

## MINUTES OF THE POOLE HARBOUR BRIDGES OPERATING BOARD

HELD AT COOBS QUAY ON 15 JANUARY 2018 - **DRAFT**

Present:

John Rice (JR)	-	Borough of Poole
Ricard Marshall (RM)	-	MDL Cobbs Quay
Dean Cluett (DC)	-	Poole Harbour Commissioners
Paul Trowbridge (PT)	-	Poole Harbour Association

	Action
<p><b>1. Welcome and Apologies</b></p> <p>Apologies: Jon Hennessey - Dorset Marine Police Dave Wilson – MDL Cobbs Quay (RM deputising)</p> <p>JR welcomed new BOB members and gave overview of BOB including: Constitution of BOB as defined in TWAO, scope of remit and advisory capacity to support the Council with the operation of the two bridge system.</p>	
<p><b>2. Approval of Previous Minutes</b></p> <p>Minutes of the meeting held on 15 September 2017 were approved.</p>	
<p><b>3. Matters Arising</b></p> <p>3.1 Selection of BOB members completed. Dave Wilson has been reappointed for a further three year term. Paul Trowbridge has joined BOB for the first time. As noted at the last meeting Dean Cluett has joined BOB to represent Poole Harbour Commissioners.</p> <p>3.2 As Dave Wilson and Jon Hennessey were unable to attend the meeting it was agreed that election of a chair person would be deferred to the next meeting. JR agreed to chair this meeting.</p>	

**4. Bridges Update**  
***Poole Bridge***

4.1 Works continue on Poole Bridge to complete the major refurbishment works. The contractor is undertaking the final testing and commissioning of the ancillary equipment and it is anticipated that the bridge will reopen to the public by the end of this week. (Post meeting note – Poole Bridge was reopened on 23<sup>rd</sup> January).

4.2 There will be a series of overnight closures to vehicle traffic, starting on 29<sup>th</sup> January, to allow the contractor to install the permanent timber deck panels in place of the temporary timbers currently installed.

4.3 The Contractor will be returning to the site in the Spring to complete the painting remedial works when the weather conditions are more suitable for painting steelwork. It is not anticipated that there will be a need for further bridge closures.

4.4 Due to operational issues identified with some of the refurbished IALA signal lamps the Council's proposal to reopen the bridge with only the red and yellow lamps working on one totem showing downstream and one totem showing upstream only was accepted. Mariners will be given either a signal to stop, proceed with caution or emergency stop. PHC will issue a LNTM.

DC

4.5 PT asked when the height clearance displays will be reinstated. JR to issue date as soon as it can be confirmed. (This is a maintenance issue and is not linked to the main reconstruction works.)

JR

4.6 DC asked when the CCTV link will be re-established to link the bridge control room to the Harbour Office. JR confirmed that this matter is being dealt with by the Council's fibre network maintenance contractor and would be resolved before Easter.

JR

***Twin Sails***

4.7 The annual maintenance closure for Twin Sails will commence on 19<sup>th</sup> March. It was agreed that the maintenance lifting schedule would be used as for previous maintenance closures and recommended by BOB in December 2014 (copy attached).

4.8 Prior to the closure, during w/c 22<sup>nd</sup> January, there will be some survey/ measurement works undertaken on Twin Sails which will involve the closure of the cycle lanes with minimal impact on other highway users.

<p><b>5. Customer Service and Complaints</b></p> <p>5.1 It was noted that the temporary arrangements put in place during the closure of Poole Bridge to assist the RNLI to respond to emergencies has worked successfully (copy attached). It was agreed that Bridge Operators would continue to follow this procedure after Poole Bridge is recommissioned.</p>	<p>JR</p>
<p><b>6. Health and Safety</b></p> <p>6.1 No issues or concerns were raised.</p>	
<p><b>7. Any Other Business</b></p> <p>7.1 JR briefed the meeting about the latest proposals to commence work on the former power station site which will result in the temporary lose of some of the short term berths. JR to provide further information as soon as the developer confirms the proposed arrangements and timing of the works.</p> <p>7.2 The timing and arrangements for the launch and positioning of the new RNLI floating boathouse have not been confirmed. The impact on channel users should not be significant but further information will be issued by PHC using a LNTM as soon as details are confirmed.</p>	<p>JR</p> <p>DC</p>
<p><b>8. Date of Next Meeting</b></p> <p>12 March 2018 at 14:00 at Cobbs Quay.</p>	

## Maintenance Lifting Schedule

<b>Lifting Times of Bridge Open to Highway Traffic</b>	<b>Approximate Lifting Times of Bridge Under Maintenance</b>
05:30	05:25 – 05:40
06:30	06:25 – 06:40
07:30	07:25 – 07:40
09:30	09:25 – 09:40
10:30	10:25 – 10:40
12:30	12:25 – 12:40
14:30	14:25 – 14:40
16:30	16:25 – 16:40
18:30	18:25 – 18:40
20:30	20:25 – 20:40
22:30	22:25 – 22:40
<b>23:00</b>	23:25 – 23:40

## **Procedure to Delay a Bridge Lift Coinciding with RNLI emergency Launches**

### **Introduction:**

The RNLI Lifeboat Operations Manager has approached BoP with the following concerns:

“We are becoming increasingly concerned about the potential for delays in getting our Helms and Crew to the lifeboat station after we have set off our pagers to launch. This is no fault of the Borough of Poole or the Bridge Operators but reflects the fact that 5 of our 8 helms are based in Hamworthy and many of the crew live there too”.

This procedure will be followed if RNLI need to respond to an emergency during any period that one of the bridges is not available for highway traffic.

### **Procedure to monitor alerts and delay bridge lifts:**

1. An RNLI crew pager will be provided to the Bridge Control room so that as soon as a lifeboat launch alert is issued to the crew the bridge operator is aware.
2. If the pager alerts in the moments immediately leading up to a bridge lift then an announcement is made on Channel 12 to the effect that “The next lift has been delayed for a short time to assist an emergency launch of a lifeboat. Thank you for your co-operation”. The road and footways can remain in full use by the public.
3. Should the pager alert during a lift the duty bridge operator should use his best endeavours to safely lower the bridge and re-open the road as soon as possible. The bridge leaves should be allowed to rise to fully open before being lowered.
4. An announcement can be made on Channel 12 to the effect that “This lift has been aborted to assist an emergency launch of a lifeboat. Another bridge lift will be carried out shortly. Thank you for your co-operation”.
5. The anticipated delay will be about 10 minutes.
6. During the delay period a representative of the lifeboat crew will contact the Bridge Control room either by phone or radio to advise when sufficient crew members have been assembled. *(Extract from RNLI proposal “....we aim to launch before that 10 minutes is up anyway so it shouldn't be an issue if we lose the odd one(crew member). Tied into you having the pager we'd also ensure all crew have the Bridge Control's number so if it is critical they could call you and see if an extra minute or two is possible. Equally.....we may be able to call and let you know that we have enough across so you can commence the lift.....”.)*
7. The bridge lift can then commence.

### **Additional information:**

- The risk of such events is very low.
- Disruption and delays will affect the mariners, who are easier to communicate with than the road users.
- We already assist the emergency services in a similar manner.