reached a verdict of 'accidental death.'

Secondly, the Harbour Master advised that from May 2012, Messrs Bass and O'Brien's term of office would expire. Whilst, both co-opted Members could re-apply if they so wished, the Board noted that it would be necessary for a competitive recruitment and selection process to be undertaken. Therefore, it was likely that the process would have commenced before the date of the next Board meeting.

Thirdly, the Harbour Master wished to provide an update on two infrastructure projects, namely Salcombe Town Landings and the Showers at Whitestrand. In respect of the Town Landings, the project was almost completed and would be finalised before 1 April 2012. With regard to the Showers, it was noted that the Council had now granted planning permission on the re-submitted application. However, the delay arising from the re-submission had now resulted in the opportunity being missed for the Council to build the showers. Therefore, it had been necessary to undertake a competitive tendering exercise which had led to the need for proper drawings and a schedule of works to be undertaken.

Finally, the Board welcomed the suggestion of the Harbour Master whereby a selection of the tiles within the shower complex would be given to local schools and colleges. Thereafter, students and pupils would be encouraged to depict scenes of estuary life, which would then be part of the completed facility.

SH.48/11 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members were invited to declare any interests in the items of business to be considered during the course of the meeting, but there was none made.

SH.49/11 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

A Member of the public was in attendance, but advised that he did not wish to utilise the public question time session.

SH.50/11 **FEEDBACK FROM HARBOUR COMMUNITY FORUMS**

The Board received verbal update reports from the Board Members who attended the Harbour Community Forums, during which reference was made to:-

Salcombe Kingsbridge Estuary Conservation Forum

There was no update given to the meeting.

Salcombe Kingsbridge Estuary Association (SKEA)

There was no update given to the meeting.

Kingsbridge Estuary Boat Club

It was noted that the Boat Club was very content at present and working relations remained positive between the Forum and the Board.

South Devon & Channel Shellfishermen

The Board was advised that the Shellfishermen may have concerns regarding the Fish Quay Refurbishment project and it was possible that they may establish a Working Group to liaise with the District Council Property Services project team on this matter.

Kingsbridge and Salcombe Marine Business Forum

There was no update given to the meeting.

SH.51/11 **PORT MARINE SAFETY CODE**

The Board considered a report which appraised Members on Salcombe Harbour Authority's compliance with the Port Marine Safety Code.

During discussion, the following points were raised:-:

- (a) The Harbour Master confirmed that the minor typographical amendments highlighted by Members would be incorporated into the final published edition of the Safety Management System document;
- (b) A Member acknowledged the finding in relation to the definition of harbour limits that defined the area in which water skiing was prohibited and the speed limit was controlled;
- (c) The Harbour Master advised that it was his intention in the Harbour Replacement Programme to eventually replace a Dory vessel with a small Rib. It was felt that this would be a more fit for purpose vessel to improve encouragement of good seamanship and enforcement of Harbour Bye-laws.

It was then:

RESOLVED

1. That the findings of the Audit (as outlined at Appendices 1 and 2 to the presented agenda report) be accepted; and
2. That the ninth edition of the Safety Management System dated 17 November 2011 (Appendix 3 of the presented agenda report refers) be endorsed and published, subject to incorporation of some minor typographical amendments.

SH.52/11 **PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT**

The Board considered a report which set out the Harbour's performance against agreed Performance Indicators (PIs).

During discussion, reference was made to:-

- (a) SH33(L) Complaints. Members were informed that this complaint had been previously reported (Minute SH.41/11 refers) and therefore should not have been included again during this reporting period;
- (b) holiday trends. In light of the poor visitor numbers in August, Members commented that holiday trends appeared to be changing. In acknowledging the point, a Member did also comment that the poor weather during August was a contributing factor to this trend.

It was then:

RESOLVED

That the Harbour Performance against agreed Performance Indicators be noted.

SH.53/11 **MATTERS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION**

The Board considered a report which identified matters for future consideration by the Harbour Board.

In discussion, particular reference was made to:-

- (a) the hope that the Annual Harbour Inspection on 9 July 2012 could commence at Kingsbridge;
- (b) water quality in the Estuary. In reference to the ongoing dialogue between the Chairman of the Board and South West Water (SWW), Members felt that whilst progress was being made, the situation remained unsatisfactory. As a consequence, it was agreed that the Chairman should send a further letter to SWW on this issue.

It was then:-

RESOLVED:

That the matters be noted and the Moorings Policy Review Working Group hold its inaugural meeting on 7 February 2012 in the Harbour Office.

SH.54/11 **EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

It was then:-

RESOLVED

“That in accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business in order to avoid the likely disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 2 and 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act.”

SH.55/11 **MOORINGS POLICY ENFORCEMENT APPEALS**

The Board considered an exempt report which reviewed an appeal by a customer who was due to lose his mooring, as he was no longer a resident of the South Hams.

Following a detailed discussion, the Board concluded that before a decision was taken in this regard, a final letter should be sent to the customer requesting evidential proof that he possessed a mooring in the harbour before 1985.

It was then:-

RESOLVED:

That the appeal in the Appendices to the presented agenda report be ruled in line with the current Moorings Policy.

(Meeting commenced at 2.30 pm and concluded at 3.35 pm).

Chairman