**NAVIGATIONAL SAFETY POLICY**

Brightlingsea Harbour Commissioners in its role as CHA has a responsibility to facilitate the safety of navigation both within the Brightlingsea Harbour, and those vessels, under pilotage, approaching the Brightlingsea Harbour. This policy relates to marine operations, navigational safety and the requirements of the Port Marine Safety Code.

Brightlingsea Harbour Commissioners are committed to:

• Maintain an effective Navigational Safety Management System based on a continuing, formalised assessment and mitigation of risk in consultation with harbour users;

* Consult with port users and other relevant stakeholders on navigational safety issues and proposed changes to procedures, guidelines and Byelaws.

• Review regularly the effectiveness of, and if necessary seek amendments to, its legal powers, Byelaws and Directions in respect of navigational safety;

• Provide adequate patrol resources to enforce local and national regulations;

• Provide an appropriate level of pilotage services in accordance with the Pilotage Act 1987;

• Make and publish hydrographic surveys;

• Undertake maintenance dredging as appropriate;

• Remove sunken vessels and other obstructions that are, or may become, a danger to safe navigation;

• Ensure the provision of necessary aids to navigation within the area allocated as Local lighthouse Authority and maintain a close liaison with Trinity House - the General Lighthouse Authority (GLA).

• Promulgate effectively navigational, tidal and other relevant information to all harbour users.

• Provide effective management and co-ordination in respect of the BHC’s response to emergency incidents within its area of jurisdiction including publishing and maintaining emergency plans.

• Ensure, through risk assessment that the licensing of harbour works takes due regard of the safety of navigation.

• Take all reasonable measures to avoid damage to property and the environment.

• Encourage all users and organisations in the harbour to take responsibility for assessing the risks involved in their events and activities, and for filing their own risk assessment;

• Maintain the harbour inventory including, vessels and marine infrastructure, equipment to legal requirements and agreed industry standards;

• Manage the assets of the Harbour Authority prudently having regard to the principle that all users of facilities should contribute through dues to the safe operation of the harbour;

• Protect the health and safety of its employees working in the marine environment, and individuals utilising the harbour for commercial or recreational pursuits;

Signed:\_\_\_(original Signed)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: 03 Apr 24

James Thomas Chief Executive/ Harbour Master

Signed: \_\_\_(original Signed)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: 03 Apr 24

Andrew Scott Chairman