

**MINUTES OF FULL MEETING OF WELLS HARBOUR COMMISSIONERS (WHC)
HELD AT THE HAROUR OFFICE/ VIA TELECONFERENCE ON**

29th SEPTEMBER 2020 AT 6:30PM

PRESENT: Andy Frary (AF) – Chair, Ashely Mullenger (AM), Brian Riches (BR), Mel Catton (MC), Avril Lill (AL), Denys Hickey (DH), Josh Danziger (JD), Nick Groom (NG), Chris Thomson (CT), Bob Ellis (BE)

EXECUTIVE MEMBERS: Robert Smith (RS) Harbour Master, Simon Cooper (SAC) Harbour Administrator

1. CHAIRMAN WELCOME

AF welcomed all to the meeting and thanked them for dialling in.

2. APOLOGIES

Kevin Theobald (KT)

3. APPROVE MINUTES

The Commissioners confirmed that they were happy for AF to sign the minutes from the last meeting.

4. HARBOUR UPDATE ON MATTERS ARISING

SAC then went on to run through the written update that formed part of the agenda item 4 adding;

Website update; CT commented that the 4 knot speed limit when you entered the inner harbour wasn't displaying. SAC confirmed that it was and subsequently confirmed on the shortened version it was a 1 minute 37 seconds and on the full version 20 minutes and 57 seconds.

Facilities Barge; Given the further measures and increasing likelihood social distancing timeframes are being extended, we are looking at solutions to reconfigure entrance to the facilities barge that might allow us to open it next season. Also, traffic light systems are coming to market and SAC will look into their feasibility in case by Spring next year restrictions remain in force.

CCTV; after a discussion, AL proposed to support the installation which was seconded by AM and all were in favour. SAC will now look into facilitating and will revert to WHC should any surprises or snags come to light.

Chairman Position; No other nominations were made and therefore all were in favour of MC being appointed at the next chairman. Proposed by BR seconded by AF.

Lobster Hatchery; SAC clarified, following a question from AL, that the hatchery 'farming' method is to release the juveniles back to the open sea and not look to 'hold to plate size' as that brings additional cost, timings and complications to the project and the overall concept is to 'put back into the fishery what has been taken'. The WHC then debated the level of investment that would be appropriate over the next 12 months at which point we would be able to understand the longer term cost implications. SAC thought that to set up the hatchery would cost c£15k so if the Fisherman's Association matched the WHC's suggested contribution, once the detail is bottomed out and it looked like expenditure might be getting close to the £10k WHC investment, he would revert prior to committing to further expenditure. RS pointed out that as a kick-off we can use the funds handed over to WHC from the Fisherman's Co-operative which was dissolved earlier in the year. On this basis the WHC supported the approach. RS/ SAC will now approach the Fisherman's Association to match the financial support as well as acknowledging their help will be required in using their

expertise also. Having their full support is essential given this is for the Fishery benefit rather than anything WHC is to gain.

5. COMMISSIONERS UPDATE

Updates / comments were received from the commissioners as follows;

MC raised that Highways had engaged with the local council regarding the Pavement widening on the quay would commence in January.

MC also mentioned that works were underway on the Grays land but what that entailed was still not understood.

6. AOB

SAC raised that we are still looking for opportunities to diversify our reserves and should any options arise he would raise at the appropriate time.

7. Staff Matters

There was no additional update.

Meeting was then closed @ 19.20

Approved.....

Date.....

Andy Frary