

Harbour Users Group Meeting

04th December 2014-1930

Slip Inn

MINUTES

Present:

Dale Clark	DC	Harbour Office
Alan Hartwell	AH	Harbour Office
Jim Poulson	JP	Kiers
Keith Sales	KS	Cornwall County Council
Joe Pender	JPd	Owner/Operator-St Mary's Boatmen's Association
Tim Fortey	TF	Independent Boatmen's Representative
Matt Crowe	MC	Police
Richard Mills	RM	Sailing School
Keith Buchanon	KB	Quay Tenant
Steve Hicks	SH	Pilot/Lifeboat/Boatmen's Association
Clive Sibley	CS	Quay Tenant
Mike Knapman	MK	Island Carriers, Local Hauliers
Steve Watt	SW	IOS Council, Maritime Officer
James Stedeford	JS	Independent Boating
Peter Hicks	PH	ISSCo Boatman
Peter Carss	PC	Scavenger Diving

1. Invitees not present/ Apologies:

Robert Francis
Jeremy Phillips
John Peacock
Mike Shave
Gerald Thompson
Kevin Ayres
Mervyn Bird

2. Approval of Minutes

Minutes approved

3. Matters Arising

SW to provide web address for wave buoy data

(www.channelcoast.org/datamanagement/realtimedata/charts/?chart=113&tab=waves).

SW says there has been no joy on provision of hi viz for buoys. SW also said there was another buoy in place west of the Bishop Rock.

DC says toilets remain open and will do throughout proposed works.

4. Incident Reports Review

DC explains that we have completed five incident reports since the meeting in May. Firstly a collision which happened outside hbr limits. DC describes how we offered support to both the local Council (as licencing authority) and the MCA. SW said how he completed a brief report but stood away as incident involved family interest. A Council committee issued a short suspension in line with MCA guidelines and approved by MAIB. Skipper now back operating.

Secondly, an incident of contact caused by poor seamanship. This incident was not reported and caused a little fuss to investigate.

Thirdly, a small vessel broke out from its mooring due to the strop shackle coming loose. The vessel was placed back on a mooring by hbr staff and there was no damage. DC explained that there was a marked reduction in this type of incident due to increased patrols, particularly before bad weather.

DC said that the fourth and fifth incidents referred to contact made by the landing craft 'Arromanches' These incidents bore consideration of PEC use and pilotage procedures and measure have been put in place to restrict certain movements.

A discussion took place about local licencing concluding in SW agreeing to invite MCA to the Islands to clarify.

5. Review of 2014

DC started by thanking all members for their support during a very busy year. He briefly explained that projects to remove rubbish and resurface roads have kept the harbour extremely busy, bringing in an additional 16k tons of freight – on top of the usual 13k. DC went on to describe that we had 39 cruise visits, a record year with over 10k passengers landing on St Mary's. There have been over 120 pilotage movements which mark a huge increase over any previous year. The CEFAS work, cable laying and landing craft movements have contributed to this. DC explained that we currently have 42 cruise ships booked for 2015 including the 48k gt Magellan, the largest ship we will have handled both in tonnage and number of passengers. He described that our numbers are still increasing whilst other parts of the UK are beginning to see a reduction in visits. SH asks if this was anything to do low sulphur fuel limits, DC said no and that the UK cruise market as a whole was static but we were seeing increasing numbers due to a number of reasons but mainly to good weather and good customer reviews.

DC described that the works to Porthloo boat park have been completed and that the slip has been used successfully. TF says that the end of the slip is wrong but the sand is building up around the end. JPd showed concern that a storm could wash the sand from the bottom at any time – but this could happen on any slip. RM asked if there would be a charge for the use of the slipway. DC replied saying not at the moment.

DC mentioned that we had met our average of 2.5k yacht nights even though we had to drop one buoy (Z5). CS was under the impression we would be a number of yacht moorings upon completion of the quay extension works. DC clarified that the 'Pilot and Marauder Buoys' have been lost but that is all and these should have little to no effect on provisions. 53k passengers have disembarked from the SCY III this year and have been helped by Harbour Employee John Morley. This customer service position has improved passenger experience and ISSCo are constantly being pushed to employ their own.

DC says that we have received two letters and one phone call this year regarding moving of passenger luggage by the public, it appears some people felt forced into volunteering. JS, who used to operate Brhyer Boats, explained the method of asking for help. PH asked why luggage could not be lifted off boats, JS replied saying there simply was not room on the vessels. PH said that moving luggage on the 'Lyonesse Lady' was not appropriate due to

current commitments, timings and tidal restrictions. JS suggests people are employed to move luggage. For consideration.

SW leaves.

6. Kiers update

JP describes upcoming work, methodology and timings for extension:

- Dredge equipment will be mobilised from Par next week (w/b 8/12)
- Spoil (3000t) will be moved to Porthloo either across Porthloo or Porthmellon beach and stored until the end of March 2015
- Once dredge is complete the bedrock will be ground to level before a metal frame is grouted into place. This frame has a tolerance of 10mm so as to match with existing berthing face
- Jack up barge will be placed to the east of the extension area and will lift 65t blocks off a barge into position

DC says a navigation aid, most probably a N cardinal, will be placed at the extent of the works. The exclusion zone will be kept to a minimum. PH asks if there will be 24 hour working, JP says possibly, they will make the best use they can of good weather conditions, he is very aware of the potential weather restrictions. CS asks the weather restrictions for divers. JP responds saying this will be up to the dive company but he expects to be in the region of 1-1.5m. DC mentioned to stakeholders that heavy moorings will be placed at Nut Rock and Watermill Cove for sheltering the barges carrying blocks.

7. Any Other Business

DC explained the process of the transfer from DoC to another operating body. He explained that there had been in a delay in producing the SHA strategic plan but it was hoped that this would become available in the coming weeks. SH mentioned that at the previous HUG meeting (discussing the SHA transfer) there was a possibility of independent legal advice and wondered if this was still the case. SH thought that it would be beneficial and DC said that he would ask the DoC about this.

Actions:

- SW to arrange meeting with MCA re local licencing
- John Peacock to arrange meeting to discuss his findings from recent MCA meeting
- DC to clarify possibility of independent legal advice for stakeholders re management change
- All members to consider luggage transfer. TBD at next meeting

Meeting closed at 2050