

Minutes of the Meeting of the **BOAT PARK**
BEST VALUE WORKING GROUP held at the
Town Hall on **Monday 24th February 2003** at **2.00p.m.**

Present: -

Councillor A.H Miller - Chairman
Councillor Mrs G Marsh
Councillor Mrs J Wheeldon

Also in attendance: -

Mr A.J.Leeson Town Clerk
Mr G Brookes Operations Manager (from 2.30p.m.)
Mr M Leach Boat Park Attendant
Mr A Lander Swanage Fisherman's Association

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for their inability to attend the Meeting were received from Councillor J Roscoe and Councillor G Suttle.

2. **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 6TH JUNE 2002**

The minutes of the Meeting held 6th June 2002 were noted as agreed. With reference to minute 7, the Meeting set for Monday 23rd July was cancelled.

3. **MATTERS ARISING**

1. **Review of Operational Arrangements-Site Visit**

It was noted that the Boat Park Attendant had not yet been provided with a pager from the RNLI. The western section of the Boat Park is available for use during emergencies however car keys must be made available so that the cars can be moved.

2. **CCTV**

The RNLI have given approval for the installation of CCTV cameras at the Boat Park. The Town Council has allocated funds for the 2003/4 budget. The Fisherman's Association has agreed to contribute towards the cost.

3. **Angling Club – Cleats**

It was noted that the cleats had been made up but have yet to be installed.

4. **General – Pipes**

It was noted that pipes left by Wessex Water had still not been removed from the Fisherman's boat haul area and that this was to be followed up.

5. General Issues – Bad Debts

It was noted that the general matter of payment of accounts had not been taken to a Policy & Resources Meeting for consideration.

Under the model code of conduct Councillor Mrs Wheeldon declared a personal interest in the following matter by reason of a family member's use of a Fisherman's hut and as this was not prejudicial, remained in the meeting. Mr Lander also declared a personal interest in the matter.

4. ALLOCATION OF FISHERMAN'S HUTS

Mr Leeson stated that Mr Dyke, a registered Fisherman, had requested the allocation of an additional hut. It was noted that there were no vacant huts at the present time. The general issues of subletting and the use of the huts by people who were not registered Fishermen were raised.

After a brief discussion, it was AGREED: -

To review the Fishermen's huts lease to make it renewable on an annual basis and to consider prioritising the allocation of huts to licensed Fishermen.

5. GENERAL ISSUES

Boat Park Design

Proposed changes to the design of the Boat Park were discussed and a new design was submitted by Mr Leach. It was stated that the current layout was originally set up on the basis that it would be monitored and changes would be made if thought necessary.

Mr Leach outlined current problems encountered with the present layout. These were that the lengths of many grids were not correct resulting in many boats not fitting correctly into the allocated grid space. Boats in row B had difficulties in manoeuvring into the grids due to a lack of space. Boats in rows C and E overhung onto lower rows creating a hazard. The proposed design was created to tackle these problems and to tackle any Health and Safety issues however it would result in the loss of seven grids. It was felt that as long as an improvement in services was seen then objections to the changes would be minimal.

After a brief discussion it was AGREED: -

That as any loss of grids would result in a decrease in the potential income from the Boat Park the Clerk calculates the effect on rental charges and report to a further meeting of the working group.

Use of Slipway

Mr Leeson reported that a number of Fishermen were abusing the use of the slipway for stress of weather and leaving their boats on the slipway rather than renting a grid in the Boat Park. It was felt that this

was a bad practise and encouraged others particularly young Fisherman, to leave their boats on the slipway and could lead to the blocking of the slipway. Mr Lander reported that the numbers of young people entering the profession was increasing.

After a brief discussion it was AGREED: -
That Mr Lander would speak to the Fishermen concerned regarding their abuse of the slipway and that a discount on a grid in the Boat Park for young Fishermen would be sought from the Council.

6. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

A date for the next Meeting of the Boat Park Best Value Working Group was not set. It was agreed that this should take place after the local elections on 1st May and members would be informed at a later date.

The Meeting closed at 3.15p.m.
