

## CONFIRMED MINUTES

**Yarmouth (Isle of Wight) Harbour Commissioners**  
**Minutes of a Special Meeting of**  
**The Yarmouth Harbour Advisory Committee**  
**held at the Harbour Office,**  
**on 23rd November 2009 at 0900 hours**

### PRESENT

Sylvia Mence, Chairman  
Rodney Corbett  
Adrian Harris  
Marigold Morphy  
Malcolm Thorpe  
Stuart Dyer  
Colin Campbell

Royal Yachting Association  
Yarmouth Town Council  
Freshwater Parish Council  
Yarmouth Sailing Club  
Royal Solent Yacht Club  
IOW Council  
Yarmouth Business Association

### IN ATTENDANCE

Chris Lisher

Chief Executive/Harbour Master

### APOLOGIES

Mike Hayles, Jon Matthews, Sue Hawley, Val Cooke

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The Chairman welcomed Stuart Dyer as the representative for the Isle of Wight Council and others who were substituting for their organisation's representative.

1. The Chairman referred to the need for this Special Meeting in order to give the Committee's views to the Commissioners on the recent two applications for CPA (Coast Protection Act 1949) consent.
2. The CE/HM gave a brief explanation of the CPA procedure and referred to FEPA licences (Food and Environment Protection Act 1985). The consultation for CPA consent invited representations on navigational grounds, i.e. whether the proposals were potentially an obstruction or danger to navigation. The MFA (Marine and Fisheries Agency) had recently changed its mind and instructed the harbour to apply for CPA consents for the two developments, having said earlier in the year that this was not necessary.
3. The Chairman reported that the RYA's notice from MFA of the new requirement had been dated 10 November and the County Press notices were in the 13 November issue for response by 11 December, hence the short notice to YHAC of this meeting appeared to be due to the MFA and not YHC.

4. The Chairman referred to the difficulty of discussing these consents in the present context of (i) reconsideration of the South West Corner Development following the failed bid for grant funding, and (ii) the public consultation of Inner Harbour Reconfiguration Proposals. Both of these would be on the YHAC Agenda of 15 December.
5. **Application for consent to construct a dinghy pontoon adjacent to the RNLI Lifeboat and to extend the existing walk ashore pontoon. Ref. DC8736.**

5.1 **Dinghy pontoon:** the majority present had no navigational concern with this proposal.

5.2 **Extension to the existing C walk ashore finger pontoon:** the Committee was divided on this, the main concern being that this is a very busy area, particularly as it is in the approach to the fuel berth, and that the extra pontoons would be a potential danger to navigation. Some also felt that the resulting long cul-de-sac between this longer C finger and the existing B finger would present a hazard. In reply to a question, the CE/HM said that a Risk Assessment had been carried out by Marine Enforcement who had found no problem with the extension. Those who voted for the extension asked for a reassurance that the issue would be reviewed after a season if the new pontoons were installed and that the length of the new pontoons would be reduced by half if experience proved that a hazard did exist. The CE/HM agreed with this.

3 members who wished to recommend to the Commissioners that there would be a potential danger to navigation: C Campbell, A Harris, M Thorpe.

3 members who disagreed with that recommendation: R Corbett, S Mence, M Morphy.

Abstention: S Dyer

Colin Campbell left the meeting during discussion of 5.2, after voicing his recommendation as above.

6. **Application for consent to construct a long walkway pontoon and associated finger pontoon. Ref. DC8826.**

The concerns of YHAC:

- (i) the difficulty of considering this in isolation from the now unresolved situation of the SW Corner development proposal and the new Reconfiguration proposals for the inner harbour.
- (ii) the need to retain at least a 40ft width of the fairway round the northern end of the proposed new pontoons (which extend beyond the present training/fishermen's groyne).

Given these concerns it was agreed to advise the Commissioners that members do not consider that there would be a potential danger to navigation if the fairway has a width of at least 40ft around the northern end of the proposed pontoons.

## **7. Consultation**

YHAC requests an assurance from the Commissioners:

1. YHAC will automatically be informed in future of public notices issued to the press concerning the harbour, such as the current CPA consent notices.
2. An acknowledgement that YHAC would meet for clarification, discussion and, where applicable, advice to the Commissioners on such matters.

The meeting ended at 1006.