

# **DART HARBOUR COMMERCIAL USERS GROUP**

## **Minutes of Annual Meeting held at Dartmouth Yacht Club on 20 January 2014**

**Present:** J Holman (Chair), M Holman, J Robinson, T Morris, J Scott (DHNA Board), Neil Hockaday (DHNA Chairman), I Noble, S Norvill, D Distin, J Distin, M Strudwick, R Giles (Harbourmaster), B Hollis, M Smallwood (Minutes)

**Apologies** P Sheardown, L Fleming, P Smith, B Taylor, N Brown, M Sharman

**Minutes of the previous AGM held on 4 March 2013** Were proposed by Stephen Norvill, seconded by Jeremy Robinson and approved by all.

**Matters Arising** None.

### **Chairman's Report for the year 2013**

John Holman reported on events during 2013:

- John thanked the RDCUG members who continue to turn up to meetings on a regular basis and also the Harbour Authority for attending the meetings and keeping the Group up to date with harbour matters which was much appreciated
- The weather had been bad during the first part of the year and delays were experienced with the refurbishment of the two slipways. Dartmouth enjoyed excellent events with the Music Festival in May and the Try a Boat Weekend. Come June, the weather improved which had led to a very good upturn in business compared to the previous year. It was good to see the newly refurbished Fairmile and the Kingswear Castle Steamboat going up and down the River
- The new Stoke Gabriel pontoon was well received. There had been some slight problems with pontoon moorings which now appear to be resolved
- Dart Harbour had a policy change with regard to moorings on the river
- Dartmouth Regatta had been a great success and the atmosphere on the river was very good, with no aggressive behaviour
- Unfortunately Atlantic Spars had gone into receivership. Pedro's has changed its name to Pedros Boatworks.
- All marina activities on the river did well, after a slow start
- Major black cloud was the worry about the pilots national pension fund deficit which will affect decision making for the Dart Harbour Authority over the next few years
- The RDCUG had discussed lights and speeding on the river; it had been agreed that ongoing observations were necessary
- 3 new members have been appointed to the Dart Harbour Board
- Dart Harbour Annual Report, delivered on 9<sup>th</sup> December and on the DH website, had highlighted its open dialogue with all river users and the very high percentages of satisfaction with the work carried out by the Authority
- The highlight for our Group was the visit by Dr Sarah Wollaston, MP for an informal discussion with members. She had gone away better informed and had been very supportive over the pension fund issue. Her doors are always open and he recommended that members contact her if they have any problems
- The Group had supported Andrew Pooley in his efforts to get SHDC to continue with funding for "Visit South Devon", with a positive outcome for a further year

- In summing up, John thanked Phil Sheardown, Barry Hollis and Melinda Smallwood for their support in their roles as Vice Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary respectively.

**Hon Treasurer’s Report for the year 2013**

Barry Hollis confirmed that the Bank Balance as of today was £822.00 in credit. 6 members had lapsed and there were 28 fully paid up members. Other commercial river users to be encouraged to join the Group.

**Election of Chairman**

John Holman was willing to continue and no other nominations had been received for the post. John was proposed as Chair by Julian Distin, seconded by Ian Noble and elected with all in favour.

**Election of Vice Chairman**

Philip Sheardown was willing to continue and no other nominations had been received for the post. Philip was proposed as Vice Chair by Mark Strudwick, seconded by Melanie Holman and elected with all in favour.

**Election of Treasurer**

Barry Hollis was willing to continue and no other nominations had been received for the post. Barry was proposed as Treasurer by Jeremy Robinson, seconded by Ian Noble and elected with all in favour.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 1925.

Chair ..... Date.....

The meeting then moved into the Agenda for the General Meeting.