

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF  
THE SALCOMBE HARBOUR BOARD  
HELD AT CLIFF HOUSE, SALCOMBE ON MONDAY, 26 MARCH 2012**

<b>Members in attendance</b>			
<b>* Denotes attendance</b>		<b>∅ Denotes apology for absence</b>	
*	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
∅	Cllr P W Hitchins (Lead Executive Member)	*	Mr P Waring

<b>Item No</b>	<b>Minute Ref No below refers</b>	<b>Officers in attendance and participating</b>
All agenda items		Salcombe Harbour Master and Member Services Manager

**SH.56/11 MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Salcombe Harbour Board held on 30 January 2012 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**SH.57/11 URGENT BUSINESS**

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

Firstly, the Harbour Master advised the Board that the Dart Steam Railway & River Boat Company would not be operating the Rivermaid service for the following season.

Secondly, the Harbour Master advised that he had received an approach from the Island Street Bar to request a pontoon at the back of their premises. The Harbour Master would progress discussions if the Board gave a steer that the application could be considered. Following a brief discussion, during which the Board Members confirmed that they were generally supportive as this pontoon was for public use and would encourage business, the Harbour Master was asked to continue with the appropriate discussions.

**SH.58/11 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members were invited to declare any interests in the items of business to be considered during the course of the meeting, and the following was made:

Cllr S A E Wright, Dr K Harling, Mr J Barratt and Mr P Waring all declared a personal interest in item 8 Moorings Policy (minute SHB.61/11 refers) by virtue of having moorings. They all stayed in the meeting and took part in the debate and vote thereon.

**SH.59/11 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

A Member of the public was in attendance, and wished to utilise the Public Question Time session.

Mr John Binns thanked the Harbour Master for taking time to attend the recent meeting of the Kingsbridge Estuary Boat Club where he briefed the Club on current Harbour issues. He also asked that the Harbour Board note that Ian Drinkwater, the co-ordinator of Boat Watch for the last five years, had stood down. The Boat Club were in the process of splitting out his responsibilities and appointing a high level co-ordinator. Harbour Board Members and the Harbour Master asked that their thanks be passed to Mr Drinkwater, acknowledging that his contribution to fighting marine crime had been excellent and greatly appreciated.

**SH.60/11 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**

No meeting had taken place; the next meeting was scheduled for May 2012.

**Salcombe Kingsbridge Estuary Association (SKEA)**

There was no update given to the meeting.

**Kingsbridge Estuary Boat Club**

Mr Binns had given an update as part of the Public Question Time session.

**South Devon & Channel Shellfishermen**

There was no update given to the meeting.

**Kingsbridge and Salcombe Marine Business Forum**

There was no update given to the meeting.

**SH.61/11 MOORINGS POLICY**

The Board considered a report which reviewed the draft Moorings Policy and sought approval for publication of the draft for public consultation.

The Harbour Master introduced the report, and advised the Board that he had misgivings over what was being presented as he felt that it was no longer appropriate to distinguish between different types of residents.

A lengthy discussion followed, and points made included the following:

- One Member stated that the idea of two lists was not to reward for payment but to distinguish between those who lived in the local area all year and those who did not. However if the Council's view was that in all other respects payment of 100% council tax meant entitlement to all facilities, then the Board should follow;
- Another Member felt that the drafting of the policy was not helpful and that the process should be simpler i.e. priority given if you lived and worked in the area, then if you were a second home owner and finally if you had no relationship with the area whatsoever. However, other Members felt that using council tax payment as an indicator would at least provide a measure; otherwise the priority would be random and subject to abuse. A Member added that this was already the case as some second home owners paid full council tax to ensure they were on the right list;
- One Member stated that moorings were a scarce resource and that demand would increase once the financial climate improved. He felt that concerns over losing customers in the long term were unfounded;
- A number of Members felt that one list would be more appropriate, but it would be important that the method for managing it was clear and transparent and that the policy itself was justifiable.

To bring the debate to a close, the Harbour Master stated that he had heard enough to be able to make minor amendments to the draft policy, and if Members were in agreement he would proceed with publishing the draft policy for public consultation.

It was then:

**RESOLVED**

That the Draft Moorings Policy Consultation document be published for the first round of consultation with the Harbour Community Forums, with a consultation closing date of 25 May 2012.

**SH.62/11 STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN 2012-2017**

The Board considered a report which reviewed the final draft of the Strategic Business Plan 2012-2017 with a view to recommending to Council the adoption of the plan.

The Harbour Master introduced the report, and following a brief discussion, it was then:

**RECOMMENDED**

That Council be recommended to adopt the Salcombe Harbour Strategic Business Plan 2012-2017.

**SH.63/11 TOPICAL HARBOUR ISSUES**

The Board considered a report which summarised a range of topical harbour issues that did not warrant a separate report in their own right.

The Harbour Master introduced the report and made the following comments:

- Showers – planning permission had been granted and the project would go out to tender to start after October 2012 half term;
- Town Landings – the town landings were in place. A Board Member noted that the town landings now offered a fabulous facility and wondered if overnight berthing would be offered at Normandy. In response, the Harbour Master stated that this might be a possibility for the future;
- Information Strategy: Twitter – the twitter account was now up and running and had around 80 followers. It was proving to be a useful medium to keep harbour users informed of useful information including events within the harbour, safety messages and local notices to mariners;
- Fish Quay Re-Development – this was a District Council project with a total cost of £1.4m, of which £700,000 would come from the District Council and the balance from the European Fisheries Fund. The project had been scaled back from the initial aspirations to cover essential elements. The work, which is programmed to take place between October 2012 and April 2013 will cause some disruption to normal services, including access to the fish quay, additional usage of the public slipway and car/boat parking arrangements.

It was then:

**RESOLVED**

That the contents of the report be noted.

SH.64/11 **MATTERS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION**

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

In introducing the report, the Harbour Master confirmed that once the strategic business plan was in place, actions would then cascade from it.

It was then:-

**RESOLVED:**

That the matters be noted.

(Meeting commenced at 2.30 pm and concluded at 4.10 pm).

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Chairman