

QHM/532/3

10 March 2016

**NOTES OF THE TAMAR ESTUARIES CONSULTATIVE FORUM MEETING
 HELD AT 1015 ON THU 10 MAR 2016 IN
 WARSPITE ROOM, COUNCIL HOUSE, PLYMOUTH**

<u>Present</u>	<u>Representing</u>
Mr C Necker	Chairman and Queen's Harbour Master (QHM)
Mrs K Curry	Natural Infrastructure Officer (NIO)
Mr N Trathen	Deputy Queen's Harbour Master (DQHM)
Mr A Jones	Port Conservancy Officer (QHM)
Mr A Stanger	Natural England
Mr M Goble	Plymouth City Council Pier Master
Mr M Sullivan	Associated British Ports
Capt T Charlesworth	Cattewater Harbour Master
Ms H Kendal	West Country Rivers Trust
Ms J Wytcherley	Plymouth City Council NI Team
Mr T Cronin	EA Catchment Co-ordinator
Dr S Otway	DIO
Mr C Matthews	Duchy of Cornwall
Cllr B Vincent	Plymouth City Council
Cllr M Benson	West Devon Borough Council
Mr R Swinfen	Wembury Conservation Group
Mrs K Stephenson	D&SIFCA
Mr J Sabel	NIO Team
Mr N Gray	Marine Management Organisation
Ms J Bugg	Marine Management Organisation
Ms C Woodall	Tamar Valley AONB
Ms J Simpson	Minute Secretary

<u>Item</u>	<u>Discussion and Decisions</u>	<u>Action</u>
1. Welcome and Introductions	Cdr C Necker welcomed everyone to the TECF Meeting.	
2. Apologies for Absence	Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr G Wheeler (PCC), Mr J Sable (NIO Team), Mr P Ellesmere (EA), Mr S Cadman (CIFCA), Mr R Sekula (SHDC/WSBC), Ms R Baker (CC), Cllr B Hobbs (CC), Ms L Garlick (DCC) and Cllr P Sanders (DCC).	
3. Agree Notes of the last meeting.	The notes of the last meeting held on 12 Nov 2015 were accepted as a true record of the meeting.	
4. Matters Arising.	4.4.6. Kaja Curry, the Natural Infrastructure Officer (NIO), was asked to invite SW Water to give a presentation to TECF on their Water Quality Improvements project. As SWW have not responded to this invitation the Chairman agreed to send a letter to the Chief Executive outlining the importance of including SWW in TECF as a relevant authority. NIO to draft letter. <u>Action Ongoing</u>	NIO

	<p>4.4.11d. The Water Users Leaflets are now ready for distribution. <u>Action Complete</u></p> <p>4.14a. Dr Otway reported that the 1st draft of the Baseline Document for dredging has been completed. However, the release of the document will take place after the new dredge licence has been received. Dr Otway will provide an update at the next meeting. <u>Action Ongoing</u></p> <p>7.4 The most appropriate method of disseminating the results of the Slipway Audit to TECF members remains outstanding.</p> <p>7.5 The action to send out requests for sponsorship of TECF Interpretation panels will occur subsequent to production of the Water User Leaflets. <u>Action Ongoing</u></p> <p>7.8 NIO continues to gather information to complete this year's annual survey. All members requested to cooperate as fully as possible to deliver accurate survey results.</p> <p>Mr Sullivan had asked if there were any plans to repair Western Kings shoreline. NIO agreed to raise the issue with PCC on the importance of this area in the hope that funding can be found for repairs.</p> <p>8. NIO drafted a very comprehensive response to NE's draft advice which was sent on behalf of TECF. QHM thanked NIO for her hard work. <u>Action Complete</u></p> <p>9. The action on NIO to add a link to TECF's website directing those interested in recreational angling to the IFCA website is complete.</p>	<p>Dr Otway</p> <p>NIO</p> <p>NIO</p> <p>NIO / All</p> <p>NIO</p>
<p>5. Marine Planning in the South West</p>	<p>Mr Neal Gray MMO gave a presentation on Marine Planning in the South West (details of which are attached to these minutes). The waters around England have been divided into 11 Marine Plan Areas (MPAs) and the Government is committed to ensuring that all MPAs will be stood up by 2021. To date, the MPAs have been completed for just two areas (Eastern inshore and Eastern offshore) with the plans for the South West (inshore and offshore) just starting. This is estimated to take approximately 3 years and aims to balance economy with conservation. Whilst this will be led by the MMO, TECF will have a critical supporting role if we are to ensure that the marine plan delivers maximum benefits for the Plymouth Sound and Tamar Estuaries area.</p>	
<p>6. Tamar River Plan</p>	<p>Ms Hazel Kendal gave a presentation on the Tamar River Plan. West Country Rivers Trust (WCRT) are a charitable organisation who work to restore rivers, lakes, estuaries and coastal areas. QHM hopes that Ms Kendal's brief will promote mutual working with TECF and help the WCRT action its aim here in Tamar Estuaries. Presentation slides are attached.</p>	
<p>7. TECF Service: Natural Infrastructure Officer's (NIO) Report.</p>	<p>NIO presented her report, which is attached at Annex A.</p> <p>6.1 <u>Funding</u>. Letters have gone out requesting the contributions to TECF for 2016/17. To date only two responses have been received along with a holding response from Sutton Harbour. It is vital that the funding be secured in time for the new financial year. All funders were asked to provide confirmation of 16/17 funding by 15 Apr. NIO agreed to produce a "statement of account" outlining forthcoming expenditure.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>NIO</p>

