

**NEWLYN PIER AND HARBOUR COMMISSIONERS (NPHC)**

**ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS HELD AT 0900 AM ON WEDNESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2021 VIA CONFERENCE CALL**



**In attendance:** Rob Wing – Chairman  
 Paul Corin  
 Rob Parsons  
 Anthony Hosking  
 Jim McKenna  
 Gus Lewis  
 John Thomas  
 Sam Winters  
 Abbie Smith


**Also, in attendance:** Nil

**Part 1**

| Agenda ID | NPHC Number |   | Action |
|-----------|-------------|---|--------|
| C01       | N137        | <p><b><u>Apologies for Absence</u></b></p> <p>There were apologies for absence from Kevin Bennetts (KB). Mike Warner was delayed and may be able to join the meeting late.</p>  | RP     |
| C02       | N138        | <p><b><u>Declarations of Interest</u></b></p> <p>AH declared a personal interest in any item on the agenda as an active sea-going fisherman and boat owner operating on the harbour and as a Fish Merchant</p> <p>RP declared a personal interest in any items on the agenda relating to staffing matters as an employee of NPHC, and as the owner of the vessel "Little Susie" moored in the harbour.</p> <p>RW declared a personal interest in any items on the agenda in connection with the harbour as a fish merchant operating on the market, and a Trustee of the National Lobster Hatchery which was a tenant on the harbour.</p> | RP     |



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| C03 | N139 | <p><b><u>Minutes</u></b></p> <p><b>Resolved:</b> That the minutes (Part 1 and Part 2 summary) of the Ordinary Meeting held on 4<sup>TH</sup> November 2020 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.</p>  | RP/RW |
| C04 | N140 | <p><b><u>Matters Arising</u></b></p> <p>There were no matters arising from the minutes</p>  |       |
| C05 | N141 | <p><b><u>Port Marine Safety Code (PMSC) Duty Holder Update</u></b></p> <p>RP - gave his regular PMSC update to the duty holder once again informing them that <b>all parties are both individually and collectively responsible in accordance with the code.</b></p> <p>RP – Reported to the board that some vessels are using incorrect lighting when alongside, causing problems for other vessels leaving or entering port.</p> <p>RP – Updated the Commissioners in relation to the replacement of the pylons the pylons will be an ongoing situation due to Covid and the slow global movement of goods. Other sources are being investigated. There is an order placed to date for 20 x 14m pylons, but do not know when the expected delivery will be. We are aware of the risk and constantly accessing that risk.</p>  |       |
| C06 | N142 | <p><b><u>Operations</u></b></p> <p><b>Covid update</b> – HM informed the board that operational staff are trying to limit access to people who only need to be on the harbour, which is exceptionally hard. The operational team have split into two bubbles, after a trial period of RP working from home, but operationally that was not practical. (DHM) and (HM) stay away from each other to limit the risk of contamination and potential issues in relation to safe manning levels.</p> <p><b>Office</b> - The office remains open (with a Perspex screen). The public toilets are closed with access, via a radar key, the disabled toilets still fully available. A key is provided for anyone desperate.</p> <p><b>Clock Auctions</b> – HM updated the board that the clock auction went live at the beginning of December 2020. Reports have been received in relation to teething issues. Merchants are reporting to the HM daily, which is very helpful. It has been reported that certain merchants are permitted to move the fish immediately, while other merchants must wait until 07:00 - 07:30. It has been reported that our present auctioneers are not particularly looking after the facilities, as there is no formal agreement in place. It must be noted that these issues are only that of opinion as no formal investigation has taken place into these concerns and therefore no formal findings. This will be monitored, and the board will be updated. The HM reported that constant dialogue is taking place with the auctioneers and they are receptive to guidance.</p> |       |

