

MEETING OF THE PADSTOW HARBOUR COMMISSIONERS 05/16

HELD AT THE PADSTOW HARBOUR OFFICE

ON THURSDAY 19th MAY 2016 AT 7.00PM

Present: Mr D Martin, Capt R Atkinson, Mr W Jago, Mr M England, Mr G Saunders, Mr W Chown, Mr B Murt, Mr M Stacey, Mr C Toogood.

Apologies: Mr S Summers

In Attendance: Mrs N Dyer (Assistant Administrator), Mrs P Hicks (Secretary) Mr D Lockwood, Mr P O'Neill (Commercial Speedboat Operators).

Before the meeting started Vice Chairman welcomed the two new Commissioners - Mr M Stacey and Mr C Toogood representing St Minver Highlands & Lowlands (Rock).

To Take Information and Comments from Any Members of the Public Present: None at this meeting.

Invoices and Payments for the period ending 12th May 2016 From 19th April to 12th May 2016 invoices totaling £214,735.24 had been paid.

ME commented on the payment to Firetrust, HM explained that the Mailwasher Software is for getting rid of all the junk emails that come through on a daily basis - it cleans up the emails so there is a lesser risk of a computer virus.

BM asked about the UK Fuels payment – Fuel for the RHIB and yacht cans plus diesel for the truck. This had increased as the RHIB was now on daily patrol of the River Camel.

DM enquired about the Water Sampling by Cornwall Council, HM explained that PHC have two separate air break tanks to meet regulations and testing is done twice a year.

Approval of Minutes 04/16 Minutes were passed as a true and accurate record of the meeting and were approved by WC and seconded by WJ.

Matters Arising from Meeting 04/16 Cornwall Council - South Quay Toilet Block - HM still had not received a reply from his last email regarding the change of lease. The PTC new toilet block was almost complete which

means the South Quay Toilet Block will soon be closing down.

Mr T Heslop, MCA - with regard to Boatman's Licensing and PHC as a Competent Authority able to issue local licences for small passenger vessel skippers - HM was still waiting for a response from Mr Heslop. HM had spoken to Mr P Townsend who had not seen the letter but was quite happy for PHC to continue licensing Boatmen in Padstow and other ports in Cornwall. He said that he would have another letter sent confirming this.

Bradford's Quay - with regard to the sign to be placed on the new wall at Bradford's Quay, HM still had not been able to get in contact with anyone about the sign - HM will continue till he gets a response.

Financial Briefing

Mrs N Dyer had prepared a financial report for the Commissioners.

Car Park - Income for April lower compared to last year and overall, for the 4 months to the end of April car park income is down by 0.8%.

Ferry - Income for the 4 months January to April is down by 1.9%.

Dredger Contracts - Income is on target and higher than this time last year.

Harbour Maintenance - Exceptional expenditure for lock/keys on the existing tier system for the new workshop.

Car Park Maintenance - Adverse variance is due to the car park resurfacing in the fisherman's stores car park.

It was brought up about the fisherman's car park and fisherman's parking permits.

Fisherman Store holders can park in the fisherman's store car park and have one card key per store for the barrier. Separate to this is the Annual fisherman's parking permit (number issued capped at 14), these customers have a sticker in their vehicle for the South Quay car park and the permits are for fisherman and trip boat operators. There is no allocated space just a concessionary rate.

There is some confusion, but the two types of permit are not interchangeable and some fishermen with stores have been allowing friends and family to park in the stores car park and then using one of the South Quay pay and display spaces for their own vehicle – agreed that this is to stop.

Also, some annual permit holders have multiple permit 'stickers' so it is possible that several different cars can be parked in the pay and display car park and staff suspect that sometimes these vehicles overlap, so PHC is losing revenue.

HM felt that the annual permit was given out to try and support the fishermen / trip boat operators business and was not intended to allow friends and family to also park in the car park. To stop this, it was proposed by BM and seconded by WC that the Annual Fisherman's Parking Permit (for the South Quay P&D) was allocated specifically for one car only and the registration of the elected car should be on the sticker, all in favour except C Toogood and M Stacey who abstained.

DM commented that the bank balance was looking healthy and that the aged debtors had reduced.

Correspondence

Mr J Noble - sent an email regarding the obstruction to navigation by crab pots coming into Padstow at night. HM read the email to the Commissioners and he also said that he had a visit this week from a regular yachtsman who also felt that this was becoming a problem and putting people off sailing into Padstow, especially at night. BM said that there was a lot more pots/gear out there now near Pentire head but not all was within port limits.

