

# MEETING OF THE PADSTOW HARBOUR COMMISSIONERS 02/21

## HELD BY ZOOM MEETING, PADSTOW

ON THURSDAY 18<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2021 AT 7.00PM

**Present:** Mr J Hewitt, Chairman, Mr D Martin, Mr C Toogood, Mr W Delacour, Mr P Blewett, Mr G Saunders, Mr I Kitto, Mr M England, Mr P O'Neill, Mr B Phillips, Harbour Master.

**Apologies:** None

**In Attendance:** Mrs N Dyer (Assistant Administrator), Mrs P Hicks (Secretary), Mr N Billing (Deputy Harbour Master), Mr M Hutchings (Ecospan)

**To Take Information and Comments from Any Members of the Public Present:** BP introduced Matt Hutchings (MH) of Ecospan to the Commissioners. MH provided the Commissioners a presentation on the draft survey report, conducted by Ecospan on the Camel Estuary in 2020. Ecospan were employed to provide the Commissioners a better understanding of sediment movement within the estuary and how this may relate or may be influenced by dredging activities.

MH explained that the volume of sand entering the estuary far outweighs the volume extracted by dredging and that dredging must continue, to ensure safe navigable channels. Further investigations will need to be conducted to determine sand volumes and once more information has been gathered, including that from other sources, and a finalised document has been provided, the survey report will be made available to PHC stakeholders and port users.

BP asked for the Commissioners to provide him any questions to forward on to MH and JH thanked MH for his presentation of the draft document. MH left the meeting.

**Invoices and Payments for the Period Ending 11<sup>th</sup> February 2021** Invoices totalling £106,068.48 had been paid for the period 15<sup>th</sup> January to 11<sup>th</sup> February 2021  
The Commissioners read through the list of payments produced by ND.

**Approval of Minutes 01/20** The minutes for November were approved as a true account of the PHC meeting – it was proposed by WD and seconded by PO.

**Matters Arising from Meeting** **Iron Ore Steps Repair** – JGP have asked that we investigate the masonry facing on the steps for possible detachment and/or cavity. They have provided

proposed drawings for the repair of the steps. Once investigated we will understand if this is a more simple repair than originally thought. On the basis of a simple repair, a tender application will be prepared.

**Ferry Slipway Repair & North Wall repair** – JGP are working on methods for PHC to undertake the majority of the work ourselves with their supervision to keep costs as low as possible.

**South Dock Barrier System** – BP explained Delivery of the barrier will be Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> with installation commencing on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> February.

**CCTV** – Tanist began to install the new cameras yesterday (Wednesday) and are preparing the new server for installation. The BT complaint has been escalated to a higher manager who will investigate a double charge on our account.

**Drying Grid** – BP has received confirmation that PHC have been offered grant funding for the renewal of the Drying Grid on the provision that an MMO works licence is granted. BP has submitted the licence application to the MMO and awaits a decision.

**Petrol Pontoon** – A&G have submitted drawings to the petroleum officer and discussions are underway to agree to the safest and most efficient installation of the petrol facility. Works are now estimated to commence at the beginning of April.

**Inner Quay Piles** – BP is awaiting to arrange an installation date.

**Ice Plant** – RSW have written to say they have received correspondence from two companies with regard to a 3T ice plant. They will require a little more information for requirements to be considered, e.g. Ice storage, ice delivery, size of unit etc. and then will arrange a site meeting to discuss future possibilities. BP asked the Commissioners for any queries and comments to pass on to RSW to assist with making a decision on the future of the current plant.

**Wadebridge Pontoon** – The successful installation of the pontoon was completed on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> January. Whilst on site the steps and slipway were cleared of debris. The EA were notified of concerns of deterioration on the pathway along the river's edge and between the doctor's surgery and car park.

**Stephens Scown HR** – PHC solicitors have been assigned as our HR representatives. They have been provided our employment documentation and are undertaking a health check.

**Borrowing Powers** – BP is awaiting our solicitor's comments on how to proceed.

## Financial Briefing

The Commissioners were presented with a current debtors and bank situation plus a Profit and Loss account for the month of January 2021.

## Correspondence

**Wadebridge Boat Club** – write to thank PHC for the assistance provided with the installation of their new pontoon and for the extension to the existing Wadebridge PHC pontoon.

**Mrs Tina Evans** – writes to ask the Commissioners for financial assistance regarding the TIC rent and permissions to allow the Christmas Festival 2021 to proceed.

The Commissioners voted favourably to excuse the TIC March rent payment 2021 – it was proposed by DM and seconded by IK.

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Although a road map for the easing of restrictions is soon to be released, the Commissioners felt it is far too early to make a decision on something far too uncertain and after a short discussion it was decided to defer a decision on permissions for the Christmas Festival 2021 until later in the year.

**Mr B Murt** – writes to thank the Commissioners for the assistance PHC provided to himself, his family and the fishermen during the Covid pandemic.

## Port Administrators Business

**Covid 19** – No movement on the previous report. We are all just waiting for the 22nd February Government review.

**BT 1** – The MCA has conducted their initial checks. Both ferries are due a stability test which will be arranged once lockdown ends.

**Mannin** – She is currently in Fowey undertaking a small campaign. She will then go on to Toms Yard in Polruan for her 5 year load line works.

**Landing Davits** – The work has started on the davits but a little delayed due to the weather.

**Elections** - BP informed Commissioners that no other nominations were received other than from the existing Commissioners, so no elections will be necessary this year. BP thanked the returning Commissioners for their continued support.

**Commissioners Code of Conduct** – BP had emailed a copy of the Code of Conduct to the Commissioners and had asked for their queries and comments. JH asked that a hard copy be sent to all Commissioners and to return to the discussion at the March meeting to finalise the document in time for the April meeting.

**Cruise Ship Visit** – BP has been approached by Denholm Port Services with regard to a cruise ship visiting Padstow. BP has received

confirmation from the DfT that the Port of Padstow would have to become an ISPS Port (International Ship and Port Facility Security Code) to allow a visit from a cruise ship along with other provisions. BP explained the process and the continued compliance and training of the ISPS Code. After a discussion it was proposed by PO and seconded by IK against proceeding with application as an ISPS Port and therefore declining the visit of the cruise ship – all in favour.

#### **PMSC**

**PMSC Monthly Report** – BP provided PHC’s most recent duty holder report to the Commissioners.

#### **Any Other Business**

**PB** – asked about licences for the commercial speedboats on the estuary and whether a licence to operate can be sold with a vessel or did it belong to a person? A long discussion ensued and although it was always believed the licence would automatically transfer with the boat, it is PHC who licence the vessels and persons should not be permitted to sell a PHC licence. The goodwill of the business will determine the value and not a PHC licence.

An individual must apply to the Commissioners for a licence to operate, and only with express permission of the Commissioners, may a vessel operate commercially from the port of Padstow, however, it was previously decided that risk assessment has determined only four licences for the purpose of high speed tripping vessels within the estuary will be issued at any one time

#### **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at 19:00hrs in either the Long Room, Padstow or by Zoom.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.02hrs.