

Maldon Harbour Improvement Commissioners

Minutes of the Ordinary email-meeting of the Commissioners held online on Tuesday, 20 October 2020 at 7.00 pm.

In view of the coronavirus lockdown rules, an online meeting via email was designated for Tuesday, 20 October 2020 at 7 pm.

PRESENT: I Hiner (Vice Chairman) M Gibson (Treasurer)
 G Courtney John Dines
 P Ellum D Patient

27 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Jim Dines, N Cardy, N Harrisson, A Wiseman. The Clerk noted that the meeting was quorate.

28 DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTEREST

There were none, other than those declared during the meeting.

29 MINUTES – MEETING 12 August 2020

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 12 August 2020 were formally received. The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 12 August 2020 were confirmed as a correct record. Formal Agreement to the Minutes to be postponed until a conventional meeting can be held.

30 MATTERS ARISING

There were none.

31 CLERK'S REPORT

Item 1. The Clerk had contacted Richard Holmes, Director of Resources, Maldon District Council, to request the appointment of an MDC Councillor to the Commissioners. Appointment was pending the Council meeting in November.

Item 2. Trinity House has confirmed that Local Aids to Navigation were inspected on 7 October 2020 and found to be in good and efficient order.

Item 3. Jim Dines had contacted Adrian Fluker to thank him for his service as a Commissioner.

32 TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer reported that the only movements were standard wages and tax paid out. Current balance is £17,035.75.

33 BUOY REPORT

No changes to the buoy report.

34 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE SEPTEMBER 2020 ESSEX MARINE POLICE UPDATE

Commissioners commented positively on the report. M Gibson hoped it would be a regular feature. The Clerk would attach relevant extracts from the Police Update to the MHIC Annual Newsletter.

G Courtney enquired whether the River Bailiff had encountered any problems with PWCs in the Harbour.

35 NEWSLETTER IN LIEU OF THE MHIC ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING

Commissioners found the draft Newsletter to be appropriate. P Ellum requested an addition to Safety in the Harbour noting that Covid regulation on social distancing had resulted in the Harbour experiencing an increased number of new or inexperienced river users in a variety of craft. Whilst welcoming greater use of the Harbour, MHIC advises all river users to be aware of, and be prepared to make allowances for possible inexperience.

G Courtney suggested that this was an opportunity to check and update the MHIC Contacts List (subject to GDPR).

36 URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Item a) G Courtney enquired on the progress of the webcams.

Commissioners were saddened to hear of the passing of former Commissioner, Jon Howorth. The Clerk would write to Mrs Howorth expressing Commissioners' condolences and acknowledging his valuable service.

Last email contribution to the meeting was at 7.45 pm.

I Hiner, Chairman of the Meeting