



**MEETING BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVES OF THE POOLE YACHTING ASSOCIATION AND POOLE HARBOUR COMMISSIONERS ON WEDNESDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> APRIL 2010 AT 19:00 AT THE HARBOUR OFFICE**

<b>Present:</b>	Sally Davis	Hon. Sec. Poole Yachting Association
	Colin Stewart	Chair, Poole Yachting Association
	Peter Stanaway	Rockley Cruising Club
	Martin Pearson	Parkstone Yacht Club
	Nick Hill	Parkstone Yacht Club
	Dick Linford	Parkstone Yacht Club
	Annie Beakhust	Lake Yard Club
	Peter Clark	North Haven Yacht Club
	Ivor Graham	Poole Yacht Club
	Mark Jamieson	East Dorset Sailing Club
	Bob Northover	Redclyffe Yacht Club
	Peter Burt	RYA/Poole Harbour Commissioners
	Richard Lacy	Chairman, Poole Harbour Commissioners
	Jim Stewart	Poole Harbour Commissioners
	Brian Murphy	Poole Harbour Commissioners
	Ian Bishop	Poole Harbour Commissioners

**1. Election of Chairman**

Colin Stewart was elected as Chairman for the meeting.

**2. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Ron Gentle, Jackie Hardy and Gareth Yeoman.

**3. Minutes of the Last Meeting**

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as being a true record of the meeting.

**4. Matters Arising from the Meeting**

PC wished to thank PHC for answering his queries on the location of the dredging reports on the PHC website.

**5. Harbour Master's Report**

Brian Murphy tabled a list of incidents from October 2009 to March 2010. He further confirmed that PHC were in the process of reviewing the PHC website which would incorporate the Harbour Masters' Monthly Marine Safety Report. He requested that any incident should be emailed to the Harbour Master for his further attention.

Brian Murphy advised that a Harbour Safety Meeting had taken place on the 12<sup>th</sup> April. He confirmed that other attendees normally include the Coastguard, Royal Marines and other user groups. He advised that this meeting is a good forum for members to air their point of view, with an aim to minimise conflict between commercial and leisure users, therefore reducing the risk.

Brian Murphy reported that a Local Notice to Mariners (06/2010) had been issued on the 16<sup>th</sup> March 2010 reminding Harbour Users of speed limit Byelaw 2aa.

Brian Murphy confirmed that approval for the second bridge has now been signed off by the Department for Transport and a contractor has been selected by the Borough of Poole. He further confirmed that it was envisaged that work would commence within the next two months.

Brian Murphy advised that preliminary works have been ongoing with site clearance and translocation of reptiles completed. He further advised that the first phase of dredging had been completed with the second phase commencing in August.

Brian Murphy advised that one of the concerns was the safety of navigation between the two bridges. He further advised that he had asked the contractor for a risk assessment which had now been received. He advised that this had been a very detailed report. BM advised that temporary traffic lights would be installed. BM reported that IALA lights would also be fitted to the existing bridge.

Brian Murphy reported that the introduction of self-certification on mooring servicing has been a positive step forward in ensuring that the standard of moorings in the harbour is improved.

Brian Murphy advised that there has been a worrying trend of vessels coming adrift from their moorings, which ultimately seems to be as a result of faulty or improper top gear. He asked block holders to inspect these regularly and replace as required.

## **6. PHC Organisational Changes**

Jim Stewart described the changes to PHC organisation and manning made necessary following the withdrawal of the "Barfleur" passenger/freight service from Poole. He explained that the loss of the service reduced revenue by about 25% and a major review of PHC operations had led to a number of redundancies, both voluntary and compulsory, with a new structure in place as of the first of April 2010. He was confident that the new budget would enable PHC to survive the downturn in trade and be in a good position when trade levels improve.

## **7. HM Department Structure Changes**

Brian Murphy advised that his department had not gone untouched. He confirmed that the Deputy Harbour Master would be taking voluntary redundancy. He further confirmed that his team had been made as lean as possible to carry out conservancy functions. BM advised that there were now two teams of six, which would be coordinated by a Duty Assistant Harbour Master. He further confirmed that his men were very positive going forward.

8. **Charges for 2010/Crown Estates**

Brian Murphy confirmed that after successful negotiation with Crown Estate the rate would remain unchanged for this year. He further confirmed that there will be a ten year agreement with annual RPI by Oct RPI figures, and the increase will be upwards only rounded to the nearest pound.

9. **HRO & byelaw Update**

Jim Stewart reported that the HRO to bring all legislation into one modern form was awaiting ministerial approval. He stated that this had gone through extensive consultation over a period of years and, with the only hindrance being the RYA representation, PHC were optimistic that the HRO would be signed off in the near future.

Brian Murphy advised that there were two ongoing byelaws, one regarding no fishing, swimming or diving between the bridges and the other to enforce correct use of new IALA lights on the bridges for marine traffic.

Annie Beakhust asked what happened if the bridge was completed before the byelaw came into force?

BM replied that the situation had unchanged from the present where dangerous navigation could be prosecuted, if necessary.

10. **Environmental Update**

Brian Murphy advised that there has been a reduction in environmental incidents. He further advised that two areas of Eelgrass adjacent to the North Channel have now been marked using yellow buoys. He confirmed that leaflets had been passed to yacht clubs and marinas.

Brian Murphy advised that with regard to the Sediment Management Plan PHC had secured a further three-year licence. He advised that it was envisaged that 20,000 cubic metres of material would be disposed of each year. He confirmed that Steve Pearce, PHC Hydrographic Surveyor was carrying out a CEFAS sampling exercise in the boatyard/marinas.

Brian Murphy advised that the Marine & Coastal Access Bill had now been passed. He further advised that a coastal access right to roam will probably not apply around the Harbour perimeter and that the first pedestrian access point (Sandbanks Chain Ferry) will likely apply.

Brian Murphy advised that the IFCA (Inshore Fisheries & Conservation Authorities) will replace SSFD (Southern Sea Fisheries District Committee) and hopefully will be better resourced.

Brian Murphy advised that the Aquatic Management Plan was available for viewing on [www.pooleharbouraqmp.co.uk](http://www.pooleharbouraqmp.co.uk). He confirmed that the Poole Harbour Steering Group would be undertaking a very detailed survey of use of harbour craft in the harbour. He further advised that the methodology had not yet been completed.

Jim Stewart advised that Sally Porter Environmental Adviser would be taking voluntary redundancy. He further advised that it was not the intention to replace her and her role would be absorbed within the organisation. Brian Murphy advised that the first point of call would be Warren Pym, Moorings Manager.

Brian Murphy advised that he was trying to stop users phoning staff directly on their mobiles. He further advised that the first point of call would be Annie Willats or Helen Birch who would point them in the right direction to the relevant person that is required.

Richard Lacy stated that PHC were trying to set up a forum, probably in the passenger terminal, for Natural England to explain their function, responsibilities and views to the public.

Martin Pearson asked what was the proposed end use of the survey data collected by the Steering Group?

JS answered that Natural England were subject to EU influence on the number and management of protected sites. He believed that most problems in the designated areas were from illegal fishing rather than recreational use of the Harbour.

MP asked if the data would lead to licencing of recreational craft.

JS replied that this was unlikely at present.

**11. Any Other Business**

AB asked if anyone had a view on wind-farms?

JS confirmed that a site west of the Isle of Wight was being proposed for a licence. He understood that there would be public consultation before any final decision was made. PHC were interested as the site appeared to straddle the shipping routes to Poole and this would affect our customers.

**12. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be in November 2010, date to be advised.