

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SALCOMBE HARBOUR BOARD
HELD IN THE ASSEMBLY ROOM, CLIFF HOUSE, SALCOMBE
ON MONDAY, 18 APRIL 2005**

MEMBERS

* Cllr J S Beer - Chairman

∅ Mr R Wheeler - Vice-Chairman

∅ Cllr H D Bastone

* Cllr J Brazil

* Cllr R J Carter

* Cllr P H Cook

∅ Cllr C M Pannell

* Cllr S L Rankin

* Cllr G Rothwell

* Cllr D W S Thorning

∅ Cllr A R Vale

* Mr T Bass

* Mr G Foale

* Mr R Gilbert

* Dr P Goldsworthy

∅ Ms L. Heape

* Mr P Howard

* Mr E Johnson

* Denotes attendance

∅ Denotes apology for absence

SH.40/04 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 25 January 2005 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

SH.41/04 **BUSINESS BROUGHT FORWARD BY THE CHAIRMAN**

The Chairman advised the Group that he had four items of urgent business to consider at the meeting. The items were considered urgent due to their need to be addressed prior to the next meeting of the Harbour Board. Items for consideration were as set out below:-

- i) **South Pool.** Following a reported incidence of speeding on the estuary during the Easter period, the Board was informed that concern had grown over increased reports of anti-social behaviour and speeding. The Harbour Master outlined his concerns and highlighted the disregard this behaviour had on the safety of other boat users. The Harbour Master proceeded to inform the Board that publicans and interested parties had been approached to help combat these concerns by way of a partnership approach. It was noted that the publicans had been very co-operative.

The Harbour Master received full support from the Board.

RESOLVED

That, on the matter of anti-social behaviour and speeding, the Harbour Master be requested to report back to the Board following further investigation

- ii) **Annual Inspection, 12 July 2005.** The Chairman advised the Board that following its annual inspection due to be held on the morning of 12 July 2005, no meeting was scheduled until October 2005. Therefore it was suggested that a meeting be scheduled to follow on from the annual inspection on the afternoon of 12 July 2005.

RESOLVED

That a meeting be scheduled to precede the Annual Salcombe Harbour Inspection on 12 July 2005.

- iii) **Schedule of Future Meetings.** The Board was informed that future meetings may have to be scheduled mindful of budget issues.
- iv) **Houseboats.** A request had been received to replace the existing houseboat. Following discussion, the Board requested that a full report be brought to the next meeting before it made a decision.

RESOLVED

That the Board receives, at its next meeting on 12 July 2005, a full report regarding the proposal to replace the existing houseboat.

SH.42/04 **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 none was made.

SH.43/04 **STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLANNING**

A report was considered which updated Members on the work of the Board's Business Plan Steering Group convened by the Board (minute

SH.33/04 refers) and advised on the timetable for the development of the Salcombe Harbour Board Strategic Business Plan.

The report made reference to the draft framework for the Strategic Business Plan, noting that the framework was based on the five key themes that had emerged from the Board's training sessions. These were linked to the Council's Corporate Priorities, business issues relating to the Harbour and wider community aims.

The Chairman extended his gratitude to all the Members of the Business Plan Steering Group and invited them to share with the Board the work which had been carried out so far, as laid out in appendix 1 of the report presented to Members. Also highlighted to the Board was the draft Plan, which was due to be presented to the Board at its next meeting on 12 July 2005.

RESOLVED

That:-

1. the work of the Salcombe Harbour Board Business Plan Steering Group be supported and endorsed;
2. the Salcombe Harbour Board Business Plan Objectives be adopted;
3. officers be instructed to proceed with the further development of the Plan in consultation with the Steering Group.

SH.44/04 VISIT TO WHITSTABLE HARBOUR

A report was considered which informed Members of a letter of invitation which had been received by the Chairman of the Salcombe Harbour Board from Whitstable Harbour Board inviting Members of the board to visit Whitstable to discuss their new arrangements. The 'Whitstable Model' was considered the industries' best practice model and the visit was to assist Members with the development of Salcombe Harbour Board's Strategic Business Plan and provide an individual and unique training opportunity.