8. Nature Conservation.	<p>Mr Andrew Stanger (Natural England) reported that the Tamar Estuaries Complex Special Protection Area (SPA) has been published and will go live in May.</p> <p>The way monitoring and condition assessment of the European sites is undertaken is being revised. Once the process has been agreed, a report will be produced. Following discussion, Mr Stanger agreed to represent this to the next TECF Officer's meeting which would give the officer's time to look at it before the next TECF meeting in July.</p>	NE
9. IFCA Update	<p>Mrs Stephenson reported that D&SIFCA have undertaken a pre-consultation into netting within estuaries and at sea with a view to creating a new permit netting byelaw. Their aim is to have a formal consultation on the byelaw by June.</p> <p>New bass management regulations have been put in place for all recreational fishermen, fishing from the shore and from boats. This follows a decline in the numbers of bass due to reduced spawning of juveniles and increasing fishing mortality. These new restrictions are in place:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From 1 Jan – 30 June 2016 - zero commercial except with fixed nets; 1% by catch for trawls and nil recreational • From 1 July – 31 Dec 2016 only one bass per fisherman per day. <p>NB the minimum size for a bass is 42 cm.</p> <p>The restrictions will be enforced by both IFCA staff and MMO staff.</p>	
10. MMO and current Marine Licence applications.	<p>a. Licence application for Thanckes and Yonderberry Jetty are ongoing.</p> <p>b. Cattewater Harbour Authority and HM Naval Base have disposal licences for disposal at Rame Head.</p> <p>c. CEFAS are continuing to look for a new offshore disposal site.</p> <p>d. FOST and fisherman deconfliction with gear being towed away.</p> <p>e. There are now 5 Marine Enforcement Officers in Plymouth.</p>	
11. EA Updates	<p>Mr Cronin's updates can be found at Annex B. Dr Otway DIO asked if any project had come up that could use soft silt materials? Mr Cronin agreed to pass this onto Mrs Thomasson and QHM asked for details of any known work into this area to be passed to Dr Otway.</p>	EA / All
12. Matters brought forward from PPMLC.	<p>There was nothing to report from the PPMLC.</p>	
13. Water Events	<p>The 2016 Water Events Diary can be found on the QHM website. This already includes regular sailing events and large events such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air Displays and Parachute drop 1 May • TRANSAT 2 May • Armed Forces Weekend 25-26 Jun • Fireworks Championships 16-17 Aug • Powerboat Racing Oct <p>All were requested to inform QHM of any additional events and these</p>	

	would be added to the diary. A full checklist is available on-line. www.ghm.mod.uk/plymouth/									
14. Items for Future Meetings / Any other business	<p>a. Ms Woodall TVAONB reported the Tamar Valley AONB's project to look at reducing the visual impact of electricity lines with respect to lines crossing the Tamar at Weir Point is no further forward.</p> <p>b. Mr Sullivan announced his retirement and wished the Forum every success in the future. QHM thanked him for his support over the years and wished him well for the future.</p>									
14. Dates of Next Meetings	<p>Dates of the forthcoming PPMLC and TECF meetings were published as follows:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td><u>PPMLC</u></td> <td><u>TECF</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1400 on 9 June 2016</td> <td>1015 on 14 July 2016</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1400 on 13 October 2016</td> <td>1015 on 10 November 2016</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1400 on 9 February 2017</td> <td>1015 on 9 March 2017</td> </tr> </table>	<u>PPMLC</u>	<u>TECF</u>	1400 on 9 June 2016	1015 on 14 July 2016	1400 on 13 October 2016	1015 on 10 November 2016	1400 on 9 February 2017	1015 on 9 March 2017	
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Distribution:

