

**CABINET DECISION NOTICE FOR THE
SIMULTANEOUS WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
CABINET AND SOUTHWOLD TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING HELD ON
FRIDAY, 15 MARCH 2019**

**Decision Notice Publication Date:
Wednesday, 20 March 2019**

**Call-in period:
Thursday, 21 March 2019 to Wednesday, 27 March 2019**

**Implementation Date:
Thursday, 28 March 2019**

(Please note the Call In Provisions do not apply to Southwold Town Council.)

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OPEN CABINET DECISION NOTICE

Cabinet Area	Leader of the Council
Title of Report	Recommendations for the Future Governance of Southwold Harbour
Report Reference	REP1976

Purpose of Report

To seek approval of the proposed new arrangements for the future governance of Southwold Harbour.

Options Considered

All options for the new governance arrangements for the Southwold Harbour Lands have been carefully considered. The recommendation of the Southwold Harbour Lands Joint Committee to the Simultaneous WDC Cabinet and Southwold Town Council meeting is to modify some of the resolutions made at the previous meeting on 28 July 2014 and direct the Joint Committee to advise on proposals for a Harbour Management Committee, to secure the sustainability and viability of the Southwold Harbour Lands for future generations. A full and extensive public consultation exercise had also taken place, which included provisions for an online survey, written responses, drop in sessions on 19 and 26 January 2019, a public meeting on 6 February 2019 and street surveys on 11 and 18 February 2019.

Reasons for Decision

A great deal had happened and emerged since 2015. For the reasons summarised in the report from the 6 March 2019 meeting of the Joint Committee, it had become clear that the charitable model previously adopted by the Joint Committee was not appropriate. Accordingly, the Joint Committee had rescinded the resolutions made in 2015 to adopt that model.

The proposal of the Joint Committee to investigate and advise on arrangements for a Harbour Management Committee to succeed the Joint Committee would enable short term governance improvements and long term planning and improvements to be made to the Southwold Harbour Lands and the Harbour Order itself, by designing proposals, addressing future ownership and long term sustainability, responsibility, liability and delivery, in line with the terms of reference of the Joint Committee.

WDC CABINET DECISIONS:

To resolve to:

1. note and endorse the recommendations made by the Southwold Harbour Lands Joint Committee (JC) on 6 March 2019; and
2. modify the resolutions made on 28 July 2014 to withdraw the delegation to the JC to act as an *“Initial Strategic Board”* and direct the JC to instead, in line with its terms of reference, arrange to consult professional advisers and stakeholders and advise Waveney District Council’s Cabinet and Southwold Town Council on proposals for a Harbour Management Committee to succeed the JC and:
 - i) enable short term governance improvements (including more local involvement and engagement in management and delivery) in line with the key principles in the June 2014 consultation document and the Ports Good Governance Guidance issued by the Department for Transport in March 2018; and
 - ii) design proposals to deliver medium term improvements (which are likely to be made by application to the Marine Management Organisation for a Harbour Revision Order), addressing future ownership and providing for the long term welfare, sustainability, responsibility, liability and delivery of the Southwold Harbour Lands.

Declarations of Interest / Conflicts of Interest	<p>Councillor D Beavan, a Southwold Town Councillor and Waveney District Councillor, declared a Local Non Pecuniary Interest as he was the Chairman of the Southwold Haven Port Stakeholders Group, a member of the Blyth Estuary Partnership, had been a skipper and had previously owned a boat which had been moored at Southwold Harbour. He was also the WDC representative on the East Suffolk Internal Drainage Board, the Waveney, Lower Yare and Lothingland Internal Drainage Board and was a Substitute Member on the LGA Special Interest Group on Coast Issues and the Suffolk Coast & Heaths Project.</p> <p>Councillor I Bradbury, a Southwold Town Councillor, declared a Local Non Pecuniary Interest as he was the Secretary to the Blyth Estuary Partnership, he was the Southwold Town Council representative on the Southwold Harbour and River Blyth Users Association, attended the Southwold Haven Port Stakeholders Group meetings and was the Southwold Town Council representative on the Southwold Harbour Lands Joint Committee.</p> <p>Councillor S Doy, a Southwold Town Councillor, declared a Local Non Pecuniary Interest as her family had been involved with the Harbour for many years and both her son and grandson had a boat and a shed at Southwold Harbour.</p> <p>Councillor S Flunder, a Southwold Town Councillor, declared a Local Non Pecuniary Interest as he was the Vice Chairman of the Harbour Users Association, a member of the Southwold Haven Port Stakeholders Group, a Member of the Blyth Estuary Partnership. He also declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, as he currently had a shed and a boat at Southwold Harbour. It was confirmed that a Dispensation had been granted by the Clerk of Southwold Town Council to enable Councillor Flunder to take part and vote on this matter.</p> <p>Councillor M Ladd, a WDC Cabinet Member and a Southwold Town Councillor, declared a Local Non Pecuniary Interest as he would be able to vote twice during the meeting - once as a WDC Cabinet Member and once as a Southwold Town Councillor.</p> <p>Councillor D Palmer, a Southwold Town Councillor, declared a Local Non Pecuniary Interest as he was a member of the Blyth Estuary Partnership and was a member of the Southwold Harbour Lands Joint Committee.</p>
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Implementation Date (If no Call-In activated)	Thursday, 28 March 2019

Councillor M Bee
Leader of the Council