

Weymouth Harbour Consultation Group (WHHCG)
Wednesday 18th August 2021 (Teams, 19:00-21:00)

Present

Ken Buchan	KB	Head of Environment and Wellbeing
Cllr Mark Roberts	MR	Chair of Harbours Committee
Cllr Kate Wheller	KW	Substitute Representing Cllr Colin Huckle
Jamie Joyce	JJ	Weymouth Harbour Master
Andy Sargent	AS	RNLI Representative and Chair
Dave Caddy	DC	Harbour Traders Representative and Vice Chair
Terry Studley	TS	Fishermen & Charter Boat Representative
Tim Day	TD	Clubs of Weymouth Representative
Kathy Claydon	KC	Inner Harbour User Representative
Steve Goodwin	SG	Commercial Passenger Carrying Vessels Representative
Dave Brown	DB	Dorset Marine Police
Rob Gray	RG	Commercial Passenger Substitute
Mary Harris	MH	Harbour Traders Representative Substitute
Sarah Johnston	SJ	Minute Taker

1. INTRODUCTIONS, APOLOGIES AND SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

AS welcomed everyone and opened the meeting.

Cllr Colin Huckle apologies received and Cllr Kate Wheller substituting for him.

Cllr Rob Hughes apologies received unable to attend.

Alice Higgins apologies received unable to attend.

Jon Ayling apologies received unable to attend.

Callum Seggie apologies received unable to attend.

Rob Gray new substitute for Commercial Passenger welcomed

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None declared.

3. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

AS confirmed no comments had been received regarding the previous minutes that were circulated and they were then presented to the Harbours Committee Meeting in June.

4. WEYMOUTH HARBOUR UPDATE

- Commercial Road electrical bollards, SSE have confirmed that work will begin and be completed connection works in early September. On completion of testing Commercial Operators will be contacted and advised the system is online. This should be around the 14th of September; updates will be provided.
- Cosens Quay Car Park, following the May meeting request to investigate increasing the capacity for Commercial Operators, Parking Services and Engineers have completed investigations to maximise parking bays. No further bays can be allocated in the Loop/Tramway Car Park, however through reconfiguration of existing bays in Cosens Quay and remarking has resulted in:
 - 6 Extra bays for Loop/Tramway Permit Holders
 - 3 Extra bays for Public use
 Work is scheduled to be completed on the 1st of September.

- Commercial Road bin, from the May meeting the request was to look at the capacity of this bin. On reviewing CCTV and speaking with DWP it was apparent that large numbers of the general public were utilising it. As this is a dedicated bin for Commercial Operators a cover with lockable keypad has been ordered to ensure that the bin is only utilised by the Commercial Operators.
- Marina Trolleys, two new trolleys have been purchased and delivered as requested from the previous meeting. Unfortunately, two of the older trolleys were damaged and have been taken out of service. Replacement parts for these trolleys have now been ordered and will be put back into service at the earliest opportunity. Also looking at the existing trolleys and we will be replacing the wheels with larger diameter wheels to ensure that they are functional for the marina and environment.
- Navigational Safety, Signage has been installed to improve safety and awareness at the Rowing Ferry crossing. It has been positioned to alert transiting vessels, particularly visitors, that they are approaching the Ferry crossing and to give way. To improve signage within the Bay – six new marker Buoys have been purchased to mark the designated summer zones for sailboards, anchoring, and Ski boat / PWC approaches. The Buoys will be larger with clearer wording on them to the designated zones, providing swimmers and other users with identifiable areas that can be seen from the shore and whilst on the water.
- Freshwater Pumps on Commercial Road and North Quay have both had faults occur over the last couple of weeks and have had immediate repairs to ensure that they can still deliver though at a reduced capacity flow. Our contractor has ordered the required components to fix them and as soon as these are repaired, they will return to normal delivery flows.
- Westway Road and North Quay Pontoon electrical supply has been affected by having the electrical supply bollards pushed or pulled into the marina by customer berthing or unberthing manoeuvres, which then caused failures in supply to both marinas. Our contractors have completed emergency replacements to restore the supply and are awaiting new bollards and fittings. **KC** will be advised independently (not present at this point) though can I urge customers to take care when berthing and on both of these occasions the berth holders did not make us aware of the incident and was reported after a number of complaints emerged regarding the disruption in supply. Accidents need to be reported to the office for swift action.
- Peninsular development, the project construction phase is hoped to commence shortly, and more updates will be given when the main contractor Midas have issued their timeline.
- Fishing equipment recycling, we have successfully now sent two truckloads of retired fishing equipment to be recycled by Odyssey Recycling and are well on our way to a third load. Requested assistance from the Commercial Operators in following the instructions located on the light blue bin lid with regard to the materials that can be recycled and those that cannot. As a number of bins loads that have been contaminated by general waste materials and these loads have not been able to be recycled and ended up in general waste.
- Draft Dorset Council Harbours Strategy, an email has been sent describing how a subgroup of the DC Harbours Committee has been working with the DCF to formulate the strategy, based on feedback from a public survey and targeted stakeholder views and desk-based research. Further opportunity to comment on the draft during the public consultation period will be available, we would welcome your initial thoughts on the draft and if anything, that may have been missed. The working group will then determine what changes need to be made before seeking approval from the wider Harbours Committee and to go out to public consultation. We encourage you to seek feedback from those you represent on the HCG but ask you not to share with the wider public at this stage. The public consultation on the draft strategy will be in the Autumn.

