

Maldon Harbour Improvement Commissioners

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Commissioners held at the Maldon Little Ship Club on Tuesday, 12 March 2024 at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT: David Patient (Chairman) Patrick Ellum (Vice Chairman)
Dave Hansford (Treasurer) Charles Anderson
Nigel Cardy Mandy Chapman
John Dines Nancy Harrisson
Clint Swann Colin Wilson
Allan Wiseman

52 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Jim Dines, Adrian Fluker (attending MDC meeting).

53 DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTEREST

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

54 MINUTES – ORDINARY MEETING 16 January 2024

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 16 January 2024 were formally received. It was **AGREED** that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 16 January 2024 be confirmed as a correct record.

55 MATTERS ARISING - ORDINARY MEETING 16 January 2024

N Harrisson queried the situation with the buoy lights stock. John Dines had a report from I Hiner. C Swann has an old green light which is not reliable.

56 CLERK'S REPORT

Item 1. Commercial Harbour Dues. Commercial Harbour Dues had all been received.

Item 2. Harbour Insurance. Commercial Marine and Legal Expenses insurance had been renewed through Winters. There was an increase of £0.60 over the previous year.

Item 3. MDC Liaison Meeting. Graham Brown, Coast and Countryside Team Leader had been contacted regarding suggesting a date. MHIC were awaiting a response.

Item 4. 2024 Joint River Safety Meeting. Wednesday 13 March 2024, 7.30 pm, Blackwater Sailing Club. Arrangements were in hand. A finalised Agenda was available.

Item 5. Report from MDC River Bailiff 10 January 2024. Pending. Much of that report would be covered at the Joint River Safety Meeting.

57 TREASURER'S REPORT

D Hansford explained there had been some complications with transfer of authorisation at Barclays. This was being pursued. He was investigating alternatives to Barclays.

The current balance stood at £15,705.00 of which £11,500 was in the Business Account. Costs outstanding included the Emergency Mobile Phone and any costs associated with buoy maintenance. The Clerk would provide D Hansford with copies of previous invoices from H Swann.

58 JOINT RIVER SAFETY MEETING, WEDNESDAY, 13 MARCH 2024

C Anderson would read out the report from Anglian Water.

There was discussion of navigation and safety issues. There was concern that some events were using navigation buoys as race markers. N Cardy expressed concern about race markers placed in the Fairway. P Ellum stated that Blackwater Sailing Club have a mobile exclusion zone where racing boats were not to be close to other vessels, eg sailing barges/Viking Saga.

59 NON-COMMERCIAL HARBOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

Cate Knox had texted D Patient stating that the invoice should be for 18 craft and would be collected from the berth holder (as per Option 3). Response from MDC was still pending. D Patient would send a letter to Cook's Yard. The Queen's Head is already covered by Jim Dines. There was discussion that Commissioners should ensure that all yards are covered and also yacht clubs were considered. P Ellum would raise the matter with Maldon Little Ship Club.

60 MHIC EMERGENCY PHONE

C Wilson will take over custody of the phone. C Wilson will be the first Commissioner "on call". A change of Commissioner "on call" would be agreed each meeting.

61 CONTRACTORS

D Patient stated that the insurance required the Contractor to be insured. This had been followed up by Winters who had confirmed that appropriate insurance was in place. A Risk Assessment would be needed from H Swann. D Patient, P Ellum and John Dines would meet with H Swann to progress this.

62 BUOY REPORT

This would be followed up, including the situation with stock of lights (see Minute 54). I Hiner's final stock report was referred to. N Cardy would pursue to possibility of old-style lights.

63 DREDGING

N Cardy would discuss this with Essex and Suffolk Water.

64 SILTATION COMMITTEE

N Cardy would discuss this with Essex and Suffolk Water.

65 URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Item a) N Harrison enquired about the web cams. This would be referred to Jim Dines.

Item b) N Harrison enquired if the plaque was put up in the Moot Hall. D Patient would follow up.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.30 pm