

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
THE SALCOMBE HARBOUR BOARD
HELD AT QUAY HOUSE, KINGSBRIDGE ON MONDAY 31 MARCH 2014**

Members in attendance			
* Denotes attendance		∅ Denotes apology for absence	
*	Cllr M J Hicks	*	Mr G Burrell
*	Cllr K R H Wingate	*	Dr C C Harling (Vice Chairman)
*	Cllr S A E Wright	*	Mr M Mackley
		*	Mr H Marriage
		*	Mr A Thomson
		*	Mr M Taylor
∅	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, Head of Assets and Member Services Manager

Non Board Members also in attendance and participating
Cllr J Brazil

SH.46/13 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Salcombe Harbour Board held on 31 March 2014 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

SH.47/13 URGENT BUSINESS

As this was the first meeting of the Council since Cllr Carter had sadly passed away, the Vice Chairman paid tribute to Cllr Carter and the Board proceeded to stand and observe a minutes silence in his memory.

SH.48/13 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 Mackley, 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.

SH.49/13 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Cllr Brazil took the opportunity under this agenda item to pay a personal and public tribute to Ian Gibson, the Harbour Master, who was retiring in May. Cllr Brazil stated that the Harbour Master and his team had achieved a great deal, the pinnacle of which were the Kingsbridge Pontoons which would be officially opened after this meeting. He passed his heartfelt thanks and congratulations to the Harbour Master for a job well done and said the residents of Salcombe were in his debt.

Mr Peter Waring, a former Board Member, agreed with the comments made by Cllr Brazil and also gave his thanks and congratulations.

The Vice Chairman advised the Board that a presentation would be made to the Harbour Master before the end of the meeting.

SH.50/13 FEEDBACK FROM HARBOUR COMMUNITY FORUMS

The Board received verbal update reports from the Board Members who attended the Harbour Community Forums. The updates were as follows:

Salcombe Kingsbridge Estuary Association (SKEA)

The representative for SKEA advised that the bunting on Batson pontoons, positioned in an attempt to keep the seagulls clear after the pontoons have been power washed ready for the season, was much improved this year in terms of visual impact as it was green and white rather than red and white.

Salcombe Kingsbridge Estuary Conservation Forum (SKECF)

The representative for SKECF advised that they would be meeting later in the week.

Kingsbridge Estuary Boat Club (KEBC)

The representative for KEBC advised that there were no issues to raise other than delight at the completion of the pontoons.

South Devon & Channel Shellfishermen

Mr A Thomson agreed to become the representative for the South Devon & Channel Shellfishermen.

Kingsbridge and Salcombe Marine Business Forum

The representative advised that there were no issues to raise.

SH.51/13 TOPICAL HARBOUR ISSUES

The Board was presented with a report that set out a range of issues which did not warrant a report in their own right. The Harbour Master introduced and took the Board through the key issues. He began by confirming that a replacement Harbour Master had been appointed and that there would be a short handover period at the beginning of May.

In relation to the Kingsbridge Berthing Improvements Project, the Harbour Master advised that, now the pontoons were in place, it was clear that there would be plenty of space between the fingers and the quay wall, more than recommended by the BMF Code of Conduct for the design of the pontoons. He was therefore recommending that the maximum boat size be relaxed from 5.5m Length Overall (LOA) to 5.5m hull length not including raised outboard motors, provided the boats were moored in line with the Harbour Board policy of covering raised motors with buckets.

During discussion, the following points were raised:

- In response to a query as to whether it would be timely to enforce the policy of buckets to cover outboard motors, the Harbour Master advised that there was no bye law to enable enforcement and it was a matter of education and encouragement. Another Board Member advised that it could become a condition of the licence that granted the mooring;
- In response to a query, the Harbour Master confirmed that the Salcombe Harbour Hotel had relinquished their running moorings;
- In response to a query relating to damage caused by outboard motors that were not protected by a bucket, the Harbour Master confirmed that it would be a matter for an insurance claim and provided the Harbour Board was seen to be doing as much as they could there would be no liability to the Board.

It was then:

RESOLVED that:

- a) The Harbour Board note the report; and
- b) The maximum boat size on Kingsbridge pontoon be relaxed to 5.5m boat length.

SH.52/13

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 issues. He also drew the Member's attention to a letter at Appendix A of the report from Frogmore and Sherford Parish Council requesting that the pontoon at Frogmore be extended. During discussion Members agreed that this matter should be a subject for the next Business Plan. The Harbour Master also agreed to consider whether the pontoon should be withdrawn throughout the winter and respond in a later report.

It was then:

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

SH.53/13 **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.54/13 **COMMERCIAL VENTURE**

Members considered an exempt report that had been presented to the Board. In addition, the Harbour Master and the Head of Assets gave oral updates following a recent meeting. Following a discussion, it was then:

RESOLVED

That any recommendation or decision on this matter be deferred to October 2014 at the latest and pending a business case being worked up.

(Meeting commenced at 4.30 pm and concluded at 5.45 pm)

Chairman