

MEETING OF THE PADSTOW HARBOUR COMMISSIONERS 05/24

HELD AT THE LONG ROOM, PADSTOW

ON THURSDAY 23rd MAY 2024 AT 7.00pm

Present: Mr J Hewitt (Chairman), Mr M England (Vice Chairman), Mr B Phillips (Harbour Master), Mr I Kitto, Mr J Murt, Mr P Blewett, Mr D Martin, Mr W Delcour, Mr G Saunders

Apologies: Mr C Toogood

In Attendance: Mrs N Dyer (Assistant Administrator), Mr L Burt (Assistant HM), Mrs P Hicks (Secretary), Mr M Spence & Mr R White (Bennett Jones), Mr B Carrington & Mr S Williams (Mission Code)

Election of Chairman:

To Take Information & Comments from Any Members of the Public Present: Mr Ben Carrington introduced himself and colleague Mr Sam Williams to the Commissioners from company Mission Code. It was explained that they are an event management company and after hearing the sad news regarding the cancellation of the Padstow Christmas Festival wanted to enquire if there is interest for the festival to continue. Mr Carrington commented that his company have organised various events including the Porthleven Food Festival and Falmouth Oyster Festival. The Commissioners asked questions regarding BC'S ideas for the festival and after a discussion, JH thanked them for coming to the meeting and informed them that BP would make contact with any comments and queries. BC/SW left the meeting

Mr Max Spence from Bennett Jones accountants introduced Mr Ross White. MS explained the PHC annual accounts for 2023 to the Commissioners and provided answers to questions that ND had set out prior to the meeting. MS suggested that if the Commissioners had any further questions than those asked on the evening, then to forward them to BP and he would provide the answers before the next meeting. Before they left the meeting JH thanked MS and RW for attending.

Invoices and Payments for the Period Ending 16th May 2024 Invoices totalling £352,009.18 had been paid for the period 19th April to 16th May 2024. JH declared an interest.

Approval of Minutes 04/24 The minutes for April were approved as a true account of the PHC meeting – it was proposed by IK and seconded by JM.

Matters Arising from Meeting 04/24 **Ice Plant** – BP explained that the deconstruction of the Ice Plant had commenced, and that the third/top level had been removed.

RBB Concrete Drying Pad – Options for the proposed drying pad were discussed and Nick Billing asked BP to ask the Commissioners for their comments on a 30m x 8m or 40m x 10m pad. A 30m x 8m pad would suit most boats that frequent Padstow but if it was increased to 40m x 10m, the facility would allow the dredger Sandstipe to use it. Investigations are required into depths of mud, bedrock and possible undermining of walls. JH asked if NB could get a price for the survey works, licence, design and concrete/build costs from John Grimes Partnership. JH asked the Commissioners if they were happy to proceed with investigations of a 40m x 10m drying pad, all agreed.

Solar Panels – BP said that the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Growth Hub couldn't confirm when grants would be available. Roof inspections are needed to identify if there are any eroded areas or to determine whether the whole roof needs replacing, before the installation of any solar panels.

Harbour Office – BP is awaiting an update from Matt Seaber of SeaberKain architects.

North Pier Pontoon – BP has received drawings from Walcon and Inland and Coastal Marine which are very similar. BP explained a Marine Licence is required for the installation of pontoons and has been applied for with the MMO. Although the project is a H&S necessity, delays will be incurred through product lead times and MMO licence application. BP explained that railings will be required along the North Pier as part of the project and asks the Commissioners for a budget to save further delays between meetings. JH commented that the installation is a necessity due to the speeds of tides on the Ferry slipway. Pricing to be discussed in committee before a budget can be agreed.

Palegic Design – BP asked the Commissioners for their availability for a meeting with Palegic Design regarding the final drawings of the proposed new ferry. All the Commissioners agreed that a date after the busy season in September would be best suited. BP instructed to arrange.

"No Waiting" Signs – The "no waiting" signs had been painted on the tarmac through the Padstow South Quay Car Park.

Tidal Gauges – The new tidal gauges had finally been fitted to the harbour wall near the harbour office.

Financial Briefing

The Commissioners were presented with a current debtors and bank situation plus a Profit and Loss account for the month of April 2024.

Correspondence

Emma Riley, Fowey River Canoe Club – writes to the Commissioners to ask for permission to hold the Kayak Race at Wadebridge once again on 30th June 2024 at 12:30 hrs. Full risk assessments, and method statements were attached to the proposal as well as evidence of appropriate insurance. BP commented that the event had been successfully for the previous two years and asked if the Commissioners were happy for this to proceed. It was proposed by IK and seconded by WD – all in favour.

05/24/01

Sean Alcock, Padstow Rowing Club – writes to the Commissioners to ask about the return of the Padstow Rowing Regatta on 27th August 2024. It is

proposed to limit the regatta to 10 rowing clubs with a BBQ and entertainment outside the gig shed. BP explained that he has requested additional information and awaits a reply. The Commissioners discussed the matter and agreed they are supportive of the event but would require a more comprehensive proposal. They would also like the rowing club to consider alternative dates, outside of the busy school holidays and IK's suggestion of using the dinghy park at Rock for the storage of trailers, rather than the North Pier wall.

