

MEETING OF THE PADSTOW HARBOUR COMMISSIONERS 07/16

HELD AT THE PADSTOW HARBOUR OFFICE

ON THURSDAY 21st JULY 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 C Toogood

Apologies: Mr S Summers, Mr M Stacey

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

To Take Information and Comments from Any Members of the Public

Present:

Mr I Kitto informed the Commissioners that he would like to expand his business with a third RHIB for the peak weeks of the summer; he also said that he now has a pool mooring where it can be moored every evening. Mr Kitto has two RHIB's at present that work all year round - the third would be for the peak summer months. DM commented that he liked to see a business expanding as it was also good for the port.

HM said that IK would have to work around the other commercial users regarding pick up and drop off. HM asked if all three were working from the harbour where will the third boat be kept overnight? IK confirmed that two would be in the harbour as usual and the third on the pool mooring. HM also said that when the weather is poor he didn't want all the boats operating in the estuary with the speedboats as that would be too congested. HM to write to Mr Kitto with PHC's conditions. It was proposed by ME and seconded by BM, all Commissioners in favour with the above conditions.

Invoices and Payments for the period ending 10th July 2016

From 11th June to 10th July 2016 invoices totaling £79,495.92 had been paid.

WJ declared an interest

DM asked about the amount to Navigators & General, HM said that two boats were damaged at Rock as one of the moorings had dragged - the damaged was sustained as two boats banged side to side in choppy weather. PHC admitted to the damage as the mooring had dragged. HM said that the mooring had been

changed to a larger concrete sinker and chain which, although it is a bit of 'overkill' for the size of boat, will prevent the mooring from dragging in future.

DM asked about the credit on our account from EDF Energy, ND said that this would resolve itself soon as PHC were changing energy suppliers to Npower.

WJ asked about the charges for the skip emptying - DM said that this would be discussed later in Items for Discussion.

Approval of Minutes
06/16

The minutes were approved by WJ and seconded by ME with the correction that Explore Marine to the correct name of Explorer Marine.

Matters Arising
from Meeting
06/16

Mr J Hinchliffe, Padstow Sea Cadets - in correspondence.

Mr D Flyde - Nick Billing (DHM) had phoned Mr Flyde after the last meeting but he was expecting a letter - HM had sent one today.

New Store - Almost finished just waiting on the outside railings to be completed to building regs satisfaction. PHC wouldn't move into the upstairs until the floor coverings had been put down.

Mr John Townrow - HM passed on the sad news that John Townrow (commercial fisherman and long standing customer) had passed away. John was a friendly and likeable character, who would be sadly missed.

Financial Briefing

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

Harbour Dues and mooring fees were on target for June.

Dredger Contracts - the favourable variance was that PHC had received full payment for the Ramsgate dredger contract.

Harbour Maintenance - exceptional expenditure for June was on the fuel shed which has been re-roofed and had new roller doors plus pontoon lighting (inner quay) and new padlocks for the existing key system.

Ferry - Income for June was up but overall the six months income was slightly below budget.

Car parks - Income for June was slightly below budget and very slightly down on the six months to June. This probably attributable to the reduced number of spaces now the car park had been remarked with larger bays throughout.

DM commented that the bank balance had grown since last month and was looking quite healthy, and the 90+ days aged debtors was very low.

Correspondence

J J Jones & Son - In Committee.

Mr J Hinchliffe, Padstow Sea Cadets - writes to thank the Commissioners regarding the donation to the Sea Cadets.

Mr D Sidebottom, Ralph & Co - In Committee.

Mr H Warhurst - HM had written to him regarding noncompliance with the speed limits.

Mr R Williams, RCWSC - HM had written to RSWSC regarding Camel Week and PHC's conditions for the running of the regatta within port limits. The Commissioners agreed with the letter and the need for RSWSC to comply.

Port Administrators Business

Mannin - she is still working in Ramsgate / Bristol at the present. Dry dock is fast approaching and tenders have been submitted from Penzance Dry Dock, Manor Marine and Toms (Polruan). At present, Tom's yard looks favourable and the work will be carried out the third week of September for the MCA 5 yearly dry dock.

Crane Slab - This is still on hold till James Blyth (JGP) gets back. Mr J Nicholas had a new boat lifted in by a 200T crane but HM could not give a permit to crane – as no guarantees that the quayside could take the load. In this case, the crane company were happy to accept the risk and all went well - long may that continue.

New Store - Already covered

RQCP Extension - latest update - Cornwall Countryside Access Team has put out to consultation re the change to the route of the public right of way footpath. Decision due back at the end of July.