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|  | <p><b>Financial Update</b></p> <p>Landing dues only for comparison based on last year (Jan 20) were circa £700,000.</p> <p>Landing dues up to Dec 20 (with some added approximates from Jan 21) came to only £327,000. The primary reason for this is Covid and Brexit so despite being horrific is a single event. The primary concern is the cost of the running the market which will have to be critically assessed in relation to any agreement moving forward in relation to auctioneers.</p> <p>RP Raised the fact that Brixham and Plymouth Fish Markets have put up the cost of their landing dues (auctioneers). Brixham gone up from 5.5% &amp; 1% to 6.5% &amp; 1%</p> <p>PC - Clarified BTA have put it up by 1.5%.</p> <p><b>Free Port Status</b></p> <p>RP - Informed the board that a report was conducted by CDC with regards free port status viability with Cornwall Council. There does not look like much will come of the request and RP asked if anyone else has any input.</p> <p>JM - Adds that he is aware from the same source that there is nothing to be investigated. He confirmed CDC has independently taken a review and JM can call him to find out more details and report back.</p> <p>GL - Would like to wait to see what the councils view on this would be. He feels it is still worth investigating even though it does not look up to the status government was original stating.</p> <p>JT - Offered to support JM with investigating and report back with any information.</p> <p>RW - Confirms with JM if he could find out from CDC if we can look at his findings.</p> <p><b>Brexit Update</b></p> <p>HM informed the board that Brexit, in particular export of goods, has had a significant if not crippling impact on Fish prices. The HM gave examples of delayed movement of goods and the interaction between NPHC and DEFRA throughout. The main concern was centred around Border control points. Export certificates, Vets and pallets. It was also noted that Fish being rejected at the boarder that was plastic wrapped but not in polystyrene boxes were more a miss understanding between UK and EU officers, but this has had a huge impact on local businesses. HM has raised these issues with DEFRA, but DEFRA's position is that these are just teething issues. The obvious impact is that foreign vessels will not land at Newlyn as it takes too long to get the catch to the continent.</p> | <p>JM JT</p>  |
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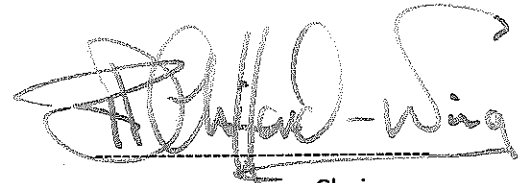
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|     |      | <p>JM - adds that he is aware there is a problem with the scanner in relation to the issue of Export certificates and we are awaiting BT to start work to facilitate its proper use (which should be this week).</p>   |  |
| C07 | N143 | <p><b>Projects</b></p> <p>RP - Update from the Towns Fund. The TF are still waiting for approval from MHCLG in regard to the Marine Resource Centre Project. Some architect plans would be helpful to get ahead and consult the people around the area. If some funds could be found considering the project is 100% funded.</p> <p><b>RP informed the board that that we have put in a big for refurbishment of our boardroom (where the old Stevenson office is located) and the two offices below. Business model was centred around making the board multi use and not just for the commission to meet in. This way it can be rented out to local businesses but also to support the local community.</b></p> <p><b>Programme Plan</b></p> <p>The HM requested assistance in regard to help with writing the programme plan. RP informed the board that the Advisory Board have captured the general blue-sky concept but despite thinking big the HM highlighted the need to focus on achievable projects.</p> <p><b>RW - Asks RP does he have Cap on the price for writing the program plan?</b></p> <p><b>RP Requested a budget of £10,000 is an approximation compared to what has been done in the past.</b></p> <p><b>RW - Adds that it is probably a worthwhile expense to collate and put the commissions plans in a properly presented proposal and puts it to the meeting for their thoughts.</b></p> <p><b>JM - Would be happy to support the idea although would like spec, to see what would be sent out, to cover any gaps.</b></p> <p>SW - Totally supports the idea put by RP and raised concerns potentially that the Advisory Board concepts could be taken as plans and that the formal documentation from the commission should be based on what is achievable.</p> <p>RW - Enquired if that is something Cornwall Marine Network would be able to help professionally with?</p> <p>SW - Yes, that probably would be something they could help and would be happy to look at when there is some further detail.</p> <p>JT - Supports that business plans and proposals should be done professionally allowing the HM to carry out his duties without the extra work this entails.</p> <p>RW - The amount of 5-10 thousand is a relatively small outlay considering the amount the grants etc bring in financially.</p> |  |

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|     |      | <p>GL - Also agrees proposals should be done professionally. Also, the commission producing their own plans means they are the property of the commission and not the Advisory Committee allowing the commission to propose what they want to do rather than being led by outside sources.</p> <p>PC - Also totally agrees. But is aware that if any plans do not work out there is a potential for the AB to “blame” the Harbour Commission for any failings due to the plans being commissioned professionally by the harbour.</p> <p>RP requested that the chairman liaise with the AB on a Chair to Chair bases, inform the AB the executive will be in touch with the next stages allowing governance to be undertaken.</p> <p><b>HMG Funding</b></p> <p>RP informed the board with regards to levelling up and the G7 and that a senior ministerial visit had been requested. I have heard from the MP, which is yet to be confirmed as true, that the levelling up funding is looking it is going to down the Towns Fund format. Also, Fisheries Funding, after liaising with the BPA, that there is another round of fisheries funding is approaching.</p> |  |
| C07 | N144 | <p><b>Part 1 Closure</b></p> <p>The meeting <b>RESOLVED</b> to close Part 1 of the meeting at this point in the proceedings as matters of a confidential and personal nature were to be discussed</p>  |  |

**SUMMARY OF MATTERS CONSIDERED IN THE CONFIDENTIAL PART OF THE AGENDA OF THE MEETING OF THE NEWLYN PIER & HARBOUR COMMISSIONERS HELD ON 4<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2021**

1. Minutes  
The minutes (Part 2) of the Ordinary Meeting held on 4 November 2020 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.
2. Matters Arising  
There were no matters arising from the minutes
3. PMSC and operational Update  
The Board received their usual Port Marine Safety Code update relating to incidents, Near misses and security and agency liaison.
4. Commissioners Appraisals  
Board received an update on the appraisal position of the Commissioners.
5. Chairman's Business  
None
6. AOB  
The date of the next meeting to Wednesday 4<sup>TH</sup> March 2021

The meeting closed at 10:00hrs.



Chairman