

MANCHESTER PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Manchester Port Health Authority

Held on Monday, 27 July 2015

Reference 2015/04M

15 29 Members Present**Date:** Monday, 27 July 2015**Venue:** Runcorn Town Hall, Committee Room 1

Present:	Chairman	Cllr K Morley	Halton Borough Council	KM
	Vice Chairman	Cllr A Brocklehurst	Salford CC	AB
		Cllr T Sherlock	Cheshire West & Chester Council	TS
		Cllr S Lanchbury	Manchester CC	SL
		Cllr H Barrett	Manchester CC	HB
		Cllr N Ali	Manchester CC	NA
		Cllr J Salter	Wirral MBC	JS
		Cllr B Sharp	Trafford MBC	BS
		Cllr R Wilson	Salford CC	RW
		Cllr P Connor	Salford CC	PC
		Cllr E Burgoyne	Salford CC	EB
		Cllr D Hammond	Cheshire West & Chester Council	DH
	Officers	John Robinson	Chief Port Health Officer	JR
		Andrea Smith	Deputy Chief Port Health Officer	AJS
		Lynnette Crossley	Senior Port Health Officer	LC
		Yvonne Graham	Office Manager	YG
Minutes taken by:		YG		

15 30 Apologies

		Cllr H Mundry	Warrington BC	HM
		Cllr D Royle	Manchester CC	DR
	Accountant	Tony Thompstone	Salford CC	TT
	HBC Solicitor	John Tully	Halton Borough Council	JT

15 31 Minutes and matters arising from the Ordinary Board Meeting of 30 March 2015

KM welcomed Cheshire West and Chester's new representative Councillor Don Hammond to the Board of MPHA. Everyone around the table introduced themselves.

JR informed the members he had now received Stephen Carr's presentation from the June meeting and would distribute it asap.

(15 23) from last meeting, JR explained a budget case had been put to the APHA board on 15 July 2015 & APHA had agreed to pay MPHA £5k and Salford City Council £3k towards the APHA Administration. This will be enforced after the APHA conference in September into October. With a Service level agreement (SLA) drawn up between MPHA and Salford City Council.

(15 28) it was agreed at the last meeting JR & RW would book 4 venues for the Ordinary Meetings 2016 and they would be held between Runcorn and Salford. These have now been arranged.

KM asked the elected members if there were any other matters arising from the previous meeting. None were raised. All agreed.

15 32	Budget Monitoring as at 30 June 2015
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The Budget Monitoring report as at 30 June 2015 was enclosed for members consideration:
If any elected member has any questions, the CPHO will try and answer in Tony Thompstone's absence.
SL asked if SLA's were paid annually, JR agreed all except the IT which is paid monthly.
JR explained all Riparian's were written to asking for tendering for the MPHA, SLA's by the end of July.
So far all current SLA's have agreed to carry on with no changes.
SL asked why there were two 'Energy' lines 5040 is not used. TT to look into on his return. YG said TT probably codes all energy under the one code.
Reserves at the end of the year are forecast to be £260,000

15 33	Chief Port Health Officers Report from May & June
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JR introduced the CPHO's report for the months from May and June, 85 vessels were inspected, a number of vessels were found to be of an unsatisfactory standard or requiring advice, 13 ships requested ship sanitation exemption certificates, they were certified within the two month period and the income generated by the Officers was £2048. Officers also undertook 19 fresh water samples and of those, 14 were unsatisfactory and advice was given on treatment, re-sampling was undertaken as appropriate. No animals were found on board.

BS asked where most of the inspections took place.
JR pointed out all the various berths along the 37 miles of the ship canal. A 'key' will be entered onto the next report explaining the abbreviations for the different ports.
JR said most vessels are at the Cheshire West and Chester end of the canal, however RW did point out this is going to change in the next few years with Port Salford.

RW again asked if legislation had changed over the years and were ships allowed now to just sail away even if issues had been raised on board.
JR/AJS explained with then new International Health Regulations imposed since 2007, it was more difficult if not impossible for vessels to disappear if work was needed to correct defects. MPHA works in partnership with the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA). They have the power to detain vessels and regularly do so. The Doris T at Ellesmere Port is a good example of joined up working.

AJS also reiterated that inspections were only a part of the need for visits to the docks, during their ship visits they also inspect the International catering waste bins and monitor pest control.

SL asked about the legionella samples taken from the Doris T.
AJS explained the ship had been detained waiting repairs, it had been moved from Liverpool onto the ship canal due to costs.

AJS pointed out that apart from the bacteriological drinking water failing, the legionella results were a considerable fail. The crew were struggling with language translation and conditions on board were not acceptable. High risk of disease. Unfortunately there is a possibility the ship will be abandoned.

