



Minutes of the meeting of Teignmouth Harbour Consultative Body held at Bitton House, Teignmouth on 26th January 2007 @ 1900hrs

Present:-

Roy Lightfoot (Chairman) (Shaldon Sailing Club), Paul Barczok (Teign Corinthian Yacht Club), Jill Barczok (Teignmouth Regatta), Stephen Boyne (South Devon Water Ski Club), Peter Stenner & Representative (Teign Fishermen & Watermen Association) John Hook (River Teign Rowing Club) Ian Brownless (BOAT Owners Association Teignmouth), P Mawby (Shaldon BOAT Owners and Mooring Association) Chris Clarence (Shaldon Regatta) Councillor Fusco and Councillor Phillips (Teignmouth Town Council) Teignmouth Harbour Commission: Jeremy Grammer(Chairman), Mark Layton (Teign Diving Centre) and Graham Bond (Chief Executive Teignmouth Harbour Commission), Harbour Master: David Platt

1. Apologies:-

Had been received on behalf of the representatives of Teign Estuary Management, Teign Musselmens Society

2. AGM

Would be held on a date and in a place that would be advised to representative bodies by the Chair.

Paul Barczok reminded representatives that their three year tenure would expire this year and that every organisation needs under the constitution to nominate its representative for the next three year period.

3. Matters arising:-

- Graham Bond reported that the individual pontoon that had been placed outside a property between Archbrook and Coombe Cellars had now been moved above high water.

In response to Peter Stenner, Graham Bond said that the Commission's policy was not to allow individual pontoons on the basis that a proliferation of those would be a hazard to navigation and environmentally unacceptable.

- Graham Bond had spoken to Graeme Smith on the telephone who had reported that he had been able to extend the modelling to include the effects on Shaldon Beach.
- Chris Clarence said that Teignbridge District Council had gone back to the Marine Coast Guard Agency to ascertain how pleasure craft came to be included within their byelaw and

what definition was intended to apply to pleasure craft as the precedent had been taking from a MCA template. He would report back at a further meeting.

4. Crime Prevention

The Chairman welcomed Sergeant Russell Dawe and WPC Joy Stoppard officers who deal with community and neighbourhood issues.

They informed the meeting that they were aware of the concerns over crime. Their statistics showed that there had been 29 crimes of the preceding 12 months for the year ending 2006 which included 11 reports of stolen vessels of which 9 had been removed from moorings and other from a boat yard and a house; 6 outboard motors had been stolen 4 vessels on moorings. There had been 10 thefts of property and these thefts come from various locations including 13 points on the estuary and 6 from Coombe Cellars.

Only one had been detected. Police informed the meeting that marine crimes are notoriously harder to detect because often vessels were not secure or their equipment was not secured or hidden on vessels; rarely did the vessels or equipment have identifiable serial number or some distinctive marking; and often such crime was conducted by organised criminals.

The Police message was that boat owners should be as careful as securing their vessel and the equipment on them as they would be when they leave a parked vehicle. They denied that there were inadequate resources and WPC Stoppard said she did and would continue to patrol the beaches and river side areas and it was hoped that an identifiable presence would be increased through the patrolling of community officers.

The Police were concerned that the Shaldon Boatwatch scheme that had kept an eye on the Shaldon side of the river had collapsed but Phil Mawby said that that was not the position it was just that it was difficult to find volunteers because of the feeling that there was no prospect of any investigation or enquiry when a crime had been committed.

The officers said that although it was very difficult to trace and succeed in recovering stolen marine items it was important to report them whatever. Sergeant Dawe also offered to attend Boatwatch's next meeting.

Paul Barczok said he was concerned about the lack of physical presence or patrolling at Coombe Cellars and that point was echoed by Ian Brownless on behalf of BOAT who said that there used to be regular visits to their area by a Police vehicle but they had tailed off.

Chris Clarence explained how his tender had been stolen and never returned even though it was very obviously marked as his tender.

Graham Bond said that with the Harbour Master he was looking into the possibility of CCTV on the river beach area linked into the Town Council's CCTV system in due course.

