

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE RIVER YEALM HARBOUR  
AUTHORITY HELD IN THE HARBOUR OFFICE ON OCTOBER 18TH 2012**

Members

* Mr D Drought – Chairman	@ Mr M Mears	* Mr P Gough
* Mr R Carter	* Mr A Matthews	* Mr D Southwood
* Mr A A Tubb	* Mr J A Leonard	* Mrs S Cooper
@ Mr P Fellows	* Mr M J Oates	

\* Mr R Dearn – Harbour Master \* Mrs H Phillips

• Denotes attendance @ Denotes apology for absence

*Bathing water status – Ambrose McDonough began the meeting with a talk on the implications of adopting bathing water status in the river. The environment agency has been doing water sampling in the river and has agreed to let Ambrose see their findings. The first decision should somebody decide to go ahead with the procedure would be to decide where the designated area was to be. It was agreed that the Creek would be very unlikely to pass the new stringent tests. However it was felt that if Cellars Bay was to receive approval this might have a positive effect in the river with the increased testing of the water and treatments. Careful consideration would be necessary because if the status is achieved and the area fails the tests this would result in adverse publicity. It was mentioned that the controlling body is normally the landowner who controls access to the beach .Further thoughts were necessary before a decision could be made.*

**58/12 MINUTES**

The minutes of the last meeting were amended to read that the Commodore of the Yacht Club is away on holiday he has not resigned.

**59/12 MATTERS ARISING**

1. Greenhouse – a letter has been received from the owner of the property Mr Beveridge confirming that his jetty has been standing for 10 years and that it did have planning permission when it was built in February 2003. He has been in contact with The Crown Agents to negotiate a rental on this. It was agreed that a letter should be sent from the Harbour Master saying that nothing further is required. The HM has visited the jetty and can confirm it is as per the plans and has not been extended.

**60/12 CORRESPONDENCES**

1. Only above letter.

**61/12 FINANCIAL REPORTS**

**Profit and Loss report**

The period column on the account makes more sense now that it has been amended to show the months turnover.

The visitor fees for the month were £7071 for around 540 boat nights.

**Balance sheet**

1. The high debtors figure includes the invoices that have just been sent for Bridgend Storage of around £4000 leaving a balance of £1500.
2. Barclays 10 day notice account – 30k was transferred to the current account to pay for the second instalment for the new Yealm steps pontoon.

### **Cash flow**

1. The income is down due to a poor season and much reduced boat nights but not as bad as it could have been.
2. The final bank balance for the year is now showing as £69,663 as opposed to the budgeted figure of £144,894. This has been reduced by the payments to Docking Solutions for the new pontoon and the higher than expected Corporation Tax bill. The contingency fund of £8000 for the second boat and legal expenses has now been removed, as it is not expected to be needed.

### **62/12 HARBOUR MASTER'S REPORT**

1. Visitor numbers – Boat night numbers are 3626 compared to 4452 last year down 18.5%
2. Thefts - A number of outboards have been reported stolen from the river. Rob Wilson's outboard and tank, Peter Stitson and Ian Hemlik's off Poppy Cottage quay and Fred Howarth's outboard and tank. Reports of a gang of Eastern Europeans working their way around the country may be responsible.
3. New Spit Buoy – is now in place. The old one had its top mark knocked off by a visiting yacht and on closer inspection there were also a number of gouges in the buoy itself necessitating a total replacement.
4. Docking Solutions – 15<sup>th</sup> October David, Rodney, John and Robert visited the new pontoons to inspect it. It is almost ready to galvanise the top framework and paint the floats. The deposit of £10,725 + VAT and the 2<sup>nd</sup> payment after approval of the plans of £28,600 + VAT have now been paid. The next instalment of £25025 + VAT on completion we anticipate paying in November. The final balance of £7,150 + VAT will be paid in the New Year after installation. The very high tides experienced in recent days have revealed a problem that we had not considered. The bridge goes uphill to the pontoon and graunches on the rear of the tray and last plank of the pontoon, lifting the roller. Docking Solutions will make some minor design alterations to accommodate this at a small extra charge.
5. Lift out at Bridgend Quay – went ahead on the 15<sup>th</sup> October as planned. One boat overlooked that he had booked as a result of poor health but has agreed to pay for the space anyway.
6. Rates Meeting – Vickery Holman – Ashleigh Phillips attended a meeting with Dermot, Rodney and Robert to discuss the new ratings assessment. He seemed to have a good understanding of our situation and is going to submit the forms on our behalf, putting our case to the Valuation Office. He feels that the increased cost will not be as bad as we first anticipated, but only time will tell. He quoted a two tier charging structure for his time. Firstly an hourly rate for the initial negotiations and if we challenge this 15% of savings charge.

### **63/12 PARISH COUNCIL LIAISON**

Wembury – a significant number of kayaks have been stolen from the canoe racks on the beach at Wembury.

Brixton – Nothing to report.

Newton & Noss – South West Water have updated the parish on progress. Significant amounts of the drains have been cleaned to enable a camera to pass through them. On the Newton side these are being replaced by plastic pipes. The same procedure will take place on the Noss side, and again will be replaced if necessary.

Yealmpton – Nothing to report.

**64/12 CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS**

Nothing to add.

**65/12 A.O.B.**

Nothing

**66/12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next monthly meeting will be held on **Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> November** in the Harbour Office, Newton Ferrers at 6.00 p.m.

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**Chairman**