

BRIGHTLINGSEA HARBOUR COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMERCIAL ADVISORY GROUP HELD ON 22 March 2017

Present:

D Potter	Dong Energy	Chairman
J Thomas	Harbour Master	
C French	French Marine	
P Hickman	Hickmans	
D Hykel	Harwich Pilots	
A Goggin	Essex County council	
R Howard	Oyster Fishery	
B Howard	Oyster Fishery	
C Olaoi	IFCA	
A Harman	St Osyth Boatyard	
D Boughton	Deputy Harbour Master	
P Rawson	Essex police	
S Shane	Essex police	
J Pitt	Oyster Layings	
F Lees	Pioneer Trust	
R Brown	Fisherman Miss Ellie II	
In attendance		
J Addison	Chairman Commissioners	
W Coulet	Exo Environmental	

150 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:

R Morrall	Clear to See
R Morgan	Morgan Marine

151 Minutes of the Meeting of 08 Nov 2016.

Minutes were approved as a true record of the meeting.

152 Matters Arising from the Minutes

None

153 USAR

William Coulet briefed those in attendance about the 1st Phase of the project to dredge the Harbour and use the sediment to reinstate the saltmarsh. The project is part of a European Intereg programme that has been set up to investigate the use of sediment as a resource (USAR). It is partially funded by BHC with the remaining funds being granted by the programme.

Year 1 Nov 16- Mar 17 Main channels West and East, Oliver's wharf to (-1m CD) and the fuel barge to (-0.75m CD).

The Hump has been removed.

The first bush fascines have been constructed on Cindery West.

Testing and monitoring has been taking place and will continue.

154 Harbour News

Shipping - The harbour is operating as such and receiving ships regularly at an average of 2 / month.

Dredging - the Channel has been cleared and some dredging of the south channel has been carried out.

Marina Silt deposit monitoring continues.

Maintenance - Ferries, glued and re-engined, Taxi, RHIB, Dracula, Harbour Office refreshed, Majority of moorings complete
Buoyage leading lights complete, inspection of navigation from Trinity house reports no problems.

Piles - Have been professionally surveyed results are not as bleak as forecast.

Tide guage - Ordered and on route

Future Plans

Coastal Path - Visited by natural England who will brief the committee on next meeting.

Boat Park - its purpose is to provide inexpensive access to the water, however it is subject to occasional abuse. Those who violate the principle will be invited to give up their space for others who want to use it as intended. There will be a maintenance period next year where current occupiers will be asked to remove their craft temporarily.

Marina - Outline plan, West basin visitors, East Basin permanent, possible dredging requirement at the end of the season dependent on depths monitoring.

Visitors Guide - Collecting the last of the artwork for advertisers, then will publish.

Stakeholder Engagement - the stakeholders include the town businesses, the harbour will work with them to improve the visitors offer.

Regatta/ Blessing of the seas
27/28 May 17 this will include fireworks.

Essex police and Marine watch - PC Paul Rawson and SPC Shane introduced themselves, Shane will be allocated to Brightlingsea as their special constable. He is working with BHC and CBC to address the problem of PWC among other issues in the foreseeable future.

155 Matters raised by members

R Brown raised concern that Olivers wharf were failing to comply with their operating licence, he required the harbour authority to take action. It was explained that the only action they could take would be to make a robust complaint to the licencing authorities, which would require evidence. The Harbour master asked that he bring the evidence to the Harbour office so that it could be investigated.

J Pitt and P Hickman raised concerns that excessive levels of siltation have occurred in Flag creek following the Harbour's dredging programme. W Coulett responded by deciding that more monitoring posts would be stationed in that area.

156 Meeting closed 19.36

157 Date of next Meeting

11 Oct 2017