

BRIGHTLINGSEA HARBOUR COMMISSIONERS

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 01 Oct 2025

AT THE WRECK HOUSE COMMENCING AT 1830hrs

Present:

Andrew Scott – Chairman

James Thomas – HM/CE

Colin Watkins – CW

Tony Curzon Price - TP

Rob Dorey – RD

Daniel Stoker – DS

ITEM	NOTES	ACTION
5487	Apologies Patric Foley-Brickley - PB Ali Johns – AJ Karl Lumbers – KL	
5488	Minutes of Meetings held on 3 Sep 2025 were approved. Proposed, TP Seconded, CW	
5489	Matters Arising from those minutes Nil	
5490	Financial Report FY 2024-25 The HM asked members for any observations or contributions to the narrative, then gave an explanation on the Surplus and Contributions to reserves.	
5491	HM Report Shipping 1 x Scrap and 1 x Cement Marketing Brightlingsea Harbour 4,891 followers (15 since Sep). Foot Ferry 7,180 Followers (654 since Sep). Harbour App 2000 + cannot exceed the amount. TikTok 301 (27 since Sep). Harbour Entry 3798 views up (393 since Sep). Foot Ferry Video 10166 up (99 since Sep). Harbour Instagram 1468 (5 Since sep) Foot Ferry Instagram 1083 (No Change). LinkedIn 151 (9 Since sep) Port Marine Safety Code (PMSC) Accidents and Incidents Marine Incident – Nordica Hav Update DP Visit - Report to follow. DP submits report to Commissioners via CW, not the HM. Pilotage Update – Had a Pilotage meeting at HHA with HM and Pilots. There are still three qualified pilots, and it is their intention to have three more that are tripping now. We still have two of our previous pilots. Letter to Stakeholders regarding PMSC Compliance has be actioned. PMSC online which is hosted on Microsoft Teams PMSC Duty Holder Awareness Friday 24 October 2025 10:30 - 12:30 PMSC Duty Holder Awareness Monday 8 December 2025 10:30 - 12:30	

	Maintenance September • Colne leader Shafts pulled, new props fitted, Rope cutters and anodes. • Moorings inspected and repaired as necessary for some half tides, fore and aft, east cindery. • Tide Gauge fitted new antenna. Now working correctly • Front Door to harbour office repaired. • Fuel barge, new hose and new nozzle to solve leak. • HM1 launch starboard locker lid replaced • Vessel trailers all sanded down/ rust treated and refurbished. • All pontoon bins were brought in and cleaned down and stored for winter • Two yellow fisheries buoys brought in cleaned down fiberglass repaired and refurbished ,one back, one to be launched and then other retrieved and refurbished. • Number 9 buoy brought in striped down. Major glass repairs and refurbished. • Field gate dock clearance. • Colne leader handrail repairs. • Shower head and toilet repairs in showers and toilets. • Pontoon handrails on town jetty repaired and tightened. • Tyre sinkers and chain removed from marina (Buela picked up) removed and disposed of. • Speed marks removed and sinkers placed outside of marina • Bolt added to office bike rack so its now fully secure. • All Aids to navigation serviced by frank halls. • Colne Cooke refit. • Colne Ranger out. Operations Tide gauge/ Met station working accuracy to +/- 2cm Dredging Bathy will be done prior to next stakeholder meeting. Colchester City Council (CCC) They want BHC to remove some redundant boats and carry out a rubbish clearance. Grounding 1 x Exiting 1 x Navigating the Harbour. Both happened at near low water. HM shared pictures and described how the groundings had occurred.	
5492	End of Season Feedback End of September 2025 The HM presented some figures to describe the season to the end of September. The weather had presented a number of challenges ,particularly in July and August where there were some unseasonably bad storms. This affected the Ferry and Charter/ Afternoon tea and Pub lunch particularly at weekends. Despite these shortcomings we did better than last year. The Taxi had more commercial use, Harbour tours and Historical Harbour/land tours have captured the imagination of customers and are popular. Harbour dues collected from more Commercial activity have also increased. However, there is more to do here as this is one of the methods by which BHC can pay for the maintenance and ultimately the replacement of the Town Jetty.	

5493	Staff Update We are advertising for a new Head of Maintenance; awaiting applications then we will follow the process. Following last month's meeting where Commissioners suggested a special thank you to staff for their efforts, in response we have booked an end of season Christmas dinner at Harwich Pier Hotel and a Hamper, that will take place on 12th December. The HM suggested other possibilities as recognition for staff efforts by Commissioners and listed those.HM to consider comment on these ideas from Commissioners.	
5494	Stakeholder Agenda The HM presented a basic outline of the Agenda for the next stakeholders meeting in November. Agenda 11 Nov 25 Chairman and Accounts Port Marine Safety Code DREDGING Bathy Conclusions - changes 29/4/25 to 29/10/25 Accidents/ Incidents Security/ Police/ PWC/ River Patrol Harbour Development /Plans Activities Community Commitment Local Businesses Schools Engagement Stakeholder Benefits Employment Charitable Causes Apprenticeships Tourism- Visitors Colne Navigation Trinity House Pilotage Leisure Moorings Marina. Toilets and Bins Taxi Charters Ferry Wharf and commercial activity River Patrols Jetty Management Hard/Posts Management	Chairman HM
5495	Matters Raised by Members CW commented that the East coast pilot documented entry pilotage plan is contrary to the prevailing wisdom, the HM stated he would look at it when reviewing the navigational buoys. TP suggested the next steps for the research into the spit movement would be to re-engage with Imperial College, reach out to Essex University and or consider the issue as part of a Citizen Science project. RD assured Commissioners that he would be undertaking the Navigational review in the near future.	HM /RD TP HM RD

Next Meeting	Time Venue	1830hrs, 5 th Nov 2025 Wreck House	Next meeting biscuits; Chairman
Time Ended	2030hrs		

approved
 5th Nov 25
 Andrew 