NBC, All Committee members

Agenda Item 7 Natural Infrastructure Officer's TECF Report Item for Information

1. Marine Planning

The waters around England have been divided into 11 marine plan areas and the Government is committed to ensuring that all marine plan areas will have a plan by 2021. To date the marine plans have been completed for just two areas (Eastern inshore and Eastern offshore) with a further two areas in the south awaiting adoption. This leaves just five years to complete the other seven areas.

The MMO is responsible for the production of these plans and work will start soon on the plans for the South West (inshore and offshore).

The plans are subject to a Sustainability Assessment which will also need to be carried out as part of the plan-making process. The NIO has input into the initial work being carried out as part of this ahead of further consultation that will take place in the summer.

Over the next 3 years months it can be anticipated that there will be considerable work in collecting evidence, reviewing strategies and plans and seeking input from stakeholders. Whilst this will be led by the MMO, TECF will have a critical supporting role if we are to ensure that the marine plan delivers maximum benefits for the Plymouth Sound and Tamar Estuaries area.

2. Feedback from National MPA Steering Group Meeting

The National Marine Protected Area Management Group has met once since the last TECF meeting and although notes of the meeting have not yet been circulated, an update has been received;

Development of a reporting framework:

Plymouth Sound and Estuaries SAC is being used for the national trial using Natural England's Designated Sites System. Once complete, users will be able to view the key data for each site including a summary of the site's condition and management.

SUMMARY:	
SSSI Name:	PLYMOUTH SOUND SHORES AND CLIFFS View map
County:	CORNWALL, DEVON
Districts:	CARADON, PLYMOUTH, SOUTH HAMS
Other designations:	4
Other overlapping designations:	Plymouth Sound & Estuaries (SAC)
Reasons for designating the SSSI:	Explain citation View Citation
Operations requiring Natural England's consent:	Explain list View List
Our Views About Management (VAM) of the SSSI:	Explain VAM View VAM
There are 5 live units for this site.	View summary condition View condition of SSSI View units

- **Monitoring implementation, delivery and review of actions:** they are exploring whether they can capture information from authorities on when MPAs have been taken

into consideration when issuing consents although this may require too many resources.

- **Providing guidance and disseminate best practice** – they are in discussions with RYA and British Marine on providing templates for codes of conduct as well as guidance on roles and responsibilities;
- **Work plan for next year;** their work plan for the current year is now complete although they did not manage to recruit the dedicated officer. They will now be looking for next years work which will include the following possible work items:
 - Bait digging – the group has been commissioned to strategically review this activity
 - Continue work to look at reporting frameworks, identifying guidance and best practice
 - Ensure equal emphasis on offshore sites
 - Report on what we doing and help to proactively identify new issues
 - Have clear milestones for reporting

They hope to have the dedicated officer in post in the next few months who will have the role of gathering evidence, and proactively identifying key strategic issues through communication with local authorities and project officers working at site level although the process for this coordination has not yet been determined.

2. Draft SAC, SPA and MCZ Reg 35 Advice Packages

Draft packages for the SAC, SPA and MCZ have now all been produced. TECF provided a single response to the SAC and MCZ in early January.

Draft advice is not formal statutory advice, but reflects the most up-to-date evidence held by Natural England and should be used to help make decisions on marine activity, management and casework. Once they are adopted as the final packages, then they will constitute Natural England's formal statutory advice.

3. Plymouth Plan and Local Greenspace Designations

One of the key areas for Plymouth is an area defined as the Plymouth Waterfront, and the Council has appointed some consultants to come up with a vision for this important part of the city. Workshops have been run to seek everyones views and will be used to come up with a single view of what this area should look like in twenty years time.