The two points that they would like information on are:

- Do you have any general comments about the strategy ?
- Is there anything you think should be added or changed ?

Please respond by Sunday the 22nd of August to dorset.coast@dorsetcc.gov.uk

Additional Questions/Comments

- **MR** reiterated that the Draft Dorset Council Harbours Strategy had been sent to the HCG at the same time as the HC and stakeholders as comments are highly valued and sought after. As the Chair of the Southern IFCA, supporting the recycling done with Odyssey at Weymouth they are looking at all 3 harbours and how they can take the items that Odyssey are unable to take and recycle. The HC will be looking at the most efficient and cost-efficient way to dispose that.
- **TD** asked if Cllr Roberts was aware of the Wild West show that was at Lulworth Cove with pots and lines without markings that were being thrown into the Cove. **MR** acknowledge he was not aware but would pass on the information to the relevant Senior Officers.
- **AS** followed up on a couple of items from previous minutes –
 - The road works on Nothe Parade. **JJ** confirmed that the engineers have just finished their survey and will provide an improved schedule for the works shortly.
 - And the request for a member of Highways to attend the meeting as a lot of issues around the harbour involve them. Cllr Roberts was going to raise it with the Portfolio holder. **MR** confirmed that he had raised it with Cllr Bryan, and he would look into it. **MR** to confirm timescale for this.
 - Confirmed that the request for time served by **TS** had been provided by **SJ**.

5. CONSULTATIVE GROUP UPDATE

- **KW – WTC.** Nothing to report.
- **NB – Boatfolk.** Not present.
- **SG - Commercial Passenger Carrying Vessels.** Nothing to report.
- **KC - Inner Harbour Users.** Disappointed about the removal of the freshwater hose pipes from the pontoons but understands why.
- **JP - Charter Boat Associations.** Not present.
- **CS - Training & Education Schools.** Not present.
- **TS - Fishermen & Charter Boat.** Relating to **DB** report, the anti-social behaviour group that hang around the ramp onto the commercial pontoon on CHQ drinking. **DB** confirmed that it is the local Dorset Police that need to pick this up but will feed that back to them to look into.
- **DC - Harbour Traders.** Nothing to report.
- **AS – RNLI.**
- **TD - Clubs of Weymouth.** Nothing to report.
- **DB – Dorset Marine Police.** Advised that they have not received many reports and it has mainly been thefts of small items and anti-social behaviour. A sea operation has taken place dealing with Jet Skis and Powerboat users. They need reports to ensure that resource is allocated to the area. Rowan Doyle of Dorset Marine Police has moved to work with the Jersey Force.
- **MR** – thanked **JJ** and team for the rapid response on the measures put in place around the peninsular regarding the reports on the walls and keeping both cars and vessels away from them. It is not in immediate danger but now allows repairs to be undertaken in that space without further measures needed to be taken.

