

Shotley Pier Group AGM

Red Lion Coffee Morning – 1 December 2018

Thank you to all the community shareholders who attended the AGM which was held at Shotley Village Hall on the 16 November. The Board was pleased that 78 out of our 530 community shareholders were able to attend the meeting and also appreciated the many messages of support sent by those who could not attend.

There was applause from members for the hard work and achievements of the Society since its formation. The pace has felt slow since the planning application was refused, but the Society has actually only owned the pier since February 2018.

Members raised the following matters:

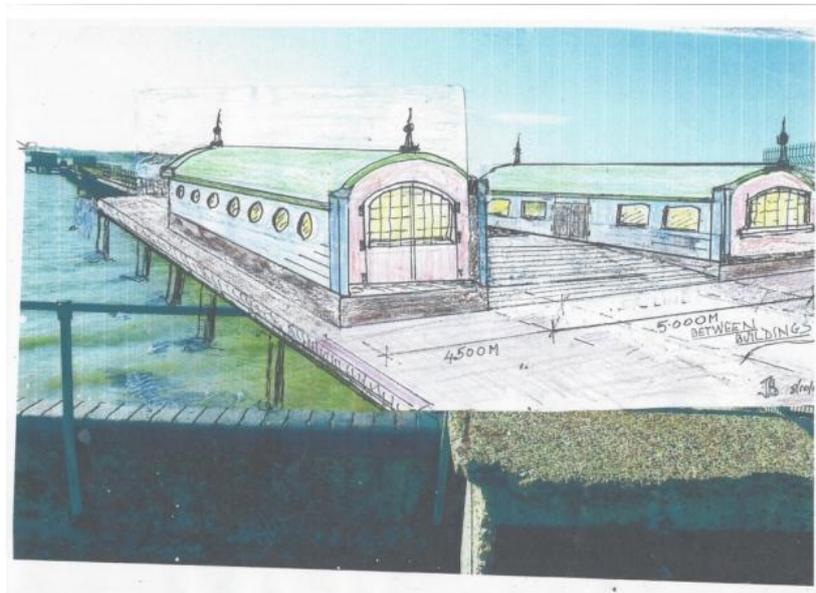
Several members expressed concern regarding the frequency and content of communications during the year and felt they needed to be better informed. While many emails and newsletters have gone out, the Board acknowledged there is room for improvement with co-ordinating information on website and social media. As part of improving communications, the Board asked everyone to provide their email address and mobile phone number so that text messages, short opinion surveys and informal votes could be sent by these methods. The Society will be utilising a new texting platform called Twine which has been donated to the Society by the Booster Fund, and will improve the website to gather all documents in one place.

The AGM was a chance for members to meet the Board and Officers of the Society. Peta Hillier, the Company Secretary, explained the process of electing Directors, and Sarah Vincent, the Society's book-keeper answered questions around the accounts. Questions included topics such as travel costs claimed by volunteers, rum sales and marketing matters.

Chairman John Davitt explained that the Board has appealed against the planning decision and does not intend to withdraw the appeal. The Board has repeatedly said that if the appeal is successful, the design can still be amended but from the position of having gained planning permission, rather than starting from scratch again.

Various ideas have been discussed since the September investors meeting, and John invited Barrie Powell to present one of the alternatives under consideration.

The presentation by Barrie showed John Bowen's proposal to the meeting, with a symmetrical duo of buildings alongside the pier, with a wider entrance to the pier.



A supporting display of various potential options showed various roof styles and finishes, and people browsed round the boards, kindly loaned to the Pier Group by Shotley Open Spaces (SOS)

John Bowen gave the meeting a summary of how he approaches design. He confirmed that he had already shown the designs to the Marina and got their support for a different approach to the existing plans. He also stated he understood why the Directors would not be willing to withdraw the appeal.

Members responded positively with comments both during the AGM and via feedback cards submitted after the meeting. Those present liked the suggestions and John Davitt undertook to develop the ideas. It is planned that shareholders who were not at the meeting will be shown ideas and their input sought - this will include a range of roofing styles and window styles, some interesting images were displayed to promote debate !



As with the original proposed design, a balance will need to be struck between consulting on ideas and settling on a final design. As stated at the September investors meeting, the Board feels the shape of the roof to be the single most visual statement about the buildings, and intends to take a vote so that shareholders will choose one out of perhaps three types of pitched or curved roofs.



The Society was pleased to present more share certificates and the remaining certificates which have not yet been collected will now be posted out.

The start-up Directors were re-elected unopposed (Bere Allen, Sally Chicken, John Davitt, June Lawford-Randall, Gary Newton, Barrie Powell, Mike Scott, Peter Stebbings) and a new Volunteer Director was elected, the Board looks forward to getting to know Michael Chambers.



Following a long stint in the banking industry, most notably as the Chief Executive Officer of the UK's biggest retail payment system and bank account switching service, Michael Chambers is now pursuing a portfolio career as an Independent Non-Executive Director and undertaking payments related consultancy engagements. As part of this portfolio, Michael has decided to include some voluntary work and as a long standing supporter and investor in the pier project, he enquired about becoming a volunteer Director when he saw the AGM notice. Michael has attended several investors meetings and had been impressed with the way the volunteers conducted the meetings and the way the project was being progressed. He said: 'Although I had not met the Board before the AGM, I felt their ethos was one I could enjoy helping.' Michael can be followed on Twitter @_mike_chambers_

What's in a name?



In 2016, the steering group discussed the name of the Pier, as it was known locally by two different names: Shotley Pier and Bristol Pier. The idea of a completely new name was also suggested – with Shotley Railway Pier being a strong contender.

The steering group took a democratic vote to call it Shotley Pier, and the logo reflects that decision. The group has referred to it by this name ever since, and when the Society became owner of the Pier, went about officially amending the name of the property at the Land Registry. During the conveyancing, paperwork showed the original name was Shotley

Pier, as shown on the oldest maps of the area, and this enabled the legal title at the Land Registry to be registered as a minor amendment instead of a new name. This process was officially completed on 6/11/18

The eagle-eyed amongst you will note that our workers have started removing material from the pier. This is because the stanchions and railings have degraded substantially this year, accelerated by the bad storm back in the spring. We will store the stanchions for renovation, and the wood will be available for artistic fundraising use.

One of the shacks on the hammerhead has been discovered to be on the brink of collapse, so that too will be removed in the near future. Warning signs have been erected at the pier.

The last coffee morning of this year will be held on 1 December – new dates for 2019 will be available soon.

Shotley Pier Fund Raising Art Wall and Coffee Morning The Red Lion, Chelmondiston



**Saturday
1st Dec**



10.30am - 12

Tickets: £5 to
include coffee/tea
and cake

No need to book



Our last coffee morning of 2018 – new dates for 2019 coming soon

Shotley Heritage Charitable Community Benefit Society Ltd
www.shotleypier.co.uk

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