

NORTH DEVON COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the ILFRACOMBE HARBOUR BOARD held at the Ilfracombe Centre, Ilfracombe on Tuesday 8th May 2018 at 2.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillor Fowler (Chairman)

Councillor Meadlarkin (Vice-Chairman)

Co-opted Members:

Mr Kift and Captain Joint.

Officers:

Harbour Master, Chief Executive, Water Sports Regeneration Officer, and Corporate and Community Services Officer (AD).

Also Present:

Mr L Raybone.

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Campbell.

2 MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the meeting held on 6th February 2018 (circulated previously) be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

3 ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD BY THE CHAIRMAN

The Chairman asked the Board to consider a letter received from the MP's office in which a request from the North Devon Fisherman's Association had been made requesting funding towards the purchase of new lifejackets fitted with personal locator beacons. The Chairman advised the Board that there were funds available from the Board's own budget. Torridge District Council had pledged a sum of £1,900 and North Devon were being asked to support at a similar level.

Concern was raised over how many were in the scheme and whether donating toward this initiative would benefit local fishermen.

The Chief Executive advised the Board that he would investigate further and update the Board of his findings.

The Board supported the request for funding with £1,500 from its own budget and that a further £400 be requested from Executive.

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following declaration of interest was announced:

Councillor Fowler All items – Personal interest as a mooring owner and member of the Ilfracombe Yacht Club.

5 WATER SPORTS CENTRE UPDATE

The Board received an update from the Water Sports Regeneration Officer regarding the Water sports centre as follows:

- A telephone conference call with the Lawyer and the Marine Management Organisation (MMO), regarding work on a Marine Management Licence had taken place. To satisfy the MMO confirmation of the mapping co-ordinates would be provided by the construction company. Written confirmation that dredging does not take place in the Harbour was also needed by the MMO.
- The Harbour revision order needed a couple of amendments but once online the 42 day consultation period would be triggered which would require publication of the plans in local and national papers. If no objections were received the works were due to start on 2nd September 2018.
- Confirmation on funding applications to Sport England and the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) were still pending. A response was being made to Sport England who had queried the full accessibility of the slipway for all users. It was anticipated that a response from the HLF would be received within the next four weeks.
- A meeting was held with Devon Highways to discuss the parking arrangements at Larkstone Lane, which was currently used by residents but would need to be clear of obstruction once the water sports centre was completed. Devon County Highways had confirmed that as part of its yearly yellow line revision, double yellow lines could be painted on the road. Discussion with Ilfracombe Town Council would be scheduled ahead of any changes happening.

6 APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT REPRESENTATIVES TO THE ILFRACOMBE HARBOUR BOARD

The Board considered a report by the Chairman, (circulated previously), regarding the appointment of Independent representatives to the Ilfracombe Harbour Board.

The Board discussed the re-appointment of Mr Knill, and the competitive process needed to fill the second vacancy left by Mr Hocking. The position would be advertised shortly.

The Chairman gave thanks to Mr Hocking for his service to the Board and this was echoed by those present.

RECOMMENDED that Mr Knill be re-appointed as an independent representative on the Board to serve a further four year period until 24th July 2022.

RESOLVED that:

- (a) the position for an independent member of the Board be advertised,
- (b) the interview panel consists of the Harbour Master and the Chairman of the Board,
- (c) that a special meeting of the Ilfracombe Harbour Board be held on Tuesday 3rd July 2018 at 2 pm at the Ilfracombe Centre to discuss:
 - a. the outcome of the interviews; and
 - b. the review of the Ilfracombe Harbour Safety Management System.

7 DESIGNATED PERSON AUDIT

The Chief Executive provided the Board with an update following the quarterly designated person audit held on 3rd May 2018, (circulated previously) in respect of the actions undertaken following the previous audit inspection, risk management and conclusions reached.

The Harbour Master reported that in relation to point 3.3 of the Quarterly Designated Person Audit Report, (circulated previously), the sharp protrusions, as a result of broken mooring rings, had now been removed. In relation to point 3.4 of the report and the missing stanchions, these had been returned to the quayside at the Stone Beach area.

The Designated Person confirmed that the Marine Safety Management System was working effectively thus ensuring compliance with the Port Marine Safety Code.

RESOLVED that the quarterly designated person audit report be noted.

8 PORT MARINE SAFETY CODE

The Harbour Master expressed how well run the Harbour was and how well things had been left by her predecessor. The Harbour Master then gave the Board the following updates:

- The Port Management report for 2017 had been submitted.
- A review had been completed for this year, 2018, with a few minor changes and that a complete re-write would be undertaken for next year, 2019.
- All alcohol related incidents must be reported to the Maritime and Coastguard Agency and the UK Harbour Masters Association.
- Detained vessels were not allowed in any UK port.

In response to a question on jet skiers the Harbour Master advised there were byelaws and as yet no prosecution had been made. There had been a lot of jet ski users in the Harbour over the weekend and they had all been very well behaved.

The Chairman gave thanks along with the rest of the Board to Rob Lawson, previous Harbour Master, for all his hard work.

9 HARBOUR MASTER UPDATE

The Board welcomed the new Harbour Master.

The Harbour Master gave the Board an update on the Pilotage Harbour reform order. Her understanding was that due to the 'Brexit' negotiations everything else was at a standstill. The situation was less urgent now due to her being a Master Mariner and so able to bring in any vessel as necessary.

10 HARBOUR FORUM UPDATE

The Board considered the notes of the Ilfracombe Harbour Community Forum held on 24th April 2018 (circulated previously).

Mr Raybone, Chairman of the Forum, highlighted the main items discussed at the last Forum meeting as issues around Gulls, Anglers and bins. The Forum were keen to install signs advising visitors not to feed the Gulls.

The Chairman would discuss those issues raised further with members of the Forum and would look at ways to involve the wider community with regards to the design of signage.

Chairman

The meeting ended at 2.50 p.m.

NOTE: These minutes will be confirmed as a correct record at the next meeting of the Board.