Also, as part of the Plymouth Plan-making process, the communities have been asked to nominate sites for a new designation called 'Local Greenspace Designation' which will afford protection similar to designated 'green belt'. To date over 170 nominations have been received for 120 different sites. Of these, some are coastal and include Drake's Island, Devil's Point, Kinterbury Creek, Mount Wise, Hoe, Jennycliff and Mount Batten.

These sites will now be reviewed and will assessed against the criteria which include issues such as beauty, historic significance, recreational value, tranquility and richness of wildlife

Other sites will also be considered including all the city's parks and gardens and other greenspace sites.

The final nominations will be consulted on this summer.

5. Interreg Projects

The NIO is working closely with Plymouth City Council's European Funding Officer to identify the best European pot to target. So far he has identified two potential programmes to target; either Channel or the NW Europe / Atlantic programme. These funding sources can be a little chaotic when they are first launched and so the advice is to wait for the second call for projects rather than the first. NIO will ensure TECF is kept fully informed.

6. Funding and priorities for 2016/17

6.1 Funding

ORGANISATION	2016/17	2016/17	comment
	requested	suggested	
Natural England	2,100	2,000	
Harbour Authorities			
Ministry of Defence, QHM	2,237	3,000	
Associated British Ports	1,678	3,000	
Cattewater Harbour Commission	8,270	9,000	
Sutton Harbour Commission	1,119	3,000	
Subtotal	13,304	18,000	
Local Authorities			
Plymouth City Council	7,247	9,000	£10,000 agreed
Devon County Council	2,000	2,000	£2,000 agreed
Cornwall Council	2,000	4,500	
West Devon Borough Council	3,635	4,500	
South Hams District Council	3,635	4,500	
Subtotal	18,517	24,500	
Other			
Duchy of Cornwall	3,500	4,375	£4,375 agreed
Environment Agency	In kind	In kind	
Devon & Severn IFCA	In kind	In kind	
Cornwall IFCA	In kind	In kind	
Marine Management Organisation	In kind	In kind	
English Heritage	In kind	In kind	
Total	37,421	48,875	

Letters have gone out requesting the above contributions. To date only two responses have been received along with a holding response from Sutton Harbour. It is vital that the funding be secured in time for the new financial year. If partners need any further information then please contact the NIO.

Priorities for the next year will include the following;

1. Stabilise funding
2. Mid-term review of the management plan in light of Reg 35 Conservation Advice update.
3. Continue to host TECF, PPMLC and TOFF meetings.
4. Recreation Study for the Habitats Regulations Assessment and drafting of findings to inform strategic planning documents.
5. Annual survey to be carried out and report on findings.
6. Contribute to the National EMS Group to support coordinated approach to management and to support coordination of South West marine plans.
7. Continue to provide marine planning advice to local planning authorities.
8. Produce a generic Non-native marine invasive species plan for the Tamar.
9. Support the production of the Cornwall Environment Strategy
10. Renew 4 TECF Information boards.

7. EMS Recreational Impacts including Slipway Audit and mapping

The Marine Biological Association has completed the mapping work for us and are now carrying out a series of surveys over the coming 12 months in order to assess recreational usage: where users are coming from and how they use the site.

The MBA will be using students to carry out the surveys and will also be carrying out workshops with targeted groups such as sailors.

The work is being carried out in partnership with Cornwall Council, South Hams and West Devon in order to build a comprehensive picture on how the area is being used and where this impacts on the sensitive features. This will enable the authorities to apply a planning levy to new developments in order to ensure that the site is properly managed in light of the pressures on the site.

The MBA has also been given the contract to do further work on a national scale and they are using the approach being developed with the Tamar, so the best available knowledge is being applied.

Slipway Audit

The slipway audit will be published over the spring.

8. Little Egret Research Group

In January the NIO organised a meeting of bird specialists (BTO, Webs Coordinator, RSPB, Wildlife Trust, NE, local experts) to discuss how we might improve our knowledge of little egrets and how they use the area. It was agreed to work together to get more data. The next steps are to identify the critical research questions and then use the birding groups to collect the data.