6. AGENDA ITEMS FROM MEMBERS

- **AS** – Access to Trinity Road from the town Bridge. RNLI has had problems with the restricted access and has delayed shouts by 5 to 7 minutes. Consultation with Highways for signs and signaling when a shout is happening has not yet gone through. **JJ** confirmed he has followed this up, but Dawn is on annual leave, it will be followed up upon her return next week and provide updates.
- **AS** – Land train route and access. Also adds to the traffic congestion around the southern side of the harbour. **KW** confirmed that the DC Councilors for the area will be doing a walk around with Highways to review the situation in the next week with a following meeting with Cllr Bryan. RNLI and resident problems will be passed on as observed during walk arounds. **MR** acknowledged that this issue is present at other the Harbours for the RNLI crew members and will discuss further with Cllr Bryan and someone from Highways should be in attendance in these meetings.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- **KW** – Bank Holiday event on CHQ requested confirmation if it's going ahead. **MR** advised that he does not have confirmation on the decision yet.
- **KW** – Advised that during a recent walk about it was noted about the Disabled bays and parking on the quay. Recommendations have been sent to Cllr Bryan and Highways. It was also noted about the large wheelie bin at the bottom of the ramp at the end of the Fish Landing Quay that may impeded loading. **TS** advised that the 1 bin would be sufficient for rubbish but should be monitored before a permanent decision to move the second bin elsewhere is made. **TS** advised that the fisherman do bring in a large amount of rubbish from the sea especially after storms and do their best to dispose of it correctly.
- **MH** – Harbour Watch update – been gathering funds and logo design. Monitoring a few incidents but generally quiet.
- **TS** – Loading Bays on CHQ – bays need to be extended. Had incidents with Disable Badge holders parking in the loading bays. **JJ** to pass **TS** contact details to Chris Peck. Ferry update on what is happening and if it should return would that affect the proposed Fish Landing Quay. **JJ** confirmed that WTC have been give 12 months to look at a Ferry option. The proposed Fish Landing Quay will not be affected by this. **MR** confirmed that Cllr Ferrari with WTC have agreed a 12-month period from June to fully investigate the options of the return of a Ferry in Weymouth. An interim report is expected around 9 months.
- **AS** – Alice Higgins, Leisure Weymouth Beach Users Representative will be standing down at the end of her term in October. **JJ** confirmed that she has been speaking to colleagues at the Beach Office and a replacement is expected. Noted that Callum Seggie has not been able to attend for 4 meetings and has no substitute listed. **AS** will follow up to see if he is okay and if a substitute can be recruited.
- **AS** – Advised that a RNLI female crew member suffered verbal abuse from a family whilst trying to park up for a shout, and the duty officer had damage to their vehicle whilst on a recovery mission. **DB** confirmed that the local Police had been suffering resource issues due to COVID-19 self-isolation requirements. He will follow this up with Senior Officers, **TS** requested to have more present and visible around the Harbour. **MR** acknowledged the influx of tourists have had an impact and hoped that the recent changes in the self-isolation requirements would improve the situation.

- **AS** – Informal meeting for October will be confirmed – **JJ** to provide updates to **AS** and will consult with the members as to if a meeting is required.
- **AS** – Confirmed that DC will be presenting these minutes to the HC Meeting as he will on annual leave.

8. DATES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Harbour Consultative Group

- 10 November 2021
- 16 February 2022

Harbours Committee

- 29 September 2021
- 8 December 2021
- 16 March 2022