Rock Rowing Club – write to the Commissioners regarding their annual Regatta on 29th June 2024. BP said that this event has been held successfully for many years and is outside the busy summer season. BP asked the Commissioners if they were happy for this event to proceed, it was proposed by WD and seconded by DM – all in favour.

05/24/02

Mr Adam Grittins – writes to the Commissioners to thank PHC and the staff for a lovely stay in the inner quay with their yacht.

Cayton-Walker Security – (JH declared an interest) writes to the Commissioners regarding the requirement for security at Rock for the 2024 season. The proposed period is from 5th July to 1st September 2024. It was discussed how beneficial the service has been over the last few seasons. It was 05/24/03 proposed by GS and seconded by WD, all in favour.

Mrs Tina Evans – writes to the Commissioners regarding the cancellation of the Padstow Christmas Festival. BP read the letter from TE which provided an explanation of her reasons to cancel the event including increasing costs of contractors and sponsors pulling out or not committing. TE considered the situation could only get worse and made the decision to cancel the festival early to limit the damage to everyone who had already invested in stallholder deposits. The Commissioners discussed the negative impact the cancellation will have on the local economy and the possibility of another party taking on the organisation of the festival. The Commissioners discussed the financial benefits to Padstow and the surrounding areas and with one company showing an interest already, would welcome others to enquire. It was also discussed that local consultation will be important with any possible event organiser so as to identify and mitigate against any negative factors which may have arisen from previous events.

Port Administrators Business

Dredging Contractors – The Mannin has been arranged to visit Padstow and commence a 14 day campaign from 24th June 2024.

PMSC Training – BP hoped that the Commissioners found the training beneficial and thanked them for attending.

IME Oil Spill Exercise – The mandatory oil spill exercise has been arranged for the 27th June 2024. BP has invited various stakeholders to attend so they have an understanding of what is involved in the exercise.

Sandsnipe – Costs of works identified by PHC and other works recommended by surveyor Andy Lloyd will need to be discussed in committee. BP explained that all works will be undertaken at Padstow rather than at the dry dock.

Relief Berthing Master – BP has received many applications for the position and will invite candidates for an interview. BP commented that he will be asking a Commissioner to attend interview once he has confirmation of attendance from the chosen applicants.

Pink Lemons – They have indicated that they would like to relinquish their lease early and have asked if the Commissioners would consider extending their lease so they can pass this on to any new tenant they must find. BP asked the Commissioners for their comments, and after a short discussion it was decided that the Commissioners would terminate the lease early with no requirement for Pink Lemons to find a new tenant.

PMSC

PMSC Monthly Report – BP read through the monthly report prepared by H&S representative Mr P Haddock.

Incident – on Monday 20th May, Rock Lifeboat and Padstow Coastguards were called to St George’s Well after a lady had fallen, she was brought into Padstow by Rock Lifeboat and an ambulance took her to hospital.

PMSC Compliance –BP has received confirmation that a compliance statement will not need to be completed for the MCA until at least January 2025.

IFCA – Visited the Harbour Office as they had been made aware of a situation where crab had been deposited overboard from a fishing vessel below the davit at the Ice Plant. IFCA wanted to reassure the Commissioners that their enforcement activities will remain vigilant with landings and activities at sea, particularly with regard to undersized shellfish. BP explained that on Tuesday 21st May he was notified of a large pile of crab which had been dumped on the seabed at the ice plant davit. BP spoke with Paul Blewett as it is believed that this it was a Pentire Fishing vessel who had deposited the crab. PB said he will look at clearing the mess if this was the case. IFCA said they are investigating and will inform BP of any outcome.

Any Other Business

GS – asked about the islands at Wadebridge where swans had made their nests and if PHC can assist with the rebuild as the islands are deteriorating and the swans are an important part of the town. DM thought that permission might be needed from the EA, Natural England, MMO and/or the Duchy. JH suggested PHC could offer assistance by donating towards any repairs. BP to investigate various permissions.

WD – explained about the riverbank at Polbrock bridge and the invasive Skunk Cabbage, Himalayan Balsam and Japanese Knotwood, all non-native species evident at the location. WD asked if PHC should report this to DEFRA and Natural England. BP instructed to follow up.

WD – explained that sailing vessels were tacking through the moorings at Wadebridge and one occasion a vessel hit another vessel without reporting it. BP will ask the RHIB Patrol Officer to monitor more frequently.

IK – Had spoken with company Nash Maritime at the UKHMA Edinburgh conference regarding their CCTV AI small boat classification tool and thinks that this could benefit PHC by collecting data on the types of vessels using the

estuary, as well as times and numbers. This could aid monitoring use of the estuary for safety purposes. BP instructed to write to the company and ask how they think their product can benefit PHC and what prices are associated with the installation.

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 27th June 2024 at 19.00hrs the location the Long Room.

There being no further business the meeting closed to the public at 21.53hrs