

CONFIRMED MINUTES

Yarmouth (Isle of Wight) Harbour Commissioners
Minutes of a Meeting of
The Yarmouth Harbour Advisory Committee
held at the Harbour Office,
on 13th April 2010 at 0900 hours

PRESENT	Sylvia Mence, Chairman Ron Goodridge Marigold Morphy Dick Dawson Jon Matthews Stuart Dyer Gill Kennett Bill Attree	Royal Yachting Association Yarmouth Town Council Yarmouth Sailing Club Royal Solent Yacht Club Wightlink IWC Representative Freshwater Parish Council Commercial Fishermen's Association
IN ATTENDANCE	Chris Lisher Carole Critchlow Tim Francis	Chief Executive/Harbour Master Admin Assistant Commissioner
Members of the Public	One	
APOLOGIES	Malcolm Thorpe Julia Bridgeman Charlotte Beeby Sue Hawley Valerie Cooke Craig Nutter	Royal Solent Yacht Club Yarmouth Business Association Deputy Harbour Master Estuaries Officer Totland Parish Council British Marine Federation

1. Election of Chair and Vice Chair of Yarmouth Harbour Advisory Committee

Sylvia Mence was re-elected Chair and Malcolm Thorpe was elected Vice Chair.

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes were approved of the meeting on 9.2.10 and the Special Meeting on 22.3.10.

The Chair welcomed Tim Francis, Commissioner and Dick Dawson who was representing the Royal Solent Yacht Club.

A. OPERATIONAL UPDATE

1. Matters Arising from 9 February 2010

None

2. Deputy harbour Master's Review

The CE/HM reported for the Deputy HM.

- The mooring buoys are back in position.
- The yellow pontoon has been extended and YHC are now waiting for bollards.
- Two seasonal night watchmen have been employed for the season providing nightly cover to 31 October.
- YHC has taken over the assets of the harbour water taxis and refurbished and re-engined the boats. Four seasonal taxi drivers have been employed for the summer.

The CE/HM said that the harbour water taxis business would have to be monitored closely to prevent large losses.

Wightlink New Ferries

The Wightlink representative said there was little to report. Wightlink are continuing to negotiate with Natural England and until this has been completed would not go forward with planning and other applications.

The Chair asked if the financial details of the mitigation exercise would be made public and the Wightlink representative did not know.

3. Safety

No issues were raised.

B. ADVISORY ISSUES

1. Matters arising from 9 February 2010

1.1 Minute B.1 Yar Bridge Annual Maintenance 2010: The annual maintenance has been done but the drive wheels need to be replaced during April. It will be closed to river traffic from 17 -29 April and approximately 15 boats want to come into the harbour during that time. The cost of this will be passed on to IWC.

1.2 Minute B1.2 Waste Oil Tank: The CE/HM said he had looked at alternatives with little or no progress but he is still trying to find a replacement.

1.3 Minute 10.2 Norton Spit Wave Break: The CE/HM said that some of the timber posts are rotten at the bottom and need to be replaced and the wave break needs to be raised by one or two planks. A tender has gone out for half the work to be carried out this year and it is hoped to commence the work in the next month or so.

2. YHAC Membership for Country Land and Business Association

The CE/HM said an approach had been made by the Country Land and Business Association to be members of YHAC. The Commissioners have agreed to this and now YHAC has to approve. No objections were received and CL/HM will inform the Country Land and Business Association and they should be represented at the June meeting.

3. Harbour Revision Order

The HRO public inquiry was held in January and it is not known when a ruling will be received from the Department of Transport, it could take up to two years. Meanwhile the Commissioners would like one or two members of YHAC to be involved in drawing up potential General Directions so that time is not lost. The Chair suggested that she be involved initially and consider which other member to involve when she had seen the first draft.

4. SW Corner Development

4.1 The Chair read the relevant part of the written response from the Commissioners (Minute B3 of 15.12.09) on the issue of no further YHAC consultation despite recent changes following the failed bid for funding:

“Since then the Commissioners have, at YHAC’s suggestion, involved two of your members in discussion about not only the SW Corner, but also the Inner Harbour Reconfiguration, so that you now not only have a better understanding of these projects but also the necessity for them. We intend to continue these meetings with two representatives if you find them useful.”

YHAC welcomed the offer of further meetings.

