

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE RIVER YEALM HARBOUR
AUTHORITY HELD IN THE HARBOUR OFFICE ON May 19th 2011**

Members

- | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| * Mr R Carter – Chairman | * Mr M Mears | * Mr P Gough |
| * Mr D Drought | * Mrs R Watts | * Mr A Matthews |
| * Mr A A Tubb | * Mr J A Leonard | * Mrs S Cooper |
| * Mr P Fellows | * Mr M J Oates | |
- * Mr R F Page - Harbour Master * Mr R Dearn – Harbour Master * Mrs H Phillips
* *Denotes attendance @ Denotes apology for absence*

41/11 MINUTES

It was suggested that in future the annual meeting minutes should be completely separate from the monthly meeting minutes and are treated as two separate meetings. This was agreed by the committee and will start from this year.

42/11 MATTERS ARISING

Covered in meeting.

43/11 CORRESPONDENCE

1. Letter from Gordon Musselwhite to the Chairman with regard the reallocation of his mooring. The mooring had been reallocated but the new owner was being a little tardy in approaching him. The Chairman has contacted him and this has now been sorted.

44/11 FINANCIAL REPORTS

1. We have been having problems with Santander bank and their inaccuracies when processing cheques resulting in time being wasted trying to reconcile the bank statement.
2. We are still awaiting confirmation from Santander that the 60-day notice account is now closed.
3. The management accounts are continuing to look healthy and there is nothing of note to tell the committee. The cash flow bottom line figure is up on last month for a number of reasons: the monthly income was up on predicted by about £1500, the corporation tax is now showing the actual figure instead of an estimate and we are awaiting a number of invoices from Mark Wilson in respect of mooring maintenance work so the repair and maintenance costs are considerably down for the time being.

45/11 HARBOUR MASTER'S REPORT

1. The season has got off to a good start helped by fine weather over the bank holiday and Royal Wedding weekends.

2. Much mooring work has been completed and the fact that a largish number of mooring blocks have been made has broken the logjam and enabled quite a few more moorings to be allocated:

Mooring allocation:	2009	2010	2011 so far
A	7	7	10
B	4	3	6
C	7	3	4
D	9	5	7

3. In addition speed buoys have been reinstated at the entrance, public moorings have been checked and new yellow buoys ordered for the three visitor moorings, which will be clearly marked. New signs have been ordered to replace the existing ones on Yealm steps pontoon.

4. Crime – illegal netting persists in the river, both Rodney Bastard and the harbour continue to harass the Environment agency and the fisheries people to do something about it.

- Two small outboards have been stolen from Kilpatrick steps on two separate occasions, the police have been informed.

- We suffered some vandalism on Sunday 8TH May around the shower facilities with door hinges being pulled. The police were again notified, and repairs done.

5. A meeting was held with Gavin Black of Natural England and Sarah Clark of Devon and Severn IFCA on Monday for a general catch up on the river. There was some positive feedback on the Eelgrass and the fact that it is thriving.

6. We have been notified that someone has been laying crab tiles just off Kiln Quay; this is not permitted under our lease and could be hazardous to river users. We are trying to establish whose they are before removal ourselves. It was suggested that we amend the rulebook to actually state that crab tiles are not permitted. Andrew Matthews proposed that the amendment wait until the end of the year when other amendments were being done, this was seconded by Dermot Drought and unanimously agreed.

7. Andrew Matthews was approached by a mooring holder over an issue the harbour master thought had been resolved. The issue has been discussed with the aggrieved party and some plans agreed to further resolve the problem should it reoccur.

8. Michael Bapty of Knight Frank has indicated that the Crown Estates are prepared to fund the hard stand for boats at Bridgend, the Environment Agency will need to agree to this before we proceed.

9. Nothing further appears to have been done in respect of Wembury Steps. Suzie Cooper is to chase the relevant individuals.

46/11 PARISH COUNCIL LIAISON

Wembury – Sid Lawrence our local policeman is leaving and is to be replaced by A Potter.

Brixton – Nothing to report.

Newton & Noss – Nothing to report..

Yealmpton – Nothing to report.

47/11 POLICY ISSUES

1. The suggested new policy wording has been circulated. A question was raised as to how long an individual can stay on the step aside list. It was agreed that no set period remained appropriate, as there are not a significant number and they are easily managed, and this will encourage people to relinquish unused moorings. Peter Fellows proposed that we accept the new changes and this was seconded by John Leonard and unanimously agreed.

48/11 CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

The question of insurance on the raft that is used for the Regatta was raised. It is insured by the Harbour authority whilst moored in the river but once removed for alternative use we do not cover it. Tony Tubb will check the position and report back at the next meeting.

49/11 OPEN FORUM – REVIEW OF COMMENTS MADE AT ANNUAL MEETING

1. A mooring holder voiced concerns over the moorings and future maintenance. To be monitored.
2. The Boat Watch representative asked if the Harbour Authority would contribute towards the cost of the insurance. A formal approach is awaited.

50/11 ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

1. It has been suggested that using rubber tyres for mooring blocks could result in significant future expenditure for the harbour authority to dispose of properly once condemned. Andrew Matthews proposed that all new blocks being laid are of the shuttered variety to eliminate this problem in the future. This was seconded by Tony Tubb and unanimously agreed.
2. Concerns have been voiced about the lack of communication between the Environment agency and South West Water about various issues concerning pollution in the river. Martyn Oates was requested to draft a letter highlighting the main points of concern to try and get some feedback.

51/11 A.O.B.

1. The ongoing question of kayaks and canoes on the river was raised. It was agreed that staffing levels are such that enforcement of a charge on every canoe launching is not feasible, and that canoes are the only way some individuals can get on the water. It was decided that it needs to be considered whether a charge needs to be made and whether by adjusting the various harbour signs to say an annual charge is payable is the way forward. It was agreed that this should be discussed again at the October meeting.

52/11 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on **Thursday 16TH June** in the Harbour Office at 6.00 p.m.

Chairman