

MINUTES of the Woodrolfe Hard Committee held virtually via Zoom on Thursday 19th November 2020 commencing at 7.30 pm.

Present: Cllrs. Bell, Clare, Lankester and Plater
Non-Council Members: Mr B Parmenter

In the Chair: Cllr St Joseph

Clerk: Michelle Curtis

1. Apologies for Absence

There were apologies for absence from Andrew Eastham.

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Lankester disclosed a personal interest, as he moors his boat on Tollesbury Saltings.

Cllr Clare disclosed a personal interest, as he is a berth holder at Tollesbury Marina.

Mr Parmenter disclosed a personal interest, as he is the Secretary for Tollesbury Fairways Committee and is a member of Tollesbury Sailing Club and Tollesbury Cruising Club.

3. Public Forum

There were no members of the public present.

4. Minutes

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Woodrolfe Hard Committee Meeting held on 1st October 2020 be approved as a true record of the Meeting. Unanimously agreed.

The Chairman to sign the minutes as soon as possible.

5. Aerial Survey

The Chairman expressed thanks to Ben Parmenter for organising the aerial survey.

Ben advised that he had spoken to the pilot who flew the drone, and they are very eager to put it into a contour format. Ben advised that he had questioned some of the details and GN Surveys are happy to spend more editing time on the survey within the same budget.

The Committee discussed the survey and raised various issues.

Action: Ben to progress issues and request additional data including information on the amenity pool.

6. Woodrolfe Hard

The Chairman reported that the issue at Woodrolfe Hard is the increased use and the limited access particularly near the bottleneck (near the moored dinghies). The Committee has previously discussed what the boat dock is for and the little use the area has. A photograph from the 1960s shows when the entire area from Tolfish Hump to the Hard was a graded gravel slope. Various thoughts are being given to how we extend the Hard to give more access space for trailers and also more space for launching by hand (i.e paddleboards, dinghies).

The Chairman reported that Cllrs Clare, Plater and himself had met on site that morning and discussed works to improve the Hard on a low budget basis. It was suggested that if the first three wooden sleepers were removed including the sign which would need to be relocated, this would provide six meters along the roadside and 7 meters out of extra Hard space.

Cllr Clare suggested that if the mooring chains were also moved this would give better access to the existing Hard. It was suggested that the dinghies could be more linear.

Action: Ben to action, as necessary.

Cllr Plater advised that he had put together some costings for the first phase of the project and the projected costs would be approx. £1,500.

Phase 1 of the project which is an extension of the existing Hard includes:

- Removing 3 of the vertical posts this would provide six meters along the roadside and 7 meters out of extra Hard space
- Installation of another dinghy ring and regulate where the dinghies go.
- Relocation of sign
- Dig out the mud and lay 3.5 tonnes of topping (stone)

Cllr Plater suggested some dialogue with Tollesbury Sailing Club to notify them of the proposed works for the next season.

Ben also suggested that some edging protection may also be required for vehicle protection.

Cllr Clare suggested a freshwater point. Ben advised that having talked to Tollesbury Marina they would be happy, in principle, for the Parish Council to have a meter off their supply.

It was agreed that a freshwater tap would be a good idea and would be Phase 2 of the project. The Chairman estimated the cost for the tap to be approx. £1,000.

Action: to be discussed further with Tollesbury Marina.

Phase 1 and 2 of the proposed improvements to be funded from the Woodrolfe Hard Earmarked Fund.

7. Speeding – Jet Skis

The report from Cllr Lankester regarding the speeding jet skis at Tollesbury Fleet and Woodrolfe Creek was received and noted. Unfortunately, there was no photographic evidence.

Action: Cllr Lankester to forward the report to the River Bailiff.

Cllr Lankester advised that the jet ski originated from the Hard or Marina.

The Chairman suggested that this item was discussed under Agenda Item 10 Other Matters when the Rules and Regulations for Woodrolfe Hard would be discussed.

8. South Channel Shallows

The letter from Tollesbury Mud Club regarding the south channel shallows was received and noted.

The Chairman advised that for any channel maintenance and there is going to be a funding requirement and a contribution from Tollesbury Mud Club would be gratefully received.

Action: Parish Clerk to reply to Mud Club explaining the present situation and the need for funding contributions and asking if she may get back to them when the exact funds are known.

Cllr Plater advised that during a meeting of the Tollesbury Harbour Project, the idea of a levy was discussed, and several stakeholders were in favour.

The Chairman advised that some photographs had been circulated earlier that day looking down the channel and a satellite image showing where the licence will be submitted for. This would be channel maintenance works and permissions would need to be sought from the MMO.

Action: Chairman to start an application to the MMO for an exemption.

Action: Cllr Plater to arrange a meeting of the Tollesbury Harbour Project Stakeholders.

9. Precept 2021/22

The Committee considered the funds that would be required for the general running of Woodrolfe Hard in the next financial year.

Rent (Lease from Crown Estate and FACT)	£431
Misc.	£350
Earmarked Funds (Woodrolfe Hard Project)	£1000

10. Other Issues

The Chairman advised that he had reviewed the Rules and Regulations for Woodrolfe Hard and explained the amendments which he recommended. The Chairman asked whether considering the comments made by Cllr Lankester, if

there should be an item prohibiting the launch of jet-skis from the Hard. The Committee discussed the document and suggested some changes.

Action: Chairman to revise the Rules and Regulations.

11. Date of next meeting

Date of next meeting to be agreed.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.50 pm.

Signed.....

Date:.....