

**NBHTA Business Meeting**  
**Monday 13 October 2008**  
**Council Chambers North Berwick**  
**7.30 p.m.**

**Minutes**

**Present:**

Gerry Hughes	Chairman
Stewart Auld	
Derek Braid	
Ken Burchell	
Colin Cumming	
Alison Hall	Treasurer
David Lumbard	
Jane McMinn	
Jim Sandison	
Jackie Tagg	Minutes
Bruce Todd	

**Circulation:** As above plus NBHTA Web Site ([www.nbharbour.org.uk](http://www.nbharbour.org.uk)), Harbour Master and NB Library

**1. Apologies**

John Hookway, David Reid, Cameron Small,

**2. Minutes of Meeting 1 September 2008 and Matters Arising**

Item 3.1 - Paragraph 3 Delete SSC and insert ELC. Delete 'their' and insert 'SSC'

Item 8 Paragraph 3 - After 'commercial boat owners/operators' add 'on the North Berwick Harbour Commercial boat owners register.'

Item 8 Paragraph 4 – Delete 'their boat trips' and insert 'the SSC'.

**Matters Arising**

Gerry would be meeting with Tom Brock of the SSC as soon as could be arranged to discuss a variety of topics and feedback received from NBHTA members. **Any further comments should be forwarded to Gerry.**

Galloways Pier and divers –procedures had now been drawn up. All divers must go through the Harbour Master before diving.

**Other matters arising were covered as part of the agenda**

**Proposed: Alison Hall**

**Seconded: Derek Braid**

**3. Towards Trust Status**

3.1 Revised Harbour Empowerment Order – update from Gerry

As David Reid was on holiday this subject will be discussed at the next meeting. The draft HEO has already been issued to members for comments **The subject of Trustees and related procedures for appointment, will also be discussed at the next meeting.**

3.2 Charity Status – pros and cons –[document circulated prior to meeting]

Alison presented her document which was discussed and questions answered.

**Alison to check with an appropriate Solicitor the position if as a Trust we got charitable status but then wanted to revert back. Would the funds/lands have to be passed to another charity?**

**Alison to check if there are any VAT implications of being a Charity.**

It was agreed that more discussion and information is needed. Although we cannot apply for charitable status until we become a full trust, the aim is to have a proposal on Charitable Status for the full trust to decide on, when formed..

**Any comments/questions to be sent to Alison.**

#### **4. Report Back from East Lothian Council - Bruce**

Ross Harbison started work as the Harbour Master on 11 October 2008.

Gerry Hughes, Bruce Todd , Stewart Auld and John Hookway met with ELC on 13 October [Alan Forsyth, Helen Bruce, Rab Pillains, Murray Hutchison] to discuss the fabric issues.

Disappointingly no progress had been made from the previous position.

Without the agreed consultation with NBHTA, ELC have been in contact with Atlas Marine who have submitted a report to ELC about Galloway's Pier and the quality of the work undertaken. As this report had just been received the ELC had not had time to read it.

ELC have made a commitment to look at the report and contact NBHTA by 17 October 2008..

With regard to the boom crane - 2 options are being considered by Atlas Marine. ELC promised to provide NBHTA with detailed proposals and costings by 17 October.

ELC had received 2 quotations for replacement railings/hand rails. One for wooden ones like the Yacht Club external stair case and one for galvanised steel railings. Neither option was deemed suitable, other alternatives would be researched by ELC.

Rab Pillains H&S Officer for ELC wrote a report last year about the harbour area. NBHTA had asked for this report to be revisited. Rab was unable to report progress. ELC have now agreed to look at what they propose would be needed to address areas of concern raised in Rab's report.

Next meeting with ELC 3 November.

It was agreed that Gerry would write to Alan Forsyth registering the concern of NBHTA about the lack of progress made by ELC. Copies will be sent to Dave Berry, Neil Rankin, Tom Shearer and Helen Bruce.

#### **5. Finance and Administration (Alison Hall)**

September accounts had been circulated. Little difference from August accounts.

No payments have been received from ELC which were due at the end of May and end of August. **Alison to send accounts to Helen Bruce and ask her to pursue with finance department. Alison to arrange a meeting with Helen Bruce which will also be attended by Gerry and Bruce to cover all regular liaison matters.**

#### **6. Harbour Manager Report – Gerry**

Report had been circulated by Gerry.

Lobster hatchery - feedback from meeting at SSC. Several NBHTA members had attended and it was a useful meeting. The SSC would like the NBHTA to support the idea in principle and further investigation.

After discussion it was agreed that at this stage the NBHTA are neutral on the proposal.

However getting regular information about the feasibility study/proposals was appropriate to ensure all harbour users interests are considered. **To this end Jane McMinn would act as liaison to keep NBHTA up to date. Derek to draft letter to SSC.**

Moorings waiting list – **Jim Sandison to help Jackie and the Harbour Master look at waiting list processes.**

**7. A.O.B.**

Microsoft now has a free accounting package which Alison is looking at and will report back.

**8. Date of Next Meeting**

3 November 2008 7.30 Council Chambers