

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
THE SALCOMBE HARBOUR BOARD
HELD AT CLIFF HOUSE, SALCOMBE ON MONDAY, 12 NOVEMBER 2012**

Members in attendance			
* Denotes attendance		∅ Denotes apology for absence	
*	Cllr R J Carter (Chairman)	*	Mr J Barrett
*	Cllr M J Hicks	∅	Dr C C Harling (Vice Chairman)
*	Cllr K R H Wingate	*	Mr M Mackley
*	Cllr S A E Wright	*	Mr H Marriage
		*	Mr A Thomson
		*	Mr P Waring

Item No	Minute Ref No below refers	Officers in attendance and participating
All agenda items		Salcombe Harbour Master, Head of Assets and Member Services Manager

SH.30/12 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Salcombe Harbour Board held on 24 September 2012 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

SH.31/12 URGENT BUSINESS

The Chairman advised that there was one item of urgent business to be taken in exempt session at the end of the meeting. This item related to a commercial matter and was considered urgent in light of the Harbour Master requiring a clear steer from the Board before its next scheduled meeting was due to be held (Minute SH.41/12 below refers).

SH.32/12 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 were made:

Cllr S A E Wright, Mr J Barrett, Dr K Harling, Mr M Mackley, Mr A Thomson and Mr P Waring all declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in all related agenda items by virtue of having moorings or paying harbour dues to the Council. As the Deputy Monitoring Officer had previously granted a dispensation under Paragraph 8.1 (c) of the Code of Conduct (minute SH.21/12 refers), all Members remained in the meeting and took part in the discussion and debate on all agenda items.

SH.33/12 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Members of the public were in attendance and advised that they wished to utilise the Public Question Time session:

Each member of the public in attendance wished to raise points on agenda item 9: Kingsbridge Berthing Options (Minute SH.35/12 below refers).

Mr Tim Tucker proceeded to explain the terminology used in his consultation response;

Mr Hales, a representative from Wills Marine and the Chairman of the Salcombe and Kingsbridge marine Business Forum, gave his support for the proposals outlined in the presented agenda report;

Mr John Binns advised that the general view of The Kingsbridge Boat Club was to support the proposals outlined in the presented agenda report.

SH.34/12 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 update was given

Salcombe Kingsbridge Estuary Association (SKEA)

There were two issues currently of concern and these were damage to boats and the development at Higher Batson.

Kingsbridge Estuary Boat Club (KEBC)

The Forum was pleased that the Board had listened to their comments on the original proposal and that new options had come forward. The consultation process was felt to have worked well.

South Devon & Channel Shellfishermen

No update was given

Kingsbridge and Salcombe Marine Business Forum

No update was given

SH.35/12 KINGSBRIDGE BERTHING OPTIONS

The Board considered a report which proposed a way forward for improvement to the berthing arrangements within the Kingsbridge Basin.

The Harbour Master introduced the report and outlined the feedback from the public consultation. As a result, a revised option had come forward, and this plan was currently displayed at the Kingsbridge Town Council offices.

The Harbour Master also stated that he now wished to invite expressions of interest to tender in order to identify a preferred bidder, who would then be expected to work with the Harbour Authority through the planning and construction process.

During discussion, a Member asked if the visitor berths area could be extended. The Harbour Master responded that for a little additional money the central pontoons could be made to a commercial specification but to lengthen the visitor berthing area would impinge on the slipway to the South and the open area, requested by many consultees to the previous proposal, to the North.

Another Member asked that consideration be given to minimising the visual impact to take into account the views of non-boat owners. In response to a query regarding the timescale, the Harbour Master advised that the work would cause disruption and could not start before next winter.

Finally, the Harbour Master clarified that the Resolution contained within the agenda report should be amended in order that the Board make a recommendation to Council. This was subsequently **PROPOSED**, **SECONDED** and on being to the vote was declared **CARRIED**.

It was then

RECOMMENDED

That Council be **RECOMMENDED** to progress a project to deliver improvement to the berthing arrangements at Kingsbridge, as described in paragraph 2, to the timeline described in paragraph 3, of the presented agenda report.

SH.36/12 **MOORINGS POLICY**

The Board considered a report which reviewed the draft Moorings Policy and sought to recommend its adoption.

A Member stated that he could not support a policy that denied a mooring to people who no longer lived within the South Hams

The Harbour Master introduced the report, and advised that there had been no major changes. A Member stated that, whilst he accepted that local residents should have priority in the allocation of moorings, he could not support a policy under which people who were long-standing South Hams council tax payers, but not (or not now) as full-time residents, were never able to get a mooring. However he felt that the wording of the current policy, taken together with the legal advice about exceptions, should allow sufficient flexibility for the Harbour Master to be able to bring to the Board any cases in which he felt the policy was not operating fairly.

In response, the Harbour Master advised that he would continue to bring exceptional cases to the Board.

In response to a query, it was confirmed that the definition of 'local' for the purposes of the Policy related to those residents who lived within the South Hams.

It was then:

RECOMMENDED

That the Council be **RECOMMENDED** to adopt the revised Moorings Policy.

SH.37/12 **PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT**

The Board considered a report that reported the Harbour's performance against agreed Performance Indicators (PIs).

The Harbour Master introduced the report, and took Members through the key points. The information, presented in paragraph 2.1.9 and 2.1.10 of the agenda report, highlighted the importance of the length of stay of visiting yachts and how a small increase in length of stay could have a significant impact on income, despite falling numbers of visitors. A Member reiterated the importance of closely watching the figures to enable correct decisions to be made when setting the budget.

It was then:

RESOLVED

That Harbour performance against agreed Performance Indicators be noted.

SH.38/12 **MATTERS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION**

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

The Harbour Master introduced the report and highlighted the key points.

It was then:-

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted.

SH.39/12 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 1 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act.”

SH.40/12 MOORINGS POLICY ENFORCEMENT

The Board was asked to consider an appeal from a customer due to lose his mooring as they were no longer resident in South Hams.

Following a discussion, it was then:

RESOLVED

That the customer be permitted to retain their mooring.

SH.41/12 CONSIDERATION OF URGENT ITEM

As reported above (Minute SH.31/12 refers), the Board was asked to consider an urgent report that related to a commercial matter.

Following a discussion, it was then:

RESOLVED

That the Harbour Master be instructed to investigate the implications of this commercial matter, with a further detailed report being presented back to a future Board meeting.

(Meeting commenced at 2.30 pm and concluded at 4.15 pm).

Chairman