9. Non-native Marine Invasive Species

NE funded a series of workshops around the South West aimed at marina operators and harbour authorities with a view to raising awareness on the risks from non-native marine invasive species and how to minimize and manage. There was a discussion on whether it would

be effective to have one generic template for marinas in the TECF area and views are now sought on whether this should be taken forward. **Views please.**

10. Water Quality

Bathing Water: After the excellent Bathing Water results from last year, we will be hoping to repeat the 'Excellent' ratings received. Once again the Plymouth City Council will be adopting the early warning system which enables predicted failures to be discounted from the overall classification.

Water quality: The new Plymouth based project called Reaching Communities' has now started with a view to engaging communities in the management and use of their natural green (and blue) spaces. As part of this we are looking into the 'yellow fish' scheme that builds on an international approach to protecting the environment and involves stenciling a yellow fish symbol beside drains to remind people that any waste entering them may go directly to the nearest stream or river or bathing water – causing pollution and impacting wildlife. The project will be looking to trial this approach working with pilot communities in Plymouth.

Catchment Based Approach: West Country Rivers Trust: TECF is working with WCRT to identify areas of cross-over and where we can work closer together in order to deliver the catchment based approach to river basin management.

11. Leaflets and Signage

TECF WATER USERS LEAFLET

The TECF Water Users leaflet is now finished and being circulated. 5,000 have been printed and there are flat unfolded copies as well.

TECF Interpretation Signs

The production of the panels have slipped due to problems with the final artwork for the leaflet. This will now be carried out over the summer.

12. Annual Survey

We have reviewed the annual survey and have now simplified it and will be circulating it via Survey Monkey.

13. Marine Archaeology

New guidance has been produced by Historic England on "The Assessment and Management of Marine Archaeology in Port and Harbour Development". This document sets out advice for organisations or individuals involved in the planning and development of port and harbor facilities, particularly those involving environmental assessment. Further information is available here: <https://www.historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/assessment-management-marine-archaeology-port-and-harbour-development/>

14. Developments

Current planning and marine planning matters include the following:

Plymouth

14/00001/FUL Drakes Island. Hotel development including conversion of Grade II listed Island House, Scheduled Ancient Monument, battery and landscaping, refurbishment of

jetty and infrastructure works. Application submitted 2 January 2014. In January 2015 the Committee agreed a 'minded to consent subject to additional information being submitted' decision. Further surveys have been undertaken to assess noise levels on the island. A decision is likely Thurs 11 March.

15/00781/MIN Jennycliff Pathway

Pre-application - Replacing pathway to beach at Jennycliff following storm damage. Due to works proposed below mean high water mark a Coastal Concordat will be required.

15/01377/FUL SITE TO THE WEST OF ERNESETTLE LANE

Solar Photo Voltaic farm development, capable of generating 4.1MW electricity including perimeter fencing, PV array and racking system, inverter houses, sub-stations, access track, CCTV and infra-red lighting, cabling, temporary construction compound and associated landscape and ecological mitigation and enhancement measures. Consented.

15/01271/FUL KINTERBURY POINT, HMAD BULLPOINT, HMNB DEVONPORT

Proposed helipad and forward operating base to service the Fleet Helicopter Support Unit, comprising construction of helicopter landing site, demolition of three existing buildings, modification of part of an existing building, relocation of security fencing, construction of a new building to replace those demolished, and construction of a fuel bowser park. Decision Approved

15/02371/FUL DEVONPORT DOCKYARD, SALTASH ROAD, KEYHAM, PLYMOUTH

Demolition of office building(10/11 storey) and construction of replacement office building (5/6 storey) and associated outbuildings, parking and landscaping. Pending

Cornwall

MLP/2012/00326. Yonderbury Jetty, Torpoint. EIA Screening and scoping for replacement of facility. This is a major piece of work which requires a full environmental impact assessment and MMO have agreed to lead on this. EIA Screening is complete. Works are ongoing to address environmental issues.

Mrs Kaja Curry
Natural Infrastructure Team Leader (Maternity Cover) & TECF Coordinator
Tamar Estuaries Consultative Forum
Kaja.curry@plymouth.gov.uk
@TamarEstuaries
March 2016

**AGENDA ITEM 11
ENVIRONMENT AGENCY UPDATES**

11a. Strategic – James Bevan (Chief Executive)

Environment Agency have been discussing with DEFRA Secretary of State Liz Truss and Natural England the idea of aligning EA area boundaries with those of NE.