AJS has written a report to the flag state and the coast guard agency. Guidance has been provided to the crew on the actions required to remedy the situation. A letter has also been sent to the ship's owner stating that enforcement action may be taken against them. The coastguard agency have also been contacted on a number of occasions.

TS pointed out that this is why Port Health Officers are so important and why Port Health exists. The water samples over the year showed 50% failures, showing the importance of sampling.
AJS said some ship's crew do not see the importance due to lack of understanding and some had not heard of legionella.
JS said he too has received photos of this ship that were absolutely awful, again reiterating the importance of Port Health.

JR will have a verbal report for the September meeting. Update on the crew and ship.
JS Tommy Molloy, International Transporters Federation (ITF) went on board, crew have now all changed.

AJS said help was declined. The ITF went on board when the ship was first detained and offered assistance to repatriate the crew. This was declined by the crew on board at the time as they were holding out for payment of wages owed. A document was signed refusing assistance. All of these crew members have now gone home however the agreement remains in place.

LC made a re-visit to the ship on Friday 24 July 2015 and supplied them with new chopping boards and sanitiser.

JS gave a brief update on 'Most Sky' a ship that had been detained for several years. A new owner had now been found and the ship had sailed away.

PC wished to be assured that the Officers visiting the ships are safe from the likes of legionella.
AJS explained that when taking legionella samples, plastic bags were placed over the taps to isolate any splash back. For the likes of Ebola, MPHA would be informed prior to the ships arrival and would contact the port Medical Officer before boarding.

LC pointed out the importance of up to date training for Officers, to both protect themselves, surrounding areas of the docks and the ship's crew.

AB said Officers are protecting people's lives, legionella is a terrible disease that can cause disability and death.

JR thanked Councillor Mundry for attending a ship visit with the Deputy Chief Port Health Officer (AJS) on 10 July 2015 and hoped he would expand on this at the next meeting.

Once again JR invited all members to make an appointment for a ship visit, explaining they are interesting and very informative.

KM asked if members accepted report as true record.
All agreed.

15 34	Discussion and Amendments to Policy Documents
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JR thanked SL for proof reading the documents.
Enforcement Policy (EP):- LC explained she had reviewed the documents and updated the policy where necessary.

Service Delivery Plan (SDP):- was delivered by AJS and said the (SDP) is in part derived from the Food Standards Agency framework agreement an Official Feed and Food Controls by Local Authorities. It is an annual requirement to produce this document.

JR:-figures are issued in the plan are from Peel Ports and will not be published on MPHA website.
HB pointed out that figures are published on the Peel Ports website.

JR: was lead to believe by the Harbour Master that the figures were confidential. When arrangements were made with the harbourmaster the figures as supplied were confidential. That was the original arrangement and whilst the harbour master had changed, our agreement with Peel Ports had not changed.

Business Plan (BP):- Was presented by JR. This is a 5 year plan which now takes into account the Peel Ports plan.

Liverpool 2 will increase the work into Port Salford, developing Inter-modal depots.
page 14 of the BP – number of employees to be amended to 6, completed.

JR informed the members that MPHA is kept in the loop from Peel Ports and in the future due to the BIP further staff will be required, ie Officers, Vet, Administration. Information network and regular meetings are arranged. The steelwork for Port Salford has begun and officers will keep elected members aware

of developments.

15 36

AOB

Discussed Port Salford.

EB explained businesses wanted to move in immediately from spring 2016. JR agreed. Will move very quickly.

RW asked who paid for the buildings for the BIP. JR replied Peel Ports were responsible for the building but MPHA were responsible for the staffing. Costs could and would be offset against charging for inspections.

TS was informed that there was no more coal being distributed from Manisty. LC explained that coal had been discontinued as a National Policy, due to costing an extra 9% for transporting it. Manisty berths and equipment were now being used for aggregate. This also included Fiddlers Ferry power station, which was now using bio mass.

HB asked if this would have an impact on less ships.

AJS said not necessarily, aggregate will be a continued trade and once Port Cheshire opens there could be more ships.

JR said currently aggregate is moved by rail.

TS said the local residents have previously complained about the coal and therefore hopefully situation will now have improved.

PC warned about changes in government policy. Asked members to be aware of changes already with Northern Power House proposals by Chancellor of the Exchequer, George Osborne.

JR threats and opportunities: This changes in the Northern Power House plans could be viewed in many ways. There had been a slowdown in the electrification plans across the Pennines, which might impact on Port Salford. Time to keep a watching brief and gather all information for the future.

SL would like dates on the policies changing to 'Agreed on 27 July 2016' not 8 June 2016. Members agreed.

Apologies for next meeting from SL and NA, maybe HB

Meeting closed at 11:30

Date and Time of Next Meeting

Ordinary Meeting

Monday, 28 September 2015, Venue: Runcorn Town Hall, Committee Room One

Commences at: 10:30 am