



Hayle Harbour Act 1989

Hayle Harbour Advisory Committee

Wednesday, 8 July 2015, 2PM
Passmore Edwards Institute, Hayle
MINUTES

Minutes of the Hayle Harbour Advisory Committee Meeting held at the Passmore Edwards Institute on Wednesday, 8 July 2015.

PRESENT

Members Cllr John Bennett (Chairman), Julius Betterman (Wave Hub), David Flumm (RSPB), Cllr Richard Glanville (St Ives TC), Gregg Kerry (EA Flood Risks Adviser), Lech Kwiatowski (HFA/HCBO), Robb Lello (HHUA), Bob Mims (Hayle Chamber of Commerce), John Munday (IFCA), Vaughan Robbins (Natural England).

The meeting commenced at 2pm.

15-019 WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from:

Cllr Graham Coad (HTC), Mike Collier MCA-retired), Cllr John Coombe (Cornwall Council), Rob Jewell (Hayle Chamber of Commerce), Peter Ghey (HFA), Andrew Houghton (EA), Cllr John Pollard (CC), Anne-Marie Rance (SoS).

15-020 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS – FOR INFORMATION ONLY

The chairman welcomed Mr John Munday as the representative of IFCA, replacing Cllr Pete Mitchell. Mr Munday had previously served on the HHAC over 20 years ago.

The Harbour Authority is now operating as Hayle Harbour Authority Operations Ltd. There are two directors: Simon Wright and Simon Clarke.

The Deputy HM, Ken Routledge has resigned to pursue other opportunities. Lauren Branbury, previously at Newlyn harbour, has been appointed.

15-021 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 8 APRIL 2015 AND 14 JANUARY 2015 AND MATTERS ARISING

Both sets of minutes were approved.

Matters Arising: None.

15-022 HAYLE HARBOUR AUTHORITY LTD. - HARBOUR MASTER'S REPORT

The Harbour Master presented his report. Additional notes & comments:

- The channel is the biggest risk to harbour operations and is badly silted. It has got progressively worse in the last 6 months and is about the worst it has ever been. It is urgent to take action.
- There is an issue for boat users parking in the ASDA car park now that 3-hour parking has been implemented. Harbour users can go to the service desk to seek a dispensation. The HM will remove bollards to allow parking on the quay adjacent to ASDA for permit holders.
- Rats have been seen on East Quay. The HM will set bait.
- Youths have thrown stones through the grill above the penstock gates. These will have to be removed
- Sluicing:
 - A quote for automation has just been received and it is higher than expected at £40k. It has been referred to the HHAOL board. This covers the actuators and a portable power pack. It will take 6-8 weeks from order. HM is investigating if FLAG funding is available.
 - A quote from Western Electric for mains power is being obtained.
 - Since sluicing is only permitted from April to August, this year's window will be missed.
 - HFA asked how very restricted sluicing regime could clear the channel. Previously, when sluicing was stopped for a lengthy period it took two years to clear the channel. HM has a budget for 5 days of mechanical sand removal but this is not enough and should be done in conjunction with sluicing. Probably 3 months of mechanical clearing is needed. Padstow dredger costs £500/day. Not just bar and channel, but also the harbour is silted. The west side of Cockle Bank is particularly bad.
 - NE stated that the restrictions are likely to be incremental. Once a base line study has been completed, and if it reveals no problems, restrictions can be progressively relaxed.
 - Wave Hub noted that the sluicing equipment could be at risk due to the aggressive marine environment if there is a substantial period before regular use commences.
 - The HM would like to sluice over the winter period if a protocol could be agreed.
 - RSPB advised that the issue was the availability of mud flats for wading birds. It noted that, with both sluice gates and penstock open, the pool fills faster and restricts the time for waders to feed. Also the level rises higher sometimes inundating the footpath on the south side and placing the properties at a higher risk of flooding. Waders feed day and night.
- Sluicing Protocol
 - It was questioned whether fishermen and harbour users had been involved in the discussions on the sluicing protocol. It was noted that

when sluicing was in operation up to 1980, it was normal to sluice on all tides, including neap tides.

- HHUA commented that it was urgent for the harbour to be cleared of sand for commercial and safety reasons (confirmed by Wave Hub). All stakeholders should be involved in negotiating/renegotiating the protocol to ensure a fair balance.
- RSPB noted that sluicing from Carnsew without additional sand removal could leave sand deposits in the channel allowing them to be carried up into Lelant Water. Testing of the sluices would show whether this was a problem.
- Wave Hub noted that safety and economic conditions had changed since discussions were first had on the sluicing. In particular, businesses wishing to rent the Marine Renewables Business Park units would require the harbour to be in a better condition than it currently is. CDC thus has a vested interest.

The chairman was tasked with convening a group to consider the sluicing protocol in the light of the current situation. This would comprise:

- Harbour Master
- Natural England
- Environment Agency
- RSPB
- Wave Hub
- Cornwall Council – Jeremy Content
- HHAC
- Corinthian Land Ltd has agreed to provide matching funds for FLAG grant for the pontoons. There is an issue about cash flow to be resolved.
- There has been some criminal damage to vessels in the harbour. The HM is getting quotes for additional CCTV.
- There have been divers with spear guns in the estuary. Police have interviewed the people involved.
- The permit for the pedestrian bridge across Penpol Creek has been requested. The HHUA will oppose it.
- The HM proposed creating a Harbour Fun Day next year in conjunction with the Hayle in Bloom Celebration Day to raise money for the harbour and other local organisations.

15-023 POLICE REPORT

No police were present. The HM mentioned that young people had been throwing stones onto vessels. The HM is reporting issues to the police.

15-024 HAYLE HARBOUR OWNERSHIP UPDATE

ING has now completed the sale of all of its Hayle assets to Corinthian Land Ltd. represented by Simon Wright and David Tugwell. Simon Clarke is also involved. One of

the shareholders, Steve Billings, visited the harbour recently (unannounced) and met with the HM.

15-025 HAYLE FISHERMEN'S ASSOCIATION/HAYLE COMMERCIAL BOAT OWNERS

Lech Kwiatowski reiterated the channel issue and asked for urgent action.

15-026 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. John Munday asked if anglers could be represented on the HHAC through the CFSA. The chair advised that they should write requesting a seat and it would be considered at a future meeting.
2. He also reported an unacceptable amount of dog mess throughout the harbour – including mess in dog bags. No immediate solution was expressed to this long-term problem.
3. Information on the situation regarding E. Coli in the channel was sought. The HM advised that SWW had remedied a pump fault and now had standby equipment. It was noted, however, that we would have been unaware of the problem if the HM had not been undergoing testing for the mussel programme.
4. It was asked if low-cost channel surveying equipment could be used and the HM advised that he could borrow the Padstow equipment.

15-027 Date of next meeting

14 October 2015

Subsequent meetings (2nd Wednesday, January, April, July & October):

13 January 2016 (AGM), 13 April 2016, 13 July 2016, 12 October 2016.

Attachments:

1. None

Minutes: jb