During discussion, the following points were raised:-

- (a) the possibility of representatives from Whitstable Harbour attending a meeting of the Salcombe Harbour Board as opposed to visiting them. In response, the Board was advised that following many requests from various Harbour authorities around the country, Whitstable had developed a set programme to which visiting authorities were privy. It was noted that any promotional material gained from the visit would be presented to the Board;

(b) the importance of approaching the visit strategically.

RESOLVED

That the Harbour Master be instructed to accept the invitation to visit Whitstable Harbour on behalf of the Board and a suitable date be agreed.

SH.45/04 **ESTUARY USERS' COMMUNITY SAFETY SURVEY**

A report was considered which provided the Board with details of a survey proposed for the season's harbour users, which centred on the customer's experience and perception of marine crime, marine safety and anti-social behaviour. By way of a questionnaire, users were to be asked to provide evidence of their experiences of all three elements, provide feedback on the measures currently in place and comment on their effectiveness.

The survey was to provide the Board with a level of baseline data, which would enable assessment of current marine safety on the Estuary in line with the perception of the user. It was noted that this type of survey was not only advantageous to the Harbour Master for operational reasons, but it was also useful to assist Members in the following year's budget setting process in relation to security arrangements.

The Board was introduced to the Council's Community Safety and Emergency Planning Officer who proceeded to inform the Board of the work of the Safer South Hams Community Partnership and the various groups which were involved. The Board was informed that the partnership was working together to reduce crime, in particular alcohol abuse and anti-social behaviour, which the Board had previously identified as being matters of concern (SH.41/04 (i) as above refers). Furthermore, it was noted that the Community Safety Survey was based on a similar survey carried out by the Dart Harbour Navigation Authority.

The Chairman of the Board took this opportunity to inform Members of a Marine Crime Legal Seminar, which was due to take place on Monday, 25 April 2005.

RESOLVED

That the proposed customer survey be supported and the Harbour Master be instructed to progress arrangements.

SH.46/04 **TOPICAL HARBOUR ISSUES**

A report was considered which informed Members of any interesting current or future issues that might affect the Salcombe Harbour Board or Salcombe Harbour/Kingsbridge Estuary.

In the report, the following matters were highlighted:-

- (a) **Boat Parking** – that the meeting between the Chairman of the Salcombe Harbour Board and the Chairman of the Council's Business Board with responsibility for boat parking, which had been scheduled for 25 April 2005, had been postponed due to the Marine Crime Legal Seminar being held on the same day (SH.45/04 as above refers). A revised date would be confirmed shortly.
- (b) **Closed Circuit Television (CCTV)** – that the clarity of the newly upgraded Boat Park CCTV system was noted to be excellent.
- (c) **Lincombe Boatyard** – following the agreement for work to proceed at Lincombe Boatyard for the dredging of the channel, a Member of the Board also highlighted dredging problems surrounding the fish quay.
- (d) **Salcombe-Kingsbridge Estuary Environmental Management Plan Review** – it was noted that the Council's Marine Conservation Officer was in discussions with the Estuary Forum Committee to agree to sign up to the Management Plan.
- (e) **Estuary Survey and Research Projects** – following a query the Board was informed that the abbreviations preceding each project represented the level of course the graduates were undertaking. Furthermore, it was noted that the report of the investigation into the invasion and appropriate management control of the Salcombe-Kingsbridge and Avon estuaries by the common cord grass had concluded that the most effective way to deal with the problem was to dig it out and dispose of it.
- (f) **Sustainable Moorings** – the significant environmental advantages, along with the longevity and reduced maintenance advantages of the Seaflex system was highlighted to the Board.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

(Meeting commenced at 2.00 pm and concluded at 3.20 pm).

Chairman