



THE MERSEA HARBOUR PROTECTION TRUST

Minutes of Annual General Meeting 24th April 2017 - 8pm

Attendees: William Baker, Allan Bird, Carole Britton, Alison Debney, Jane Dixon, Mark Dixon, Jonathan French, Richard Haward, Howard Hill, John Jowers, Alan Mogridge, Bry Mogridge, Mark Nowers, Richard Taylor, Susan Taylor, Faith Tippet

AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. Welcome
3. To elect Trustees
4. To receive Trustee' report
5. To receive Annual Accounts
6. Powerpoint presentation
7. Next ordinary meeting, date and place
8. AOB

MINUTES

1. Apologies for Absence
Frank Reed, Richard Matthews, Richard Wheeler.
2. Welcome by Richard Taylor.
 - Harwich Harbour has informed the Trust that they will not be dredging until 2021-2023. This therefore denies us access to the EU Interreg Fund as UK will no longer be part of EU by that time.
 - Richard Taylor and Mark Dixon gave a presentation at the Regional Flood Defence Committee on 21.4.17 asking for £340,000. £300k capital costs and £40k for purchase of brushwood, monitoring etc. The Committee agreed full funding for the project.
 - Over the last three years £70k spent on the Environmental Statement. This has now been out for the MMO required public consultation process including all statutory regulators and final comment due any time but initial response very encouraging.
 - Thank you for Cllr John Jowers for his previous and continued support.
 - MHPT may ask Harwich Harbour if it would be possible for dredging just for the project to be undertaken perhaps earlier than the planned dredge.

3. Minutes of AGM 26th April 2016.
Proposed - Richard Taylor, Seconded - Mark Dixon
4. Standing down of all Trustees: Mr A Bird, Mr M Dixon, Mr J French, Mr A Mogridge, Mr S Plater, Mr R Taylor and Mr D Stoker.
Proposal to re-elect above Trustees by Richard Haward, seconded by William Baker. Voted in unanimously.
5. Trustee's Report
Report read out by Richard Taylor. Copy attached. No questions.
6. Annual Accounts
 - Income - of £19k in grants, £15k from the ECC CIF fund and £2k from two councillors personal budgets.
 - Expenditure – of £31,741, £13k has been on the consent process.
 - Accounts have been signed of by Louisa Tippett of Whittles who has kindly waived the fee.
 - Whittles to be made Members of the MHPT
7. Powerpoint presentation by Mark Dixon – why MHPT formed and next steps, including the need for volunteers for the placement and maintenance of the brushwood fences required to hold the dredgings in place and the project in general as monitoring will be required for five years after dredging is completed.

Questions:

- Faith Tippett – *Has Bernard Jenkin been helpful?*
Yes – certainly with obtaining charity status, as has Priti Patel.
 - Bry Mogridge – *Where are the volunteers coming from?*
Once the conditions of the MMO consent are known we will know what skill sets are required. Pointed out by other audience members that with other community projects there has not been a shortage of volunteers when necessary.
 - Alison Debney – *This is a complex legislative process, did we need to have the appropriate assessments?* Yes. There is a lot of legislation with pre- surveys, reports and post monitoring. All the information is on the website. We did not have to mitigate as the areas being used are of no ecological value and we will therefore be improving what is there.
 - Mark Nowers (RSPB) – *how much material would be needed for the brushwood fencing?* Mark Dixon to check but estimated at 200m.
8. AOB
Mark Nowers informed the meeting that three little tern chicks fledged on Old Hall point last year. These were the first chicks since 1991. Decoys have been used to encourage nesting.
 9. Next ordinary meeting to be arranged.

Meeting closed at 9.05pm.