

BRIGHTLINGSEA HARBOUR COMMISSIONERS

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 02 Apr 2025

AT THE WRECK HOUSE COMMENCING AT 1830hrs

Present:

Andrew Scott – Chairman

James Thomas – HM/CE

Karl Lumbers – KL

Colin Watkins– CW

Rob Dorey - RD

Tony Curzon Price – TP

Daniel Stoker – DS

Patric Foley Brickley – PB

ITEM	NOTES	ACTION
5454	Apologies Ali Johns – AJ	
5455	Minutes of Meetings held on 5 Mar 2025 were approved. Proposed, TP Seconded, DS	
5456	Matters Arising from those minutes NTRF	
5457	Harbour Master Report Shipping 3 x Ships; 2 x Cement, 1 x Scrap. Marketing Brightlingsea Harbour 4,732 Facebook followers (11 since Mar), Foot Ferry 5,534 Facebook followers (95 since Mar). Harbour App 2000 + downloads. TikTok 129 Harbour Entry 3088 views up 47 since Mar. Foot Ferry Video 8736 up 72 since Mar. Harbour Instagram 1407. Foot Ferry Instagram 1052. LinkedIn 128. Port Marine Safety Code (PMSC) Incidents Near Miss 1) 28th Mar. MV Rix Spring approaching wharf, engine cut out. Colne Leader stood by while ship's engine restarted before berthing alongside. Ran over Stand-off buoy (off smack dock), which is always clear on shipping movements. 2) 9th Mar MV Rix Spring departing not able to close hatches. 'Baulk tide' called. PMSC online training from British Ports association, hosted on Microsoft Teams. If a Commissioner is interested, book via HM PMSC Duty Holder Awareness Monday 23 June 2025 10:30 - 12:30 PMSC Duty Holder Awareness Friday 24 October 2025 10:30 - 12:30	

PMSC Duty Holder Awareness Monday 8 December 2025 10:30 - 12:30

Boards for Essex University anti fouling/ Hull scrubbing project, deployed.

An updated and revised version of the PMSC, from Dept of Transport, is expected soon.

Pilotage - Discussions with HHA ongoing to confirm contract details, Pilotage provision will continue in the interim.

Recent British Ports Association seminar suggested that Statutory Harbour Authorities (SHAs) should highlight in their safety management system (SMS) others that have a responsibility for marine safety and ensure those organisations have been informed of the PMSC. It is for those organisations to identify any work they need to do to comply with the PMSC. This action would avoid an SHA receiving a nonconformity. RD added that as he was working for the MCA he was able to state definitively that the PMFSC had been signed by the government and was due for release in early to mid Apr 25.

Tendring District Council and RNLI will be holding summer safety tour for community safety and water safety on Hard.

Wednesday 28th May between 10am-2pm and Friday 18th July between 10am-2pm.

Pilot Cox/Crew training will be carried out in PLA pilotage district. Familiarisation training Completed for casual staff.

Safety Management system Signing Link will be sent <https://forms.office.com/e/qJNqzCnLC0> to commissioners so they can read and electronically sign, on the strategy day they will be issued with the updates.

TP to visit harbour office to read and sign MSMS.

Maintenance

Colne Ranger; stickers / frame and canopy fitted; vessel launched.

Resolved running and gear issues on Colne explorer refitted and launched.

Rowhedge Pontoon refurbishment 80% complete (tanks, frame, ladder and life ring frame). BHC receives a fee to refurbish this pontoon.

Colne Cooke re-glassed, repainted engine serviced and launched.

Fuel barge fuel filter changed.

Colne innovation refit ongoing.

Community reach engines serviced

New lock fitted on the marina's east basin entrance

Marina tide gauge cleaned

Maintenance Office refurbished and painted.

Office decking pressure washed and stained in new colour.

New Office for Head of Maintenance moved from AP engineering yard to lease yard ready for move to Wreckhouse yard. (This will form part of our resilience plan).

Hard has been cleared down.

Electrical Upgrade on fuel barge completed.

Operations

Bathymetry survey scheduled 28th April.


Maintenance deputy appointed.

Imperial College has received a letter to entice MSc students to take up our project to investigate movement of stone point.

Possible collaboration with Thorrington Vineyard.

	<p>Rowhedge charters; Anchor pub engaged and enthusiastic. First Charter 28th April St Osyth, 1145hrs.</p> <p>Mel Hide RYA Director of Comms visit confirmed Jul/Aug. Gunfleet sands windfarm. HM has been notified of 3 x projects, which will involve additional workboats being based in the project for a few months. Local coding of vessels carried out.</p> <p>British Ports Association. Smaller Ports Meeting, held at Cowes Interesting meeting- MMO 90% target for licences within their published timescale has never been achieved. Harbour Revision Order pace of delivery slow, improvement promised. PMSC; concerns about possible conformance issues with the new PMSC Trust port member briefing document being compiled.</p> <p>Colchester City Council Productive meeting with Cllr David King, Council Leader, 10th March. Speed sign to be erected on Priors wharf. Approach from Mel Rundle- Head of Sustainability, wishes to discuss the Hythe.</p> <p>Purelake Meeting with Waterside Marina Management Company (WMMC) Very early stages. WMMC have concerns over responsibilities and who pays for what. Next meeting 13th May.</p> <p>Staff Head of Maintenance now commercially endorsed Adv PB. Able to cox the pilot boat. A casual team member passed Day Skipper. Harbour Apprentice passed Level 2 + VHF Business Admin Apprentice passed Level 2 + VHF</p>	
5458	<p>May Strategy Day Agenda. The Chairman reminded the board to send in any requests for Agenda items one such request was for 'The Jetty'.</p>	
5459	<p>Stakeholders Meeting A summary was given of the topics to be included in the next Stakeholders meeting on 14th May at BSC at 1830hrs. Topics included the usual Chairmans explanation of how the financial conditions appear throughout the business year, PMFSC, Dredging, Surveys Report and Conclusion, Accidents, Incidents, Security, Capital Spending requirements, Activities, New season Plans.</p>	
5460	<p>Matters Raised by Members Chairman invited comment from Commissioners on the number of meetings that should be held annually, he was made aware by BPA other Harbours have fewer meeting that BHC. The consensus was that perhaps January and August would not have meetings and that the Strategy meeting in May would cover the June meeting. DS stated Wivenhoe Town Council are working with CCC to build a Visit Wivenhoe portfolio of tourism. TP suggested that Commissioners should consider the effect on the new North Essex Unitary council. RD July AtoN day ideal for social media. Not able to attend stakeholder meeting.</p>	

Next Meeting	Time Venue	1830hrs, Wed 7 th May 2025 Wreck House	Next meeting biscuits; RD
Time Ended	1956 hrs		

Approved
 Andrew 
 7th May '25