

Minutes of the Harbour Committee

12th October 2005

-: Present :-

Councillors Browne, Carter, Charlwood, Faulkner (Mrs J.), Hodge, Hurst, Hytche, Jennings and Turnbull

(Also in attendance Councillor Davis)

674. Election of Chairman. Councillor Jennings was elected Chairman of the Committee for the remainder of the 2005/2006 Municipal Year.

675. Committee Membership. It was reported that, in accordance with the wishes of the Conservative Group, the membership of the Committee had been amended for this meeting by including Councillor Hytche instead of Councillor McPhail.

676. Appointment of Vice-Chairman.

Resolved: that Councillor Browne be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Committee for the remainder of the 2005/2006 Municipal Year.

677. Terms of Reference for Harbour Committee. The Committee noted its terms of reference as set out in Report 410/2005.

678. Port Marine Safety Code. The Committee received the independent Port Marine Safety Code Compliance Audit Report for Tor Bay Harbour. It was noted that the independent assessor considered that Tor Bay Harbour met the required safety standards under the Port Marine Safety Code and that the assessor would be presenting future reports direct to the Committee.

679. Fish Toll Income. Members noted the fish toll income for the period April to September 2005 compared to the figures for 2004/2005 (as set out in Report 457/2005). The Report highlighted that there had been a slight increase in income in 2005 since last year.

680. Brixham Regeneration Project Report. Members received an update on the progress made in respect of the Brixham Regeneration

Project (as set out in Report 456/2005). It was noted that the project included proposals for major investment in a new Brixham Fish Market which would impact on Brixham Harbour.

681. Marine Services Out-turn 2004/2005. The Committee considered Report 458/2005 on Marine Services expenditure and income for 2004/2005. The Director of Marine Services reported that despite the forecasted deficit both budgets had produced an outturn surplus.

Resolved: that the financial performance of the Harbour undertaking for 2004/2005 be endorsed.

682. Marine Services Budget Monitoring 2004/2005. The Committee considered Report 459/2005 that set out the projected income and expenditure for 2005/2006 for Marine Services as compared to approved budgets. The Director of Marine Services advised Members that the Report highlighted a projected deficit increase for Torquay and Paignton Harbours and a projected surplus for Brixham Harbour. On the basis of the projected outturn for 2005/2006 and the likely budget for 2006/2007 Members considered proposing an increase for the 2006/2007 harbour charges.

Resolved: (i) that the amended outturn positions of the two harbour accounts and the resulting change in reserve movements be noted; and

(ii) that the Director of Marine Services examine the possibility of increasing harbour charges by between 3% and 5% for 2006/07 and consult with the Harbour Liaison Forums and User Groups. A report on the outcome of the consultation



to be reported to the next meeting of this Committee.

683. Frequency of Harbour Committee Meetings.

Resolved: that meetings of the Harbour Committee be held on a quarterly basis following meetings of the Harbour Liaison Forums. For the remainder of the 2005/2006 Municipal Year the Committee will meet on 5th December 2005 and 21st March 2006 at 4.30 p.m.

(Note: Prior to consideration of the items in Minutes 684, 685 and 686 the press and public were formally excluded from the meeting on the grounds that the items involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3, 5, 7 and 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.)

684. Torquay Harbour – Town Dock. Members received a presentation on the proposals for a town dock at Torquay Harbour and the details of negotiations with Marina Developments Limited (MDL).

Resolved: (i) that the Committee is of the view that the proposed offer by MDL for a town dock at Torquay Harbour is not acceptable in its present format; and

(ii) that the Director of Marine Services be requested to continue negotiations with MDL and report the outcome to the next meeting of this Committee on 5th December 2005.

685. Mussel Farm off Fishcombe Cove, Brixham. Members considered Report 455/2005 in respect of a renewal for a licence agreement for a mussel farm located in Tor Bay off Fishcombe Cove, Brixham.

Resolved: that the Director of Marine Services and the Estates Manager be

requested to exercise their delegated powers to enter into a new agreement in relation to the operation of a mussel farm off Fishcombe Cove, in Tor Bay, on terms to be agreed, and that if agreement cannot be reached for any reason the matter to be referred back to this Committee.

686. Land at Breakwater Hard Brixham Sea Rangers. The Committee received Report 458/2005 setting out an application received from Brixham Sea Rangers for a grant to off-set rent in respect of premises at Breakwater Hard, Brixham.

Resolved: (i) that the Director of Finance, in consultation with Director of Marine Services, be requested to exercise his delegated powers to authorise a lease with Brixham Sea Rangers for a period of 21 years for premises at Breakwater Hard, Brixham;

(ii) that the Harbour Committee is of the view that parking rights should not be included within the proposed lease and the Director of Finance, in consultation with Director of Marine Services, consider the Committee's view when authorising the proposed lease;

(iii) that the Director of Finance be requested to approve a grant of £1650 per annum to Brixham Sea Rangers to off-set the lease for a period of 21 years and that future consideration be given to grants covering additional rents or sums (subject to the submission of an appropriate application form), in line with the review pattern of the proposed lease; and

(iv) that the Director of Marine Services, in conjunction with the Director of Finance, be requested to identify funding for the grant from the Council's general fund.

Chairman
