

Report to: **Annual Council**

Date: **20 May 2021**

Title: **Salcombe Harbour Board – Appointment of Co-opted Board Members**

Portfolio Area: **Council – Leader**

Wards Affected: **Salcombe and Thurlestone, Kingsbridge, Stokenham**

Urgent Decision: **N** Approval and clearance obtained: **Y**

Date next steps can be taken: Immediately following this meeting

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RECOMMENDATION

That the Council RESOLVES:

- 1. that, with immediate effect, Messrs Andrew Owens and Ian Shipperley be appointed to serve on the Salcombe Harbour Board as Co-opted Members for the period to the date of the Annual Council meeting in May 2024; and**
- 2. to suspend its Procedure Rule that would otherwise require a recruitment process in 2022 to enable, with effect from the date of the Annual Council meeting in May 2022, Mr Paul Brown to be appointed to serve on the Salcombe Harbour Board as a Co-Opted Member for the period to the date of the Annual Council meeting in May 2025.**

1. Executive summary

- 1.1** The purpose of the report is to approve the appointments of Co-opted Members to the Salcombe Harbour Board, in line with the recommendations of the Appointments Panel.

2. Background

- 2.1 On 20 July 2006, the Council considered and approved proposals for the reconstitution of the Salcombe Harbour Board. This was to ensure that the Council could best govern as a Harbour Authority for the future in line with Department of Transport's (DfT) 'Guide to Good Governance' and the Municipal Ports Review which had been published.
- 2.2 As part of the reconstitution, Members approved the establishment of a 'fit for purpose' Board consisting of up to ten members, of which up to six could be co-opted and four made up by nominated District Councillors. A recruitment process was agreed with appointments being based upon a range of technical skills demonstrated by applicants together with other relevant criteria which would make them suitable Board Members. This applied to both co-opted members and Council nominees.
- 2.3 To provide sufficient continuity, the appointment of co-opted Members has been staggered and there are currently two vacancies to be filled on the Board. The appointment process allows for successful co-opted Members to serve an initial three year term. Following the first three years, and with the agreement of the Chairman of Salcombe Harbour Board, co-opted Members are entitled to serve a further three year term without the need to submit to an interview process.

3. Outcomes/outputs

- 3.1 A recruitment process was undertaken for the two vacancies and advertisements placed for potential Co-opted Board Members. There was a good level of interest and a number of applications received. It was noted that the standard of applications this year was of a particularly high standard.
- 3.2 The interviews took place on Monday, 26 April 2021, with the Panel consisting of Mr Hugh Marriage, Vice Chair of the Salcombe Harbour Board and Mr Ian Gibson, a previous Salcombe Harbour Master. The Panel was also supported by the current Harbour Master and the Democratic Services Specialist.
- 3.3 As a result of the interview process, Messrs Owens and Shipperley were assessed by the Panel (when judged against the criteria) as being the two most suitable applicants for appointment and were therefore recommended for the vacant positions on the Board.
- 3.4 The third ranked interviewee (Mr Paul Brown) was deemed so close to the successful top two candidates that it was agreed to offer him a vacant position that would exist from May 2022 (Mr Marriage has already given notice of his intention to stand down

from the Board in May 2022). It is therefore recommended that the Council suspend its Procedure Rule that would otherwise require a recruitment process in 2022 to enable this decision to be implemented.

4. Options available and consideration of risk

- 4.1 The Constitution sets out the number of co-opted Members who should sit on the Salcombe Harbour Board and the terms under which they are appointed. It is therefore a requirement that a recruitment process is undertaken.
- 4.2 There are potential risks in failing to appoint a 'fit for purpose' Board Member. The robust recruitment process which judges applications against set criteria has mitigated this risk.

5. Proposed Way Forward

- 5.1 Following the recruitment and selection process, the proposed way forward is to appoint co-opted Members in line with the recommendations of the Interview Panel.

6. Implications

Implications	Relevant to proposals Y/N	Details and proposed measures to address
Legal/Governance	Y	Statutory Powers – Local Government Act 2000; Local Government Act 1972 and the Pier and Harbour Order (Salcombe) Confirmation Act 1954
Financial implications to include reference to value for money	N	There are no direct financial implications
Risk	N	These have been addressed in the body of the report
Supporting Corporate Strategy		Council Theme
Climate Change - Carbon / Biodiversity Impact	N	No direct carbon/biodiversity impact arising from the recommendations
Comprehensive Impact Assessment Implications		
Equality and Diversity	N	

Safeguarding	N	
Community Safety, Crime and Disorder	N	
Health, Safety and Wellbeing	N	
Other implications	N	

Supporting Information

Appendices:

None

Background Papers:

None