



DUCHY *of* CORNWALL

HARBOUR OFFICE, ST. MARY'S, ISLES OF SCILLY, TR21 0HU

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Harbour Master: Dale Clark

HARBOUR USERS GROUP

27TH JANUARY 2021 VIDEO CONFERENCE

Attendees:

Dale Clark	Harbour Master	DC
Alan Hartwell	Deputy Harbour Master	AH
Tim Charlesworth	Designated Person	TC
Joe Pender	SMBA	JoeP
Tom Hooper	IFCA	TH
John Peacock	St Agnes Boating	JP
Eldred Banfield	ISSCo	EB
Richard Hand	RH Haulage	RH
Robert Francis	Council, Fisherman	RF
Peter Hicks	RNLI	PH
Richard Mills	Sailing Centre	RM
Darren White	Police	DW

1. Apologies

Sarah Mason	IOSWT
Sam Mallon	Local Taxi
Steve Watt	Councillor / Chair of Licensing

2. Approval of previous minutes

The previous minutes were from June 2020 and described a harbour update during COVID restrictions. With this in mind, they were not reviewed for approval at this meeting.

3. Matters arising

Buzza Tower/Strand Shelter transit lights – ongoing

4. Health and Safety

DC informed the group that the obvious health and safety risk over the last few months has been the coronavirus, and the restrictions in place because of this. The harbour remained open at all times for the movement of essential freight and we were lucky to enjoy a short but busy tourist season.

DC explained that he was confident the harbour operated 'Covid securely' both in its own work, and in the service it provides to the public.

SMHA have reviewed our incident reporting system and have recently added, alongside our normal incident reports, a near miss report form and a hazard identification (HAZID) report form, in a bid to rectify more issues before they cause harm.

In the short time since the beginning of the year, we have completed:

1 Incident report

2 Near miss reports

6 Hazard ID reports

5. Port Marine Safety Code and General Works

DC informed the group that the annual external PMSC audit was undertaken last September and he was pleased to say it went very well. TC commented that SMHA comply with the PMSC and mentioned that he is happy to be approached by anyone within the HUG should they feel the need.

DC also informed the group that the Harbour Executive Committee would meet again in March after which we will declare our ongoing commitment to the Code to the MCA.

Currently we are conducting annual reviews of our Marine Safety Management System and our Marine Safety Plan, which will be available to HUG members.

DC discussed the financial impact, which we are starting to see because of COVID. DC mentioned that 2020 has been a poor one for businesses and the financial impact on SMHA has been substantial. The harbour was down 60% on yacht visitors, 63% on Scillonian III passengers and freight movement down by some 40%. The harbour also lost the entire cruise call trade. JoeP, JP and RH all agreed business was down.

DC described how SMHA completed a significant program of works at Porthloo Boat Park installing 170m² of concrete hardstanding, 85m of hedging, post and rope fencing and access gates. The project will be complete when signage is erected in the coming weeks.

DC informed the group that the harbour installed, in consultation with boat operators, a new 'off island boating' notice board. It has been generally well received but does rely on off Island boatmen to write correct and up to date information on it.

DC explained how the harbour recently had a successful test session with a local underwater drone operator. The drone will be useful in future for reviewing underwater areas such as mooring equipment, fouled propellers, berth inspection etc. The ability for this equipment to be deployed quickly is an advantage over sourcing expensive mainland dive teams.

DC informed the group that the automatic vehicle barrier, at the entrance to the rear working yard will be removed and replaced with a simple lockable swing gate of galvanised metal construction. The gate is on order and should be fitted within the next month.

DC mentioned that a full review of SMHA byelaws will be undertaken in the coming 12 months.

DC elaborated on the recent request for private mooring holders to provide details of their mooring gear to SMHA saying that SMHA are trying to build a database of all moorings within the harbour,

and that SMHA would like to see some sort of uniformity progress in the coming years. He compliments this by mentioning to HUG members that SMHA have chain available for private mooring to buy.

6. Waste Oil Facility

DC informed the group that the Port Waste Management Plan has recently been reviewed, resulting in some changes to SMHAs waste oil reception facility. Waste oil must now be brought to the Harbour Office (including from Porthloo Boat Park) in a suitable sealed and clean container and handed to a member of the harbour staff. Users should inform the harbour team in advance and at no time should waste oil be left unattended at the harbour. PH asked if this has to be in an oil container – DC informed him that any clean and secure container would suffice.

7. Moorings

DC informed the group that Seawide Services would conduct their annual mooring maintenance during late February/early March. During this time, the harbour may look to remove the floating pontoon and replace with 3 x 30ft moorings.

8. Off Island Quays

JP asked if SMHA are in any position to speak to KARMA hotel about the condition of the mooring rings on Lower Town slip. DC replied that the harbour would be happy to pass on the concerns.

9. ISSG New Vessels

DC informed the group that the ISSG were underway with their projects to replace their current vessels. He explained that, as he understood it, the Lyonesse Lady replacement project would be completed first before turning to the Scillonian III and Gry Maritha – EB confirmed this. DC also mentioned that he would be happy to collate any replies from HUG members on the new vessels and pass them onto the ISSG.

10. Any Other Business

JP asks about the drop down chains in the fuel berth, and the ongoing issue that the bottom-mounting ring keeps failing. DC replied saying that the harbour will be fitting newly designed mountings at the bottom of the chains on the next spring tides.

DC asked HUG members to call or email any concerns or issues that may affect harbour users at any time.

With no other questions, the meeting was closed.