

Minutes of the Harbour Committee

Monday 20 September 2010

-: Present :-

Councillor Horne (Chairman)

Councillors Addis, Bent, Carter (C), Ellery, Faulkner (J), Manning, McPhail and Richards

External Advisors: Mr Butcher and Captain Curtis

267. Apologies.

Apologies for absence were received from External Advisors Colonel Bedford and Ms Hayes.

268. Minutes.

The Minutes of the meeting of the Harbour Committee held on 21 June 2010 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

269. Urgent Items.

The Chairman brought the upcoming British Ports Association Annual Conference 2010 to the attention of the Committee. The Conference is being hosted by Torbay on the 6-7 October at the Imperial Hotel. The Chairman requested that members of the Committee inform the Executive Head of the Torbay Harbour Authority whether they were available to attend.

270. Torquay/Paignton and Brixham Harbour Liaison Forums.

The Committee noted the minutes of the Torquay and Paignton Harbour Liaison Forum held on 7 September 2010 and the Brixham Harbour Liaison Forum held on 8 September 2010.

The Committee discussed the arrangements of a visit by 55 American veterans to the Embarkation Ramps (Torquay/Paignton Forum Minute No. 6) in 2011. The Committee reviewed the options put forward at the Forum meeting to ensure that a clear correlation be established between the ramps and the memorial stones at the site. It was felt that, due to both funding and space restrictions, interpretation signage would be the preferred option for achieving this. Funding discussions would be ongoing.

Mr Butcher highlighted the two SB3 World Championships that would be hosted by the Royal Torbay Yacht Club (RTYC) in 2011. The RTYC would be looking for help from Torbay Council with car parking, berthing fees, a civic reception, gala venue and gifts for the participants. Members did stress the difficulties with providing funding in the current financial climate, but also recognised the importance of effectively promoting such events for the economy of Torbay.

271. Review of Tor Bay Harbour Business risks 2010/11.

The Executive Head of Torbay Harbour Authority introduced Report 235/2010 detailing the corporate risks that must be managed by the Harbour Authority. The Committee was informed that previously it had reviewed details of operational risks; however, this report highlighted the importance of business risks. The register had previously been circulated to members and those comments that had been received had been incorporated.

The Committee believed that the register should be kept under review by the Asset Working Group, and that when necessary an exception report should be provided to the full Committee.

The Committee noted Report 235/2010.

272. Tor Bay Harbour Authority Budget Monitoring 2010/11.

The Committee reviewed the projections of income and expenditure for the year 2010/11 compared with the approved budgets. Members discussed the increasing deficits in both the Brixham and Torquay/Paignton Harbours budgets and were informed that this was due to additional pressures that had arisen from new and backdated rating assessments that had been received regarding leases relating to offices and the Brixham Fish Market. Both of these invoices had been appealed. The Committee also discussed the current position of the Fish Toll income, and were informed that it was currently on target when compared with 2009, however was still below the forecast for 2010.

The Committee noted that the Harbour Master had used his delegated powers to reduce charges to a number of tugs that had been moored in Torbay. This reduction encouraged them to enter Torbay and remain for a longer period of time.

The Committee noted Report 236/2010.

273. 2010/11 Performance – Marine Services.

The Committee noted Report 237/2010 on the current performance indicators for Marine Services.

274. Tor Bay Harbour Pilotage Directions.

The Committee discussed Report 238/2010 on the proposed amendments to the Tor Bay Pilotage Directions. The pilotage directions had last been updated in 2003, and required amendment to ensure ongoing compliance with the Port Marine Safety Code. The primary amendment would see those vessels requiring pilotage increased in length from 36 metres to 80 metres. The current authorised Torbay Pilot had been involved in the discussions and was not concerned regarding any potential loss of earnings due to this amendment.

The Committee agreed that:

- (i) the draft Tor Bay Pilotage Directions, as shown in Appendix 1 to Report 238/2010 be approved, subject to statutory consultation;

- (ii) the Executive Head of Tor Bay Harbour Authority be asked to consult with interested parties prior to the implementation of the Tor Bay Harbour Pilotage Directions;
- (iii) the Executive Head of Tor Bay Harbour Authority seek further approval from the Committee should the consultation exercise results show significant objections or suggested amendments; and
- (iv) on implementation of the Tor Bay Harbour Pilotage Directions, the previous Pilotage Direction, shown in Appendix 2 to Report 238/2010, be revoked.

275. Tor Bay Harbour – Environmental Policy Statement.

The Committee considered the revised Environmental Policy Statement for the Tor Bay Harbour Authority.

The Committee endorsed the revised Environmental Policy Statement subject to officers pursuing the development of an Environmental Management Plan for Tor Bay Harbour.

276. Harbour Asset Review Working Party.

The Committee noted Report 241/2010 from the Harbour Assets Review Group.

The Committee also received formal notification from the Executive Head for the Tor Bay Harbour Authority that Marine Services had been renamed as the Tor Bay Harbour Authority.

Chairman