Liz Truss wants EA, NE and other parts of DEFRA group to structure our work around the river catchments and landscapes that make up the environment; to work together with our partners to achieve our goals.

It has been agreed for to align the EA's and NE's area boundaries in July 16, with the EA moving from 16 to 14 areas and NE adjusting its existing 14 area boundaries to align with EA. This should strengthen EA's partnership with Natural England by co-locating wherever possible and enhancing our efforts to work together. This will include a joint plan for each of the 14 areas to deliver a long term environment objective.

11b. Strategic message – Marcus Salmon

Remove surface water from the combined sewer.

Each planning application is being used to influence the reduction of flow to the combined system, for example - Millbay application have requested for the installation of storage pipes to be built into the system now for future use, therefore drains will be separate to surface water pipes to reduce water pollution.

11c. Highways England road Investment Strategy (RIS) 2015-2020

Two strands to the funding – Infrastructure and Environment

Landscape and Biodiversity funds is being run by Matt Tompsett, Kier Services / Highways. Matt is very keen on Partnership Schemes – matched funding opportunities to help with grasslands and increase of species; helping to achieve more favourable conditions for SSSI; nature improvement areas and deliver of some of the works at Marsh Mills on the Long Brook. This also ties up with green infrastructure route improvements that PCC were considering.

11d. Tamar Banks – Jess Thomasson

We are reviewing the current flood defence maintenance of the flood banks that only protect agricultural land in the Tamar estuary. The reasons for this are to:

- i. Create habitat to help deliver the England biodiversity strategy
- ii. Save money
- iii. Deliver compensatory habitat to offset predicted coastal squeeze (habitat) losses in Plymouth sound & Estuaries SAC and Tamar Estuaries complex SPA, ie deliver Shoreline Management Plan requirements.

We are currently working with NE to identify what habitat we need to create and where this habitat should be. We also need to understand what the other authorities compensation needs are and the project team will liaise with MOD, PCC and Cornwall Council on this.

Tamar Invasives – EA have a little funding to do the control of Giant Hogweed on the Tamar again for 2016. The project is from Calstock to Polson on the main stem of the Tamar and a bit of the River Lyd too.

Salt marsh Sediment analysis – NE and EA are liaising with Plymouth University to suggest possible undergraduate projects to help us better understand the estuary.

Smelt – NE are paying EA to do the smelt surveys for the MCZ. Rob Hillman found some dead eggs this week but doesn't think they've done the main spawning yet as it is too cold – he will be surveying again next week.

11e. Coastal Study – Frank Newell

JBA Consultants are undertaking a coastal study to look at the impact of large wave action on the breakwater and coastline, the estuaries to Tamar Bridge and Marsh Mills on the Plym. The survey is due for completion in Sep/Oct and will produce a report and output data alongside a hazard map.

11f. Dredging – Clarissa Newell

This is an MMO activity with EA acting as a consultee in planning applications. Howard Quay (Corporation Wharf) have applied for a licence to dredge and use the material in onsite construction.

11g. Science Group – Devonport Dredge

Royal Haskoning consultants have been commissioned on behalf of MOD (Dr Otway DIO). The science group has been set up to look at the behaviour of sediments in the estuary, identifying causes of high arsenic found in some mudflats and reporting on how to safely dispose of dredging material on land.

11h. North Plymouth WTW (Roborough) – replacing Crownhill WTW

The new facility will be the first in the UK to employ a new and innovative treatment process and will secure the water supply for future generations of Plymouth and its environs. The facility will use a suspended ion exchange and ceramic microfiltration technology, which represents a move away from current chemical and energy-intensive treatment processes. It is the first time this technology has been used in the UK. A meeting will be held soon with Mr Mike Court SWW, EA and NE.

11i. Bathing Waters Improvement Works

EA are working with SWW on the National Environment Programme (NEP) to reduce spill frequency from CSO's, ie in the Cattedown and Lipsome Vale areas.

11j. Environment Officers Report – Mike Ingman

Camels Head Sewage Treatment Works – After prosecutions last year there is now a third reduction of flow to treatment while SWW spend £4 million on a refurbishment. Whilst the work is in progress there may be an increase of spills into Western Mill Lake.

EA have finished their joint work looking for illegal connections, however SWW have commissioned Pell Frischmann consulting engineers to continue investigating contaminated outfalls as part of the NEP to protect bathing waters.