

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE RIVER YEALM HARBOUR
AUTHORITY HELD IN THE HARBOUR OFFICE ON May 17th 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*

Dermod Drought began the meeting by welcoming David Southwood as the new RYA/ Yacht Club representative. Rosemary Watts has now left and Dermod Drought will thank her for her contribution and help over the years and will write her a letter to this effect.

30/12 MINUTES

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

31/12 MATTERS ARISING

- 1.The Chairman passed over to Rodney Carter to cover points raised at the open forum of the annual meeting. There was only Andrew Beveridge’s concerning trying to reduce waiting times by firstly removing International paints from the river and secondly increasing prices to a commercial rate. A member pointed out that it has always been the policy of the authority to work on a first come first served basis when allocating moorings to individual’s not financial considerations. As was pointed out at the meeting we have no desire to remove International Paints from the river and will not be doing so.
2. Yealm Steps Quay – having asked Mark Wilson’s opinion on the repair work necessary he felt that the job may not be a simple one but until he starts it he will not know. He suggested that for Health and Safety reasons we should clad the area with netting to stop risk of further stones falling. Suzie Cooper agreed to look into ownership issues before we proceed with any repairs. Andrew Matthews proposed that we ask Mark Wilson to clad the stonework with a view to the work being carried out in the autumn after confirmation from SHDC. This was seconded by Tony Tubb and unanimously agreed.
- 3.Wembury steps – a meeting was held with Mike Jenkins, Helen Clayton, Dermod Drought, Rodney Carter, Tommy Taylor and Robert Dearn to discuss the ongoing problem of the steps falling into disrepair. It was finally agreed that Devon County Council would arrange for their contractors to do a temporary repair on the steps with a view to completely replacing them in the autumn. It was also discussed that ownership was still an issue and that interested parties should all contribute to their replacement. Wembury Parish have a fund available for joint parish ventures and they feel that the steps would be a worthy cause. All parties present agreed that they would consider this. The temporary repairs were carried out the next morning by Devon County Council contractors.
4. Paddle boarding – The owner of Reactive Sports came into the office to discuss any concerns over them using the river. He said that he is very careful to explain about the importance of keeping to the side of the river out of the way of the boats. A club runs from here on occasion and although he lets out a few boards the individuals own the

majority. He will endeavour to ensure that the car park outside of the Ship is kept clear as much as possible but pointed out that it is very difficult at high tide with access being restricted but that they are only there for a short period of time. It was agreed by the committee that at the moment we would not charge a launching fee.

32/12 CORRESPONDENCES

1. Fireworks – the Regatta Fireworks have written requesting a contribution to the annual display. Andrew Matthews proposed that we make our normal contribution of £50 this was seconded by Suzie Cooper and agreed. Rodney Carter and Tony Tubb abstained.

33/12 FINANCIAL REPORTS

Profit and Loss report

Figures as to be expected.

Balance sheet

1. The adjustments from Franklins appear to have moved the cost of the new pontoons into the main pontoon section. We need to clarify at the next meeting why there is a debit figure in the new pontoon section of £2901.
2. Current Assets – the bank accounts now show their correct names with Alliance and Leicester being changed to Santander and the Standard Life accounts being shown as Barclays. An amount of £517 interest was paid into the new Barclays account on closure of the Standard Life one.

Cash flow

1. The visitor figures for May are currently down on expected so to give a more realistic figure we have reduced the months projected income to £9,000, which includes the interest from the old Standard Life account.

34/12 HARBOUR MASTER'S REPORT

1. Yealm Steps Pontoon now that the new visitor pontoon is in place it was agreed that the Yealm Steps pontoon needs to be considered. To recap we had a condition survey from Docking Solutions who have said that it needs replacing, the joints are failing and they suspect that water is leaking into the floats on one side. They gave us an estimated replacement figure of £67,000, for an improved version of what we already have. The Harbour Master suggested that a sub committee be set up to consider various constructions with a view to instructing somebody to make it so that it can be fitted in the Winter period. It was felt that at least three quotations be obtained and various suggestions were made as to who could be approached. The sub committee was established and is made up of: Martyn Oates, Rodney Carter, John Leonard, David Southwood and the Harbour Master.
2. Boat nights – Currently the boat nights are 378, down 173 on last year due mainly to the poor weather.
3. Trinity House Audit - this took place on 24th April. We continue to fail to meet their targets due to third parties. The utility companies are supposed to maintain beacons that mark cable crossings but they don't despite repeated requests from us. This is an ongoing problem and has existed as far back as two Harbour Masters ago.
4. Kayaks – two kayaks have gone missing assumed stolen. One off the Ashwell's quay belonging to Neil Harris, which was padlocked and one off Rob Wilson's outhaul belonging to Peter Phipps.

35/12 PARISH COUNCIL LIAISON

Wembury – nothing to report.

Brixton – nothing to report.

Newton & Noss – nothing to report

Yealmpton – nothing to report.

36/12 CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Nothing to add.

37/12 A.O.B.

Concerns were raised over the high levels of raw sewerage being allowed to flow into the river. This has been going on for a significant length with correspondence going back to the beginning of 2009 but nothing seems to be being resolved. It was suggested that we need to approach either the local MP or the press to try to get someone to take notice and take action. Martyn Oates pointed out that SWW do not have a discharge right and therefore allowing this to continue is illegal and they should be stopped. It was agreed that a sub committee be set up to look into this of Dermod Drought, Suzie Cooper and Martyn Oates and they will report back at the next meeting.

38/12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next monthly meeting will be held on **Thursday 21st June** in the Harbour Office, Newton Ferrers at 6.00 p.m.

Chairman