- 4.2 The CE/HM and the Commercial Fishermen's representative reported ongoing consultation, including a commercial mooring holder. The latter had copied YHAC's Chair in an email about his concerns: the restricted length of quay beneath the crane and restricted access to it, the possible congestion of craft wishing to use that space, the capacity and reach of the crane, the difficulty of using the proposed loading/unloading berths at the end of the heavy duty pontoon for heavy and bulky stores/equipment, and impact on the amount of car parking space.
- 4.3 The RSYC representative had deep misgivings about the dinghy pontoon by the bridge as he felt there could be conflict and Health and Safety concerns. The CE/HM said that in any scheme there would need to be compromises as it is impossible to please everyone. With the introduction of more walk ashore berths there would be less need for tenders.

5. Revised Harbour Development

- 5.1 The CE/HM stated that he intended to get a consultancy Risk Assessment for the development.
- 5.2 The CE/HM is now in the process of planning the berths for individual boats. This could include changing the size of some pontoon berths to take larger boats.
- 5.3 The licensing process will be started shortly and the Chair asked members to watch the Official Notice and Planning columns in the *County Press*.
- 5.4 The CE/HM reported that discussion with the RNLI is ongoing and that a wave modelling report carried out by PhysE had been sent to the RNLI. A shut off switch for their fuel line is being installed which had been overlooked at the time of the original Lifeboat move.
- 5.5 The CE/HM was requested to update the Chair of YHAC by email on the progress of the development, as there would be long gaps between YHAC meetings.

6. Modernising Trust Ports (Second Edition) 2009

- 6.1 Strategy Document: In February the CE/HM had sent to all YHAC members the 2006 Strategy Document which had been amended in 2008. This document is currently being amended and will be available for discussion at the June meeting.
- 6.2 Annual Report: The presentation of the annual report will be changed in future years to include all the changes that Modernising Trust Ports suggests. The annual report for 2009 contains some of the changes.
- 6.3 Stakeholder Benefits: The Chair referred to the list of Stakeholder Benefits that the CE/HM had produced and said she had added a few more. She said the list would not be formally agreed today but a revised list would be put forward at the June meeting. Some of the benefits that had been added were car parking in office area, environmental work, Coastal Defence Working Group admin costs, Direction Map Boards which are to be erected on land owned or leased by the Commissioners by Yarmouth Town Council. The representative of Wightlink suggested the Harbour water taxis should be included.

A member felt that the discounted mooring for commercial vessels was not a stakeholder benefit. The CE/HM disagreed and the Chair said this would be voted on at the June meeting. The member also stated that the free storage area for fishermen was not a stakeholder benefit and the Chair said this would be discussed at the June meeting and a vote taken.

A member questioned whether the showers should be added to the list and whether residents get discounted moorings. The CE/HM said that in comparison with other harbours on the mainland and on the Island, the mooring holders here get a good deal.

7. Annual General Meeting 26 April 2010

The Chair said she hoped as many people as possible would attend the AGM to be held at Yarmouth School on 26 April at 1800.

The CE/HM reported that in previous years the harbour had made approximately £100K surplus but for 2009 it made a loss. He explained that less profit on fuel sales, legal fees and costs for the HRO, consultants working on the harbour development and the doubled liability on the IWC pension fund all contributed to making a loss.

The Chair said the AGM and report would be on the June agenda.

R Goodridge left the meeting for another commitment.

8. New Commissioner Appointments for June 2010

The interview panel would consist of a Commissioner, a member of YHAC and an independent person. It was agreed that Malcolm Thorpe be YHAC's representative.

9. Events

Help for Heroes event which is taking place 2-4 July 2010. The CE/HM said he has been very disappointed with the response to this event to date.

10. Harbour Works

10.1 The CE/HM reported that Wightlink did a trial with their barge which led to a request for two new bollards on town quay. These should be in place before the season commences.

10.2 There is an ongoing damp problem in the refurbished gent's showers and the cause is not known. The underfloor heating and the drains have been inspected and found not to be causing the dampness.

11. Environmental Matters: none raised.

12. Any Other Business

12.1 A member asked that all Notices to Mariners be emailed to all mooring holders who had given their email address.

12.2 A member reported that with regard to Balanced Seas, environmental mapping is taking place at present. A person from Balanced Seas is meeting the commercial vessel owners soon for an economic assessment of the fishing industry. He will be on the Island for a week.

12.3 The CE/HM reported the recent visit of the Duke of Kent to the harbour.

13. Date of next meetings at 0900 in the Harbour Office:

8th June, 7th September and 12th October

The meeting ended at 11.02 hrs