

NORTH EASTERN INSHORE FISHERIES AND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

05 MARCH 2021

Present

Councillor Ron Allcock
Dr Stephen Axford
Councillor Edward Bell
Councillor Tony Randerson
Prof Mike Elliott
Councillor Chris Matthews
Mr Nigel Proctor
Mr Gary Redshaw

Representing

North Lincolnshire Council
MMO appointee
Durham County Council
MMO appointee
MMO appointee
East Riding of Yorkshire Council
MMO appointee
MMO appointee

Clerk Caroline Lacey, East Riding of Yorkshire, Stephen Chandler East Riding of Yorkshire Council and David McCandless, Chief Officer also attended the meeting.

Due to the restrictions associated with the Covid-19 pandemic, the meeting took place via a 'Zoom' conference dial in, the meeting commenced at 09:30.

1.	APOLOGIES
	Apologies for absence were received from MMO appointee Carter.
2.	DECLARATION OF PERSONAL OR PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS
	Resolved – The Clerk asked Members to declare any personal or prejudicial interests with respect to items on the Agenda and the nature of such interests. No such interests were declared.
3.	TO TAKE NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12 NOVEMBER 2020 AS A CORRECT RECORD
	Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting held on 12 November 2020 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.
4.	NEIFCA ANNUAL PLAN
	The Chief Officer presented a report for members to review the Annual Plan for the year 2021/2022. The Chief Officer discussed with members the ambitious programme of work and the key areas of focus for the year. Members discussed training and in particular gaining greater insight into 'day to day' operational activities. It was agreed that an event in September 2021 should be arranged to meet with staff and to visit the Authority's offices and assets at Whitby. Members were asked to forward any further comments on the plan to the Chief Officer by the 15 March for consideration.
	Resolved – (a) The annual plan for 2021/2022 was reviewed. (b) Members authorised the draft of the accompanying annual report, summarising the Authority's main activities and outputs during the 2020/2021 year.

5.	REVENUE BUDGET 2021/2022
	The Treasurer presented a report to inform Members of the draft budget for 2021/22. Members were informed that the 1% levy increase approved at the Authority Meeting on 18 December 2020 had been incorporated into the budget, which fully funded the revised staffing structure following the completion of the organisational review. The Chief Officer had been required to identify savings of £20,000 and this had mainly been achieved through a reduction in the travel & subsistence budgets.
	Resolved - a) That the draft budget for 2021/22 be approved b) That the level of general reserves is maintained at £228,450 (18%) of the annual levy c) That the £23,000 supplementary budget for external projects, fully funded by external income is added to the 2021/22 budget
6.	BUDGET REPORT 2020/2021
	The Treasurer presented a report to advise Members of the budget position at the end of month 09 (December) in 2020/21. At the end of December 2020, the Authority had net expenditure of £668,786 against an expected £810,368, underspending by £141,582. The forecast outturn underspend was £248,270 mainly due to employee underspends due to vacancies and patrol vessel underspends. Members agreed that due to the uncertainties surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, the decision to transfer any underspends to either the General Reserve or the Renewals Fund should be postponed until June 2021. Retrospective approval was sought for the inclusion of a dynamic vessel stabilisation system and higher specification charting and radar plotting system for the new vessel totalling £31,318, fully funded from in year underspends.
	Resolved – (a) That the budget monitoring position is noted. (b) That the inclusion of a dynamic vessel stabilisation and charting and radar plotting system in section 3.3 is retrospectively approved, funded from in year underspends. (c) That any underspend at the year-end be transferred to either the Renewals Fund or the General Reserve, the decision on this to be taken at the June 2021 Authority meeting.
7.	RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY & STRATEGIC OPERATIONAL RISK REGISTER REVIEW
	The Clerk presented a report which included a revised Risk Management Strategy for adoption and to inform members that in accordance with the Strategy, a review of the Strategic and Operational Risk Registers had also been undertaken and was reported for approval. Members discussed the presentation of the report and suggested that the Strategic Risk Register should be colour coded and a visual ‘heat chart’ included as part of future reporting.
	Resolved – (a) That the revised Risk Management Strategy be adopted and the revised Strategic and Operational Risk Register be approved. (b) The presentation of the report to be altered in line with comments received by Members at the September review.
8.	NEIFCA HEALTH & SAFETY POLICY & SAFE WORKING PRACTICES 2021/2022
	The Chief Officer presented a report to inform members of the completion of the Annual review of the Authority’s Health & Safety provisions. Since the last review in December 2020 the Chief Officer was pleased to advise that there had been no notable incidents or accidents to report. Over and above the standard operational risk assessments and associated safe

	working practices, NEIFCA officers continued to respond rapidly to the unprecedented impacts and risks associated with the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic to both protect staff and comply with all current governmental advice.
	Resolved – Members noted the report.
9.	NEIFCA BYELAWS UPDATE
	The Chief Officer presented a report To update members on all current fisheries byelaw work streams. Members were informed that on the 12 February 2021 the Byelaw XXXII Fish, Mollusc and Crustacea Byelaw 2019 had been confirmed by Defra. This new byelaw regulation was formally made by the Authority on 5 December 2019 to replace an emergency byelaw which re-instated long-standing minimum landing sizes for a wide range of fish and shellfish species across the NEIFCA district. The new regulation was made jointly with Northumberland, Eastern and Kent and Essex IFCAs.
	Resolved - Members noted the report.
10.	NEW CABIN RB & PATROL VESSEL REPLACEMENT UPDATE
	The Chief Officer presented a report to update members on progress with the build and commission of the new 9.5m Cabin rigid inflatable boat (RIB) and the replacement of the main vessel. Members were informed that the build of the 9.5m cabin RIB was been managed and overseen by the Deputy Chief Officer, Ian Davies. Despite periodic impacts caused by the ongoing Covid 19 pandemic, the build was progressing well. The main super structure was complete and the internal ‘fit out’ was well underway including wiring, ancillary pipe work and electronics. The next phase would be the installation of the main engines. The Clerk and Chief Officer updated members on a forthcoming meeting with DEFRA officials to discuss external funding support for the replacement of the main patrol vessel. The Chairman suggested that there should be some publicity and a press releases focusing on the sea trials and delivery of the new 9.5m cabin RIB.
	Resolved - Members noted the report.
11.	ANY OTHER BUSINESS
	The Chief Officer thanked Cllr Bell for his time served as a member of the Authority.
	The meeting closed at 10:40.