



## DUCHY *of* CORNWALL

HARBOUR OFFICE, ST. MARY'S, ISLES OF SCILLY, TR21 0HU  
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*Harbour Master: Dale Clark*

### **HARBOUR USERS GROUP**

### **MINUTES FOR MEETING 18<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2019**

### **19:00 SCILLONIAN CLUB-LYONESSE BAR**

#### **Present**

Dale Clark	DC	Harbour Master
Alan Hartwell	AH	Deputy Harbour Master
Phil Woodcock	PW	RNLI
Eldred Banfield	EB	ISSG
Steve Watt	SW	IOS Council
Joe Pender	JoeP	St Mary's Boatmen's Association
Jeremy Phillips	JP	Pilots
Steve Hicks	SH	Pilots/ISSG
John Peacock	John P	St. Agnes Boating
Dave Hooper	DH	Tresco Boat Services
Tim Fortey	TF	Independent Boatman
Tom Hooper	TH	IFCA

#### **1 – Apologies**

Sam Mallon, Sarah Mason, Gerald Thompson, Robert Francis and Kevin Ayres

#### **2 - Approval of Previous Minutes**

Approved

#### **3 - Matters Arising**

Local Licencing-JP says despite originally not having the appetite for it, the MCA have agreed to assist the Council of the Isles of Scilly in the development of the LKE for boatmaster holders. Tim Andrews (MCA) agreed to write to other employees of the MCA on behalf of the Council

Buzza Light- DC has written to planning requesting advice re planning permission to erect lights

Annekas Quay corrosion on ring- DC say SMHA has investigated and is happy with the ongoing condition.

DH asks about rings on St Mary's quay, specifically the ones which keep breaking within the fuel berth. AH says SMHA have just received a stock of new, bigger rings and will replace in due course. The ring that was most commonly affected has been changed.

#### **4 - Incident Reports**

DC says there has been one incident report since the last meeting which involved a crush injury during freight operations. Casualty escaped serious injury.

#### **5 – Port Marine Safety Code and General Harbour Update**

DC says that this year's PMSC audit has been completed and Tim Charlesworth, our Designated Person, is very happy with the performance of the SMHA

The pontoon has been dismantled for the winter. We are aware the pontoon is showing signs of wear and that our previous ideas for replacing it have been quashed due to finances, but we are still considering options. John P reminds us that the voucher scheme is still running.

We have completed many courses over the previous year most notably boating courses for newer members of staff. Oil spill recovery courses have been undertaken also.

Seawide Services will be back working within the Harbour towards the end of January to service the swinging moorings but also to adjust some of the ground chains which were fitted last winter. We have been fortunate enough to work with the local police drone to give us aerial photography to aid positioning.

Due to a change in manufacturing we have now fitted a twelve man life raft to the Pegasus, replacing the previous fourteen man one. We have adjusted our Certification accordingly, which has been easy for us to do as the vessel rarely operates to capacity. DH says Tresco boats are operating with two eight man life rafts. John P said he will be approaching British Marine, through the passenger boat association to discuss the ability to buy appropriate life rafts in future.

Works to install fencing and hedging at Porthloo boat park will commence the first full week of January. HUG members have been sent an email describing the works and Tenants have been consulted. It is hoped the work will only take a few weeks but no official timescale has been adopted due to the project working alongside other commitments. After the works are complete there will be a second phase of the project to install concrete at the top of the slipway to join up with the road way.

New floodlights will be fitted in the outer berth as they arrive. They have been ordered but on a six week lead time (expected end of January). When fitted all the floodlights on posts will be stainless steel and hopefully will create less access and maintenance issues.

There is an ongoing project to find a suitable solution to cleaning steps on St Mary's and Off Island quays. Whilst the use of chemicals remains the most effective way to remove weed

and algae, SMHA have accepted that its use is no longer appropriate and have been trying other methods and seemingly a pressure washer is the best way forward. Having bought a higher pressure model we are pleased to say that it has proved very effective but unfortunately we have suffered from reliability issues with the new unit. We may look in the New Year to buy something of a higher quality.

Our internal PMSC audit has been completed satisfactorily also.

## **6 – MCA District Safety Committee Meeting Update**

AH says that the ongoing discussion of TEP's disposal was discussed at the meeting but again there has been no significant forward movement. AH agrees to make an attempt at a local level and says he will contact Ramora/ ISSCo etc. He asks attendees how many TEP's they think are on the Island, Attendees suggest over 1000.

AH says the meeting discussed whether the RYA Powerboat Level 2 was an appropriate commercial qualification due to the lack of navigational requirements. Attendees agreed it was not and Tim Andrews (MCA) agreed to take the matter forward.

AH says that statutory medical certification is being brought in as are standards for crew accommodation (there were no fishermen present at the meeting).

AH says that time taken for surveys of passenger boats was discussed as it seemed that some vessel operators are unhappy at the amounts they have been charged or the time that has been taken to complete a survey. Tim Andrews (MCA) made it very clear that he and his team work hard to ensure that those on the Islands are given good value for money and that they are acutely aware of the extra transport costs involved but they themselves do not have control of the tariffs.

## **7 – Sea Swimming**

DH shows round a leaflet that has been developed by Tresco Estate to raise awareness of vessel traffic around the Island for those taking part in the growing sport of sea swimming. DC asks if we could have a pdf. copy for our website and says that SMHA are happy to promote advice. PH says the RNLI are happy to post this information also.

## **8 – Off Island Quays**

DC says that a new light has been fitted to St Agnes quay as well as a new coat of paint on the top mark. John P asks if we can have a light fitted to the railings on St Agnes quay. DC says yes.

## **9 – AOB**

DC says that iro 50 cruise ships are expected in the coming year.

DC says that there have been two applications for Pilots recently. An initial meeting will take place in the New Year to start discussions.