5. Standing items

(i) Dredging

Graham Bond said that there was nothing to report other than dredging continued on a normal basis and that the channel remained operable despite the weather.

(ii) Harbour Incidents - None

(iii) Moorings

- Graham Bond informed the meeting that the waiting lists for new moorings would be open next week.
- He invited representatives to indicate the views of their organisations on the proposals floated at the preceding meeting to change the basis of mooring charges. Quite a number of organisations had not yet had a meeting so were unable to respond but of those who had:-
 - TCYC were against the proposal
 - South Devon Water Ski Club did not think they would be affected.
 - Rowing Club did not think they were affected
 - Teign Fishermen and Waterman Association were opposed.

It would be further considered at the next meeting when the remaining organisations hoped to have discussed it.

- Chris Clarence said that the top of Shaldon Beach is land owned by Teignbridge District Council who now wished to raise a charge for vessels that moored on it as one of the many measures they were looking at in order to balance their books. He had suggested to TDC that it might be preferable for them to lease that area to the Harbour Commission who could then administer it and who were making a sufficient profit out of moorings in his opinion to be able to bear the rent from Teignbridge District Council. He would expect the rent to be comparatively modest in the region of £2,000.

Graham Bond said that Chris Clarence had been kind enough to alert him to that possibility and he had raised it at the Commissioner's last meeting. The Commission felt that on the face of it the proposal was unattractive but would look at any proposition in detail once put to it.

Mark Layton pointed out that the Commission do not provide spaces for tenders.

6. Harbour Master items:-

- Graham Bond passed around amended General Directions. He said that the purpose of this was to seek to incorporate within the General Directions personal watercraft and negate the recent High Court decision exempting them from International Collision Regulations etc and would welcome feedback at the next meeting.
- In the absence of Graeme Smith, Jeremy Grammer who had spoken to Graeme Smith informed the meeting that Graeme Smith was expecting to lodge application for planning permission for a landing stage in the form of a "T" shape off New Quay beach and to then proceed with consultation and to seek funding. In the discussion which followed it became clear that there had not been a full nor adequate consultation on the proposals particularly with the owners of the New Quay.

Peter Stenner informed the meeting that the Teign Fishermen and Watermen's Association had met Graeme Smith and expressed the view that a landing facility was desirable but would be much better at Morgans Quay where there was less tide and wouldn't interfere with the operation of the fish quay and then the steps of the New Quay could be reinstated providing landing facilities at two points.

Mark Layton said that in his capacity as Teign Diving Centre they brought 3,000 people through the river beach and £106,000 of revenue and the town needed a decent landing facility at that end of the river.

Peter Stenner responded by saying that people would still come and use the landing point if it was 300 metres down river at Morgan's Quay.

It was resolved that Graeme Smith should be asked to consult much more widely.

- **Fish Quay**

Barry Wilson had been invited by the Chairman to present this item. He informed the meeting that there were no precise plans yet merely an idea to extend the Fish quay with a new quay and a roadway adjoining it through Gales Hill. It was important that there should be a new quay as that was the gateway to seeking funding and would also need the full support not only of his own organisation to which he had yet to be presented at the AGM but also of the community at large. It was however at a very early stage. If it were to proceed as suggested at the moment it would extend the fish quay by about 2 metres so that fishing boats would be able to land there all states of the tide without grounding. If the application for funding was successful and they were able to proceed the association would have less need for the existing quay and would therefore free up the public steps and enable them to be extended out to deep water therefore there would not need to be new pontoon in that area. Thus saving the high maintenance costs for the Commission.

He was confident that £10,000 would be available for a feasibility study. Councillor Fusco was sure that the Town Council would support the scheme but wondered how it would be effected by the Flood Defence proposals.

Graham Bond said that the Harbour Commission had indicated that they would support it.

6. AOB

- In answer to Paul Barczok, Graham Bond said that the dredging of the harbour mouth which was currently under contract to Bartlett Brothers would not be renewed and would be brought in house by the Commission.
- The next meeting would be on Monday 30th April at 7pm.