There was again a lengthy discussion over this subject – PHC appreciate that incorrectly rigged pots can present a danger but also there is evidence of vessels passing the wrong way around the DHAN markers. PHC have already agreed to try and strengthen their byelaws to include a section saying fishing gear deployed within harbour limits must be properly rigged and marked with retro reflective tape. Apart from this, it would appear that there is little PHC could do, however HM agreed to raise the subject at a South West ports meeting to see if other harbour's experience the same problem.

HM will also write to IFCA to see if they can strengthen the byelaws on the marking and rigging of fishing equipment.

Kate Hedges, DEFRA - writes to say that Rock bathing waters have been de-designated and no more water sampling will be done. There is now no need to display the bathing water quality signs.

Rachel Andrews, Chief Instructor, RYA – writes in response to HM's letter regarding powerboat tuition and the boat speed required for 'advanced' training - planing speed is required and speed limits of less than 20 knots could cause a problem.

**Port Administrators
Business**

RQCP extension - HM had a meeting with Chris Matthews from the Duchy of Cornwall regarding the problems with the public footpath but unfortunately James Blyth from JGP is off sick at present. There remains confusion over the current status of the footpaths and another meeting with all interested parties (PHC, Cornwall Council, JGP, Duchy of Cornwall, and Countryside Access Team) is requested.

Rock Activity Centre - HM had accepted the quote for the replacement doors. HM met with Sean from PS Counters to show him what's needed from the doors and to get a further guarantee from Rationelle.

Railing around the Quay - HM had accepted a quote from Iron's Brothers.

Black Tor II - the ferry is currently out of action with the bow door removed to complete the safety modification. Also had a rattling sound in the port engine - Perkins think its the water pump and it will be changed under warranty.

Mannin - she is still working in Ramsgate at the present. Tender documents have been sent out for her 5 yearly dry dock period. Mannin needs to be in dry dock within 3 months of July so looking at late June early July. HM will look at the tenders and will appoint someone before the next meeting.

Mowgili - HM had an enquiry from Cardiff Bay Yacht Club regarding picking and relaying all their 200 moorings next spring. Vessel will only be chartered if this fits in with our own winter maintenance of moorings.

Crane Slab - This had been put on hold till James Blyth (JGP) gets back or until another engineer picks up his workload.

Declaration of Interest - HM reminded the Commissioners that this needs to be up to date and asked them to review and sign the folder.

New Store - The steps have gone in today, once the handrails are done West Cornwall Construction will attend to finish the snagging list. Western Power should connect the electric on 6th June and this is also the same day that BT has promised to install the new high speed broadband connection.

DGW Sand - HM let the Commissioners know the sad news that David Williams had passed away a few weeks ago.

PMSC

The incident report mentioned at the last meeting (involving the BT ferry and the local gig) has been sorted out. HM had spoken

to the Gig Club Safety Officer who said it was an inexperienced cox, they are now going to put together a training programme to better educate new cox's.

RHIB Patrol - the new patrol officer (Jack Chapman) has started work and has already responded to a "Pan Pan" regarding two kayakers outside the bar, who he towed the back to safety.

There had also been a surfer in trouble who was recovered by the lifeguards but our RHIB attended and had to take on a couple of large waves on the bar. Conditions were such that the RHIB skipper (Rob McBurnie) had to wait outside the bar until the tide made and the conditions got better. HM was alarmed that at the same time, a couple of our local passenger boats were still running in these conditions. It is the skipper's decision on favourable weather and the conditions were not poor enough for HM to try and take prohibiting action, however HM did question the suitability of conditions with the one skipper he could contact with the result that he turned back and cancelled the trip until later in the day.

HM had spoken to a local skipper about leaving his engines running and in gear when loading and unloading passengers. HM had explained the dangers and insisted that this practice must cease.

There had been an incident with a blue 'cobalt' speedboat, although not actually breaking the speed limit, the vessel was making too much wake and acting with little consideration to other mariners – RHIB patrol has given him a warning.

Items for Discussion

ME - asked HM if NCI Stepper Point had been in contact with him regarding the name of PHC's RHIB and the conflict / confusion this causes with "NCI Stepper Point" ? HM said that yes they had and it had been agreed that even though the RHIB was named 'Stepper Point' the call sign "Harbour Patrol" should be used on VHF radio to avoid confusion.

WJ - Daftens Slipway, Wadebridge - WJ had be accosted about the slipway as it had been fenced off; DM said that land registry shows that Daftens don't actually own it. Apparently, Cornwall Council had seen Daftens to say that it was Cornwall Council owned, the barriers should be removed and if they wished to challenge this decision, Daftens should provide further evidence within 14 days.

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 16th June 2016 at 7.00 pm in the Padstow Harbour Office.

The meeting went "In Committee" at 20:20 hours.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 22.00 hours.