

COMMUNITY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 22 March 2021

Agenda Item 14 – Appledore Slipway – Councillor Ford’s Notice of Motion

Decision of Community & Resources Committee - 1 February 2021

Resolved:

That the closure of Appledore Slipway for jet skies with suitable bollards being positioned to enable continued access for swimmers and canoeists, and the decision for Bank End to be left to the Harbour Board be agreed.

Call In

This resolution has been the subject of an approved call in request by the requisite number of Councillors.

Call in comments/reasons:

Councillor Pennington

Cllr. Ford's Motion -- a lot of discussion going on at the moment - this is not only about jetski's -- widening to environmental issues in the Torridge and Taw estuary. Not sure how I view this should proceed - feel it is the Full Council as the overall effect is Torridge wide.

Councillor Newton

I have received the attached email outlining some potentially serious issues with the recent C&R decision to place bollards or barriers on the Appledore slip to deny its use to jet skiers. As such I think this decision should be looked at again by O&S and so I support Dermot's request to call-in this decision.

Councillor Jones

I am writing to support Cllr McGeough’s proposal to call in the decision relating to the banning of jet skis from the C&R meeting dated 1st February.

My reasons for this are as follows:

I understand that the RNLI use this slipway, have they been consulted about the bollards being installed? The RNLI were not mentioned in the C&R meeting, so I do not believe that sufficient consideration has been given to this.

The proposals for bollards would not only stop jet skis but also other craft which use the slipway to launch. I think that this is disproportionate and that further consideration needs to be given to how any bollard system would work. As such, Internal Overview and Scrutiny should be provided with a number of options for how such a system could operate.

Councillor McGeough

I have grave concern about the lack of information yesterday regarding the RNLI using the slipway for a rough water launch site for the boarding boat, installing

physical barriers would prevent their accessibility to the slip. I would also like costings provided for a permit system to be implemented which would then give the jet skiers a binding contract with the council. My idea raised about CCTV would work and just needs keeping on top of by our very capable officers.

Councillor Langford

I am contacting you to call in item 12 from the Community and Resources meeting of Feb 1st, that is Councillor Ford's notice of motion. Whilst I agree with the sentiments of the decision made, I do not think it is the most workable solution.

Recommendation of Internal Overview & Scrutiny Committee - 16 March 2021

Recommendation:

Due to the wider implications, Internal Overview & Scrutiny Committee do not agree the decision made by Community & Resources Committee to ban the launching of jet skis or the closure of Appledore Slipway with the use of bollards.

**For consideration by Members of the Community and Resources Committee
22 March 2021**

Whether to:

(a) Accept the recommendations of Internal Overview & Scrutiny Committee meeting of 16 March 2021.

Or,

(b) Reject the recommendations of Internal Overview & Scrutiny Committee meeting of 16 March 2021 and retain the original Community & Resources Committee decision of 1 February 2021.

By approving item (a) the matter will be finalised and the position will be as was prior to any decision or by approving item (b) the matter will be referred to Full Council to make the final resolution.