

Brightlingsea Harbour Commissioners

Public Meeting 1830hrs UCSC 18 May 2021

Chairman J Addison
Harbour Master (HM) J Thomas
2 x Commissioners
12 x Stakeholders

Financial Report

The Vice Chairman made a financial statement relating to Financial year 2019- 2020, the Harbour had made a net surplus of £19220. The full set of audited accounts are available on the Harbour Website.

USAR (Using sediment as a resource)

William Coulet gave an update on the USAR dredging project 2016-2020 and the successful international award-winning work that had occurred on the saltmarsh.

There was a presentation regarding the bathymetry in the Harbour and at Fieldgate dock, it was clear that very little change had occurred in the last 6 months. The Harbour would continue to monitor every 6 months or 12 months at a minimum.

Harbour Development /Plans

Stakeholders

The HM restated the qualification of a harbour stakeholder, which is simply that they believe they are.

Public meetings

The HM stated that Commissioners had decided there would be at least two per year chaired by the Harbour. . The original stakeholder groups would still exist however it would be for them to arrange meetings as required. The HM would be happy to assist, attend and provide a meeting place if required. Commercial Group. (As required not Harbour led)

Leisure and Community Group. (As required not Harbour led)

The Harbour Master would be available at the office for appointments if the need arose.

A discussion took place, where some were concerned that these meetings may not take place if the Harbour didn't set them up. Some thought that because the Harbour set them up, they were not needed.

There was a suggestion that a Commissioner is appointed to lead these meetings so that they may continue, The Chairman stated that the new schedule would be reviewed in two years.

CAPITAL SPENDING

Equipment- Plan until 2050 **£1,362,819.50**

Replace pilot workboat.

Refurbish offices.

Wreck house improvements.

CCTV.

Engine Replacements.

Pontoon Repairs.

Dredger / Marina.

Fuel Barge Regular servicing plus refurb.

Website/IT.

We must transfer at least £63000 to reserves annually.

ACTIVITIES

Leisure Moorings	Still have waiting lists.
Marina	Showers/Toilets, Superfast Wi-Fi, Dredged.
Taxi	Popular still, cash price £1.50 frozen and Children still free.
Visitors	Up receipts 2% on last year inflation increase only.
Ferry	No increase in price forecast, Charter Ferry successful and will develop through this year.
Wharf and commercial activity	Ships 42 from 46, Slight reduction on Wharf ,10% overall increase more windfarm traffic.
Colne Navigation	Trinity House: "These are some of the best in the UK and the best we've ever seen them here."
Schools Engagement	Schools week will happen with a slightly subdued programme.
Charitable Causes	RNLI, Brightlingsea in Bloom, 1 st Responders, Regatta, Regatta Fireworks, CYC Fireworks, Christmas trees, Little Terns habitat work, St Helena's hospice, Shipwrecked mariner's society, Porridge and pens.

Maintenance Dredging

Main Channel

- The deepest part is approx. 10m west of leading line with depths above 1m all way down, we will correct this over the year.
- The Town pontoon to Oliver's Wharf and Fuel Barge, maintaining a depth of 0.75m below CD, we continued to achieve and will run down again this year.
- Area of the Fuel Barge, maintaining a depth of 0.75m below CD, once again achieved.

Leisure Harbour

- The pontoons and some moorings in the South channel dredged to a depth of 0.75m below CD.

Leisure Marina

- The Marina Depth has been increased Feb/Mar 20 to between 1 - 2 m below cill, mud will always be kept in suspension. Regular dredging takes place with a more comprehensive dredge every few years.

This Year

- Increase Colne connection Charters, evening cruises, digitise booking system.
- We want to help people see us as we are.
 - Video
 - What we do.
 - What does the inside of a boat look like.
 - Collaboration
 - Work more closely with local businesses.
 - Work more closely with the Council.
 - Working with Holiday Parks
 - Social media
 - Website development.
 - Facebook – 2.6k and 2.6k on both sites.
- Environmentally better
 - Policy, living it, setting the example.
- Prepare future staff.
 - Apprenticeship

River Colne and Brightlingsea Multi-beam bathymetry

The HM showed the area of multi beam on a chart and showed a video of the topography underwater of the Hythe.

The Future

One-year objectives:

- To finalise with Brightlingsea Town Council an updated Licence/Lease agreement regarding managing and maintaining the Boat Park, Hard and Town Jetty

Three-year objectives:

- To establish a permanent ferry landing stage at Point Clear
- To establish a designated parking area for short-term use by mooring holders and visitors
- To establish access to power and water for certain harbour moorings, using modern technologies wherever possible.

Capital Equipment Replacement

Strategy explained, aim to replace, as and when necessary, with more environmentally friendly equipment.

Posts on Hard

The Harbour is working with the University of Essex to consider any environmental impact of current use and ways to mitigate this.

Meeting Closed 2030hrs