PMSC

A quick summary for the RHIB patrol for the month to date:
Two swimmers had be escorted back to shore
Seventeen warned for speeding
One formal warning for speeding issued

The First night of the Rock Security Patrol saw them fishing a drunken man out of the river from the end of the pontoon at Rock at appx 1.00 am. After a few phone calls HM established what had happened and the incident has been resolved with a written warning, however this has given rise to concerns about drinking/boating/speeding. With these concerns in mind the

RHIB Patrol Officer will do some late patrols and stay out on the river on days where it is considered this may be a problem.

Trailer Incident at Rock - This happened on the RSWSC Slipway, a boat on a trailer was not secured properly and as they drove up the slipway, the boat came off and slid 8-9 metres down the slipway narrowly missing some bystanders. HM has tasked Paul Hancock to get some literature from the RNLI (possibly from their safety officer Mark Stacey) about trailer safety, he will then pass out to people to promote safe use of trailers and security kits.

Water Ski area and Ski Patrol by RSWSC seem to be non-existent. PHC's patrol had observed a ski boat with 10-12 people on board, 7-8 people were then dropped off onto a raft while the boat went skiing. These 7-8 people then jumped in for a swim! WJ said that it must be a nightmare to police it, CT said that he doesn't think RSWSC are doing it either, he has not seen the patrol boats out there. HM instructed to contact RSWSC and express PHC's concerns. WJ/CT there should be signs on the rafts about "no swimming", HM said that he believes there are signs but will check. Generally it was felt that as RSWSC take the money from the ski permits they should be providing the bulk of the patrols.

Fog in the Ski area - thick fog came down the river to the ski area last weekend and people were still water skiing while visibility was down to 20 metres. CT said that the Ski School stopped operating but others were carrying on - on the safety leaflet it says you shouldn't ski if you cannot see both sides of the estuary. The RHIB Patrol officer said that he could hardly see the front of the boat; also he didn't want to chase them as it was too risky. DM said that HM should contact RSWSC about the patrol, swimming near the rafts and skiing in the fog as this is a potential danger.

It was discussed if there should be a way of closing the ski area in such conditions through lighting e.g. Green ok to ski - Red no skiing. WJ said that RSWSC promised more patrols with the safety boat for this year. DM said at the end of the season a meeting was needed as this practice of no patrol boats cannot go on; WJ/CT said that they would go along to the meeting.

Items for Discussion

ME - Bait

The smell of bait at the Fisherman's stores was terrible also there had been bait left on a van which was frozen but once defrosted made a big stain on the new car park surface. The bait 'juice' from other stores is coming through into Mike Cornish's store. HM to act on this and block the back of Mike Cornish store to stop this seeping through. HM instructed to meet with the store holders and voice PHC's concerns about their careless attitude

and bad housekeeping with bait and keeping the area clean. ME says that they don't even pick up after their dogs, and the mess is all over the fisherman's car park - other harbours don't allow dogs like Newlyn and Brixham. BM asked about the hose connection up at the stores, HM said that this was now fixed but had not provided a hose.

HM - Marker Buoys at Rock Foreshore

HM had received a suggestion that a line of marker buoys from the sailing club to ferry point might help keep speed boats away from the beach. DM said that buoys would have to be of a different colour to distinguish them, after a short discussion it was thought that this would be too confusing to put into practice.

BM - Sale of Petrol

BM asked if there was a need to sell petrol at the port. HM said that a few years ago he had looked into this and it was certainly possible to have above ground tanks, he had also talked to Cornwall Fire who had indicated that the planned system would be acceptable. However, after discussing the matter further it was apparent that the only practical place to install a self serve petrol berth would be on a pontoon on the end of the South Pier bullnose. It was decided that this was not practical as the many leisure users who would want access would almost certainly clog up the South Dock and the fuel berths over the high water period, thus creating chaos. Commissioners agreed that this was not a good position and that there were no realistic alternatives – to put on hold for the present.

BM - Flashing Lights on the Patrol RHIB

BM had observed that the single blue light on the patrol RHIB was not very visible and he suggested that a more visible lighting bar or similar was fitted. The reasoning for this was so that other river users would immediately see that the patrol RHIB was 'on a job' and if it then broke the speed limits it should be no surprise to other mariners. (NB PHC craft are permitted to exceed the speed limits to the extent necessary to perform their purpose). DM and the rest of the Commissioners thought that this was a good idea. HM to look into it.

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 21st August 2016 at 7.00 pm in the Padstow Harbour Office.

The meeting went "In Committee"

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.49

