

# BRIGHTLINGSEA HARBOUR COMMISSIONERS

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE LEISURE AND COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP HELD ON 16 October 2018

Present:

A Davies  
J Thomas  
C Archer  
B Anderson  
M Morris  
S Redfearn  
A Nicholson  
M Davies  
N Cornes  
B Percival  
T Lineham  
S May  
N Sheales  
P Sheales  
B Maltby  
A Lange  
D Gentry  
B Newman  
N Edmunds  
J Edmunds  
C Willett  
P Willett  
A Gibbons  
J Gibbons  
G Chasney  
A Goggin  
N Roberts  
D Charlton  
C Charlton  
J Gibbon  
A Conroy  
A Espin  
J Robinson  
B Clegg  
C Cooke  
J Brennan  
J Wiggins  
M Bees  
G Steady  
G Williams  
S Collis  
K King  
M King  
D Brindle

RYA East  
Harbour Master

Chairman

DRAFT

C Charlton  
P Youll  
C Walker  
J Firth  
S Tennett  
R Hodgkinson  
D Hodgkinson  
R Vincent  
K Foster  
K Binghambest  
C Watkins  
S Foster-Pilkington  
J Sadler  
D Hykel  
J Thurnlow  
P Scott  
B Williams  
R Tabor  
K Zlor  
M Runachs  
C Runachs  
In attendance:  
W Coulet  
D Nicholson  
D Boughton  
A Scott  
F Brown  
P Hatswell  
J Addison  
R Read

Exo Environmental  
Commissioners  
Deputy Harbour Master  
Commissioners  
Commissioners  
Commissioners  
Commissioners  
Natural England

Coastal footpaths

**174** Introduction & Apologies for absence

The Chairman welcomed members to the group, which includes a number of new members ensuring that all stakeholders are represented. Apologies were received from:

M Doe  
P Coupland

**175** Minutes of the Meeting of 14 March 2018.

Minutes were approved as a true record of the meeting.  
R Vincent D Boughton

**176** Matters Arising from the Minutes

HM had met with P Coupland to discuss Fieldgate dock siltation, the depositing of Oyster shell on the area has ceased. Baseline data had been collected this will be referred to later.

HM stated Speed limit leaflet would be updated by next meeting, to incorporate speed marker buoys and some Wivenhoe amendments.

**177** USAR

William Coulet briefed those in attendance about depths within the creek and the entrance, he then explained how baseline data had been collected

following a Drone survey in April 18, and this would be done annually to inform the harbour.

The USAR dredging would not occur over the Winter as Piling in the South Channel was being conducted instead.

**178** Harbour News

**Shipping** - 24 Ships since 1/4/18

**Ferry Chartering** - update on season, plan for new season with price increase.

**Advertising** - Wider reach to 100,000, FB +1000 likes on both pages, will work on Instagram and YouTube.

**New Website** - Now live includes live tidal data

**Marina** - Dredging Programme, A/B Pontoon complete D next, New Lighting up, New walkways, once development complete we will improve Wi-Fi. The code has now changed.

**Pontoons** - Maintenance Dredging Programme will occur during winter, Cindery to be Re-piled Dec 3rd 2018, A Pontoon modification removing rubbish and barriers, Town Jetty refurbishments and new engineering solution, Jet Washed all Pontoons, All steel piles now have hanging anodes.

**Pricing** - Harbour dues clear schedule, Still no hard fees. Someone still has to maintain.

**179** Other stakeholder News

Included in PWC Pontoon

**180** Matters raised by members

**M Davies** was concerned that one of the hanging anodes was observed above the water at low water in the Marina. HM said he would look into it.

**N Cornes** was concerned that the ladders in the marina were insufficient to recover oneself from the water because there was nothing above the pontoon to grab hold of. HM confirmed these would be replaced during the maintenance period with something suitable and sufficient.

An unidentified member asked if it would be possible to hold the next meeting at 1900hrs, the HM said he would look into it.

**181** Personal Water Craft (PWC)

Andrew Scott - provided a historical review of PWC policy at Brightlingsea Harbour

- See PowerPoint.

- The logic for the Welcome approach by BHC was explained

Steve Collis (Colchester BC) explained the Colchester river boundaries and the prosecutions that had been made.

Jim Adison summarised the process to place the PWC pontoon.

- MMO - statutory requirement.

- Local community views - stakeholder meeting / AGM.

- Tendering - planning.

The BHC meeting in November Review MMO and consider.

Concerns from meeting:-

**Noise** - concern that PWC would increase noise in harbour and estuary.

- Effect marina residents

**System for reporting incidents** - The public need a system for reporting incidents -

- photos of jet skis -

- identification -

- planning
- dating photos -
- videos
- Facebook reporting
- Concern that prosecutions do not control disturbance.
- The safety issues was reduced by insisting on RYA training, identification numbering etc.
- Speed limits - PWC go fast.

**River Colne** - upstream congestion - Wivenhoe, Alresford, Rowhedge other users - canoes gigs swimmers.

**Launching places for jet skis** - Limited

- Visitors from Clacton and Blackwater take little time to arrive.

**Location of PWC pontoon** - link to marina -

- Used by Ribs as well as PWC - 24 berths
- Concern about noise effecting marina flat owners and yachts.
- Wave effects on exposed pontoon.
- Tide and silt build up.
- Cost was £30K but grant help.
- Will the pontoon turn a profit for BHC?
- Why not locate the pontoon at St Osyth?

**Criteria and time scale for deciding pontoon does not work**

- What monitoring system by BHC
- What criteria for saying the PWC pontoon does not work
- What time scale for decisions
- What are the tests for success?
- Where is the demand?

**No proven need for PWC pontoon**

- A PWC club has not yet developed.
- No local interest.
- The pontoon mooring reduces need for trailers and launching

**Why encourage PWC users in Brightlingsea?**

- People understood the welcoming approach, but did not see the need to encourage PWC to visit Brightlingsea.

**Previous water skiing experience**

- Setting up a water ski club

**Environmental / Birds**

- Wildlife - SSI RAMSAR - Brightlingsea Creek and Rowhedge
- Noise disturbs birds
- Statutory obligation
- How will BHC balance all the user needs.

**BHC Minutes contain no reference to PWC minutes**

- The public minutes are limited and do not provide public with feedback on the issues.

**182** Meeting closed 20.45

**183** Date of next Meeting  
16 Oct 2018