

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING **HELD ON 8 JUNE 2016**

A meeting of the Newport Harbour Commissioners was held at The Uskmouth Sailing Club, Newport on Wednesday, 8th Day of June 2016, at 09:30am.

PRESENT

Mr C. P Crick (in the Chair)

Messrs G Jug, W.L Mitchell, J Neale, A.R Speight, Captain R.M McDonald and Councillor J.A Guy.

APOLOGY

An apology was received from Mr S.P Davison.

IN ATTENDANCE

Captain M Chidlow (Harbour Master) was in attendance.

MINUTES

3253. It was resolved on a motion by Mr A.R Speight, seconded by Mr J Neale, that the minutes of the last meeting of the Commissioners, which took place on 11 May 2016, (a copy of which had been sent to every Commissioner), be taken as read, received and adopted.

DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL AND PECUNIARY INTERESTS

3254. Mr W.L Mitchell declared an interest in Agenda item 3257(b) by virtue of his membership of the Board of Monmouthshire, Brecon & Abergavenny Canals Trust.

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

3255. Mrs M Lock (Auditor) was welcomed to the meeting.

3256. Mrs M Lock presented the annual financial statements of the Commissioners for the year ended 31 March 2016. Several questions were raised relating to the audit of the accounts, all of which were answered satisfactorily. After due consideration, it was agreed unanimously that the annual accounts of the Commissioners for the year ended 31 March 2016 be passed and approved.

3257. Mrs M Lock noted that it would be useful to expand the Trustees Report to inform the reader of activities during the year, future plans etc. She also suggested a Fixed Asset review be undertaken of the physical assets held by the Commissioners. Both recommendations were agreed unanimously.

HARBOUR MASTER'S REPORT as prepared by ABP

3258. The Harbour Master's Report, as prepared by ABP, is attached.

The following further matters were noted:

a) East Usk Lighthouse

This Chairman and the Harbour Master were visiting the Lighthouse immediately after the meeting to confirm the work required.

b) Liberty Steel

Mr W.L Mitchell declared an interest and took no part in the discussion (see above).

Liberty had now sent information requested by the Commissioners, and the Harbour Master has reviewed. It was agreed that this will be revisited in July.

c) Bird Port

Further photographic evidence relating to siltation in the Port had not as yet been received, although this is promised next week. It was agreed to write to Bird Port asking that this now be made a priority.

d) Oil Spill Audit

The oil spill exercise in Swansea in May had been a success. The date for the Newport exercise should be known shortly. The River Usk now also has an Oil Spill Kit to be used if oil is seen. This is kept at Newport Pier head.

e) NRW Meeting/ Spoil Grounds review

It was noted that NRW have requested a review of the spoil grounds at Port Talbot, as part of the 3-yearly exercise of renewing dredging licences. Mr J Neale noted that MMO were conducting a far-reaching review in England, and that this work would be very expensive. It was agreed that, should any consultation on this matter arise in the future, the Commissioners would respond.

f) Towage

It was confirmed that a letter explaining towage priorities had been sent to River berths.

MATTER ARISING FROM BOARD MINUTES

Minute 3164 NHC/ ABP Service Level Agreement

An ABP /NHC meeting was held on 11 May. Further information is expected in advance of the July Board meeting.

Minute 3238(f) River Bridge

The contractors for the repairs to the M4 Bridge are in the process of arranging a hydrographic survey. Preparatory work continues to progress in a satisfactory manner.

Minute 3247 Port Security

The Chairman noted that Port Security had been the subject for discussion at the Merchant Navy Reserve Board meeting recently, where a Superintendent from the Police had been present. The Harbour master noted that ABP and the Police are in constant touch in relation to Port Security.

MONTHLY ACCOUNTS

3259. The accounts for the current month were examined. It was agreed unanimously that the attached accounts amounting to £15,564.28 be paid.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

3260. The statement of the Commissioner's revenue was examined. They disclosed monthly bills of £15,214.03 compared to the budget of £14,810.00. Expenditure for the month totalled £14,845.28 compared to the budgeted figures of £4,650.00. Expenditure for the year to date totalled £67,155.92 and for the year to date £74,860.00.

INVESTMENTS

3261. It was confirmed that the amounts at present invested were as follows:

Monmouthshire Building Society	£74,628.52
Nat West	£3,877.42
Santander	£25,000.00

Chairman: _____ Date: _____