

St Mary's Harbour

HARBOUR USERS GROUP MEETING MINUTES

10th February 2022

1. Attendees

Dale Clark	Harbour Master	DC
Alan Hartwell	Deputy Harbour Master	AH
John Peacock	St Agnes Boating	JP
Diana Mompoloki	Tresco Estate	DM
Steve Hicks	Pilot	SH
Peter Hicks	RNLI	PH
Phil Woodcock	RNLI	PW
Tim Charlesworth	SMHA-Designated Person	TC
Tom Wise	ISSCo	TW

Apologies

Jeremy Phillips	Pilot
Joe Pender	SMBA
Robert Francis	Fishing
Richard Mills	Sailing School
Nick Bond	Islands Partnership
Eldred Banfield	ISSCo
Julian Branscombe	Wildlife Trust

2. Matters Arising

Buzza leading lights – Ongoing

Harbour Byelaws review – Ongoing

Approved oil spill contingency plan – to be discussed later in meeting

3. Health and Safety and Incident Reporting

DC reports that the UK Government are planning to bring all restrictions associated with COVID-19 in England to an end. St Mary's Harbour will advise HUG members where specific to our operations. SMHA have asked that their Pilots continue to test prior to boarding ships and have informed them that should expect there to be continuing requirements by ship companies.

DC asks that HUG members report any health and safety issues they come across in any area of the Harbour, including the beaches and Porthloo boat park.

New signs have been fitted at the entrance to the working area and at the zebra crossing/outer berth, as well as at Porthloo. The signs depict various H+S instructions and another will be put at the main entrance to the quay in time.

DC reiterates the need for high visibility clothing to be worn when in the working area or outer berth.

DC says he will be asking boat operators to assist with walkway ropes and manual barriers

We have some sacrificial step blocks to replace in steps 4 and 5, and steps 5 are currently closed because of this. We are awaiting quotes for alternative options which may increase the time period between changes.

Vehicle restrictions will come back in force during busy (pedestrian) times as we move into the summer.

There has been one near miss report in the period since the last HUG meeting, involving excessive wear to a drop-down chain.

There has been one hazard ID in the period since the last HUG meeting, identifying the worn sacrificial steps in step 4 and 5.

4. Port Marine Safety Code

Shoreline Surveys were booked to update several surveys with the harbour and it's approaches but have had to postpone their visit due to forecast weather conditions.

Seawide Services are expected to arrive on 7th March to complete our annual mooring maintenance, weather depending. We have completed the A,B, Visitors/Pontoon and some of the Q,R,S and T rows. These moorings are ready for use and if required, can be arranged with the Harbour Office.

Seawide Services will also be removing some individual sinkers between the yacht grid and Porthmellon beach and will be fitting an extension to the grid in this area, to be named the G row, and will be for residents' moorings.

We will be contacting current mooring holders in the coming weeks to confirm mooring use for this season, as we have done in previous years. After this we will reallocate any spare moorings that come back to us.

The annual Harbour Executive Committee meeting will take place next month, where the Harbour and its Designated Person presents its annual report and compliance with the PMSC to the Duchy of Cornwall.

St Mary's Harbour is working towards becoming its own 'Tier 2 Responder' for oil spill contingency planning, something that traditional third-party responders are unable to do here due to our location offshore, and the stipulated on site response time. This would make us one of only two ports in the country who have done this (TC suggests it may be three) and requires investment in oil recovery equipment and external audit. The ISSG and Sibley's fuel and marine have agreed to supply manpower during incident response and further volunteers would be required in the event of a major spill.

SMHA staff have continued a busy program of ongoing training to include the following:

- First Aid at Work
- Basic Sea Survival
- Fire Fighting

- Oil Spill Recovery (2p & online)
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Sam Gould is also gaining experience with the Pilot vessel and will be undertaking qualifications in the coming months. He will be undertaking practical training with the Gry Maritha shortly along with our current trainee pilot, Lizzie Sloane.

We are expecting two new PEC applications in the coming months from ISSG.

The 2022 cruise call list is looking very healthy with over 60 ships currently booked which were discussed in a previously held 'cruise review panel' meeting. **JP asks if the list can be made public.**

SMHA is in talks with MCA regarding Workboat Code (edition 2) additional qualifications, and if they apply to those operating vessels coded by the original Code.

International Catering Waste- Last year saw very few non-UK vessels and this coming season we will be expecting more of a return to normal, but with new rules regarding those visiting from outside the UK. We will be fitting a new 'International Catering Waste' bin and signage and whilst this has been in place for many years, the rules only applied to those visiting from outside the EU prior to 2021 and these visitors were rare. The rules now apply to all those visiting from outside the UK along with customs and immigration requirements.

Levelling Up fund – The levelling up fund project is well underway but awaiting Government confirmation on rules. SMHA are working with Duchy of Cornwall, AECOM, ISSG, CIOS and WPD to progress ideas and designs for a new pontoon, quay entrance walkway and upgraded electrical supply to the outer berth.

PH asks if a design has been finalized for the pontoon. DC says that we have a design that AECOM have costed but this is a design to study and take forward to public consultation, after the Government confirm the rules of funding and will not necessarily be the final design. **DC to check if this can be shared at this point.**

5. Off Island Quays

DC says that health and safety guidelines will be reviewed and reissued to passenger vessels and ISSG prior to the coming season.

JP mentions the weed on Porth Conger (St Agnes) quay and that SMHA cleaning seems to be done in zones. DC says this is because of the relatively short window of opportunity we get to clear the weed in any day.

DM says the CIOS waste contracts are currently being reviewed and suggests that if SMHA would like to see any changes to the way waste is handled on off Island quays, that now would be the time to act, before new contracts are in place. **DC says SMHA were not aware of this and will contact CIOS.**

DC talks about Lower Town Slip (St Martins) and says that we are aware it is in a poor state and have been in touch with Karma hotels (owners) on several occasions previously. DM agrees that it is in bad condition and JP, who has joined the meeting from Tean, confirms that he can see the weed on the top of it from his current location. **DC says he will contact Karma Hotels to pass on concerns.**

6. Any Other Business

JP talks about a current opportunity to comment on an open consultation (MCA) regarding vessel operation and significant wave heights. DC echoes that it would be good for those stakeholders contribute. The open consultation can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/consultation-to-update-msn-1747m-with-msn-1747m-amendment-1/msn-1747-m-amendment-1>

SH asks if there is scope to fit piles next the grid if there is mobilization to fit them for a new pontoon. DC says he thinks the cost per pile is in the region of 90k after mobilization. A cost without return unfortunately beyond the means of SMHA.

TC asks if there has been any official follow up after the speedboat accident last summer which caused injury to one person. DC says ongoing work is being undertaken by the MCA which has yet to be concluded.

Meeting ends