

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
THE SALCOMBE HARBOUR BOARD
HELD AT CLIFF HOUSE, SALCOMBE ON MONDAY 3 FEBRUARY 2014**

Members in attendance			
* Denotes attendance		ø Denotes apology for absence	
ø	Cllr R J Carter (Chairman)	*	Mr G Burrell
*	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 M Taylor
ø	Cllr H D Bastone (lead Executive Member)		

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

SH.37/13 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Salcombe Harbour Board held on 18 November 2013 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

SH.38/13 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 Wright, Mr Burrell, Dr Harling, Mr Marriage, Mr Taylor and Mr Thomson all declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in all related agenda items by virtue of having moorings or paying harbour dues to the Council, however as the Deputy Monitoring Officer had previously granted a dispensation under Paragraph 8.1 (c) of the Code of Conduct (minute SH.14/13 refers), all Members remained in the meeting and took part in the discussion and debate on all agenda items.

Dr Harling also declared a personal interest in Item 7 'Feedback from Harbour Community Forums' (Minute SH.40/13 refers), by virtue of being a member of the Board of the Salcombe Yacht Club. He remained in the meeting and took part in the debate and vote thereon.

SH.39/13 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Concerns were raised by one member of the public in respect of potential overcrowding at Whitestrand pontoon if the Rivermaid was to operate from there and he queried that if a proposal was to be made for the Rivermaid to run from Whitestrand then all users could be involved in the discussion. The Harbour Master did note that Whitestrand is now a commercial landing pontoon and therefore not as busy as it used to be and that there were currently no plans for the Kingsbridge Ferry to run from Whitestrand, although it may run hourly trips from Whitestrand at low water.

Another member of the public was concerned that the ladders at Kingsbridge had been removed and asked if the new pontoons would include ladders or other means of exiting the water. In response, the Harbour Master advised that there would be ways of exiting the water.

SH.40/13 FEEDBACK FROM HARBOUR COMMUNITY FORUMS

The Board received verbal update reports from the Board Members who attended the Harbour Community Forums. The Chairman began this item by reminding Members of the Board of the importance of the Community Forums as a vital part of the interface between the Board and the community. The updates were as follows:

Salcombe Kingsbridge Estuary Association (SKEA)

The representative for SKEA advised that the Association now operated almost as a virtual Association and used their website to exchange information.

Salcombe Kingsbridge Estuary Conservation Forum (SKECF)

The representative for SKECF was not in attendance, however, another Member had attended the latest meeting of the Forum and advised that no contentious issues had been raised. The Forum had a newly appointed Chairman and it was expected that he would be looking to boost numbers of attendees.

Kingsbridge Estuary Boat Club (KEBC)

Representatives of the KEBC were in attendance and raised their continuing concern with the state of the slipway at Kingsbridge. It was important that the slipway remained fully useable. The Harbour Master advised that discussions had been held with South Hams District Council who had responsibility for the slipway. A District Councillor in attendance advised the Board that the Council did have a Capital Programme but that decisions on how to spend capital monies were in the hands of the full Council. The Board Members asked that their wish for the proposals of the Harbour Master in relation to the Kingsbridge slipway to be taken forward be noted.

South Devon & Channel Shellfishermen

There were no issues to raise.

Kingsbridge and Salcombe Marine Business Forum

The representative advised that there were no issues to raise.

SH.41/13 VICTORIA QUAY PONTOONS

The Board was presented with a report that recommended the replacement of Victoria Quay Pontoons. The Harbour Master introduced the report and advised that an opportunity had arisen to replace the Pontoons and, in view of their condition, he had hoped that the Board could support the recommendation.

Following a brief discussion it was then:

RECOMMENDED

That Council be **RECOMMENDED** to bring forward the replacement of the Victoria Quay Pontoons from the Financial year 2015/16 to 2013/14 and finance the project from the Harbour General Reserve.

SH.42/13 PORT MARINE SAFETY CODE

The Board was presented with a report that appraised Members of the Salcombe Harbour Authorities compliance with the Port Marine Safety Code.

The Harbour Master introduced the report and answered questions of clarity. Members were concerned about a lack of guidance for stand up boarders who potentially did not appreciate that they could put themselves and others at risk by their actions. Following a discussion on this matter it was **PROPOSED, SECONDED** and on being put to the vote declared **CARRIED** that an additional recommendation be included to monitor activity for next year. Members also felt that links could be placed on the Harbour Authority website to guidance issued by other organisations.

Members also discussed the matter of flooding and it was agreed that there should be direct and regular communication between the Board and South West Water.

It was then:

RESOLVED that:

- a) The findings of the Audit at Appendices 1 and 2 be noted;
- b) The 11th edition of the Safety Management System dated 2 December 2013 as shown at Appendix 3 be endorsed and published; and
- c) The activity of stand up boarders be monitored for possible inclusion in the report for next year.

SH.43/13

REVIEW OF BYELAWS ENFORCEMENT POLICY

The Board Members were presented with a report to review the Harbour byelaws. In presenting the report, the Harbour Master outlined how the Marine Navigation Act 2013 made provision in relation to marine navigation and harbours and which provided the Salcombe Harbour Authority with the opportunity to apply for the powers to make Harbour Directions.

Members discussed the enforcement policy at Appendix C and recommended its adoption. Members then went on to discuss applying to the Department for Transport (DfT) for the power to give Harbour Directions. It was accepted that the Harbour Directions would not exactly replace byelaws, however, Members generally felt it was important that the Authority applied for the power to give Harbour Directions as they would enable the Harbour to respond to change more quickly. It was also noted that a Port User Group would need to be set up, and, again, this enforced the importance of the Harbour Community Forums.

It was then:

RECOMMENDED:

1. That the Enforcement Policy at Appendix C be adopted; and
2. That Salcombe Harbour Authority applies to the DfT for the power to give Harbour Directions under sections 40A-0D of the Harbours Act 1964 as amended by the Marine Navigation Act 2013.

SH.44/13

PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

Members were presented with a report that set out the Harbour's performance against agreed Performance indicators (PIs).

The Harbour Master introduced the report and took Members through the key elements and advised them of more detail where appropriate.

The report included previous correspondence with South West Water as water quality was one of the Performance Indicators that had to be reported. Board members were also keen to ensure that the water quality was acceptable for bathers, and also for the shellfish industry. Earlier points were reiterated that a channel of communication should be in place between the Board and South West Water.

It was then:

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

SH.45/13 **MATTERS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION**

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

The Board discussed arrangements for the next meeting on 31 March 2014 which would be in Kingsbridge and would take place prior to the official opening of the Kingsbridge Pontoons.

It was then:

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

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

Chairman