

ST MARYS HARBOUR
HARBOUR USERS GROUP
25th January 2023
Restaurant – The Mermaid

Attending:

CHAIR Dale Clark – Harbour Master
Alan Hartwell – Deputy Harbour Master
John Peacock – St Agnes Boating
Joe Pender – St Mary’s Boatmens Association
Jeremy Phillips – Pilots
Phillip Woodcock – RNLI
Peter Hicks - RNLI
Eldred Banfield – ISSCo – Freight Manager
Ben Jenkins – ISSCo – Lyonesse Lady Skipper
Tom Jackman – Ships Agent (New)
Rob Featherstone – Tresco Estate
Diana Mompoloki – Tresco Estate
Russ Thompson - CIOS
Simon Ellis – CIOS
Richard Mills – Sailing Centre

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Tom Wiess (ISSG), Sam Mallon (Taxi) and Steve Watt (CIOS).

2. Matters Arising

There has been no movement on the renewal of the navigation mark at the end of Lower Town Slip, despite ongoing reminders from the Harbour Office. THLS are now chasing direct.

Celtic Sea Power, as mentioned in the last meeting, have a meeting with CIOS, ISSCo and SMHA in February.

The electric outboard for Harbour tender is to be ordered in the coming days.

The wooden ladder fenders are on order and should be delivered within three weeks.

TMS have provided a solution and quotes for the problems with the wooden fendering in steps 4 and 5 after local contractors proved unsuccessful. We will look to undertake the works this spring.

‘Fibregrid’ non slip decking is being trialed in steps 2 after a small successful trial in steps 4 and 5. JohnP says that he can feel some movement of the boards in steps 1, DC says this is likely because of the uneven granite surface and reminds members that this is a trial and feedback is very welcome.

Ted Langdon has the staple to fit in Bar Quay, he is just waiting on correct conditions to fit it.

Minutes of previous meeting approved.

3. Health and Safety and Incident Reporting

There have been no reportable incidents since the last meeting but DC says he has sent an email to Harbour users about using the rear yard, and the potential interactions between pedestrians and fork lift trucks.

PH asks about public accessing the Sail Loft and Sibley's fuels as they are in the working yard. It is noted that the Sail Loft is no longer a public access shop and AH says that the fuel kiosk on the berthing face of the quay is meant to be the point of contact for Sibley's customers.

4. Off Island Quays

Waste – RT describes the process in which off Island waste is booked and transported back to St Mary's after several complaints about waste liquids leeching onto the various off Island quays. DM shows concern for the state of the bags used and the smell, particularly as the Lyonesse Lady is also used to carry fresh food. BJ reminds members that there is more waste than ever before, and this might go some way to describe why current operations may need changing. A short discussion about whether the use of solid bins would be more appropriate and feasible took place. RT said that there is a Government Directive in place to have all food waste removed from the general waste stream and dealt with locally by such things as composting and anaerobic digestion and RT/SE said they would discuss this, along with further solutions with CIOS and report back.

EB said the ISSCo and the CIOS were meeting today with the waste contractors.

JohnP says again that certain fishing vessels can often be found blocking Church Quay. DC responds saying in instances like this, vessel operators are encouraged to make friendly contact with each other to sort out access.

JohnP says that the handrails have been damaged on St Agnes quay.

5. PMSC and General Harbour Update

DC describes the following:

The railings next to steps 2 will be brought in by about a foot to allow better access to the moorings rings.

The inner visitors moorings row buoys will be changed from yellow to red this winter to make them more easily identifiable to our visitors.

Seawide Services will be on site in March. If any private mooring holders need them they are encouraged to get in touch with them. The same applies to chain orders as these can be slow at the moment.

Pilots - We have have 6 PECs to renew this coming April but we can also expect 2 new PEC holders to be examined in the near future too. Lizzie Sloane will also be on course to complete her Pilots training this season.

A Port Marine Safety Code audit will be undertaken in March along with the annual HexCo meeting. St Mary's Harbour continues to meet the requirements of the Code.

Tom Jackman of Scillonian Marine has taken over the role of Ships Agent from Gerald Thompson and he will report in time on the confirmed cruise call lists for 2023. Alongside the Harbour some changes will take place in 2023 such as vessels being required to stick to proposed arrival and departure times, and not to change which Islands are visited at the last moment.

The rate of inflation has been a tricky subject in the last few months. SMHA have managed to keep the moorings fees to a 5% rise in the coming year whereas the majority of other fees will increase by 8%.

6. ISSG Update

EB gives a brief update on ISSG Shipping saying that the Scillonian II will commence service on 20th and the Gry Maritha and Lyonesse Lady will go out of service for their usual maintenance period around the same time.

The Gigs will start to arrive at the end of February and there are 115 due.

DM gave an update on the current state of the local levelling up fund bid.

7. MGN and MIN

The consultation period for the Work Boat Code Edition 3 has now closed. Updates are due and those affected are encouraged to keep an eye out for these.

JohnP says the Workboat Association are the leading challengers and contact for the MCA and he advises those members to which it applies join. RM says the PCA are worth a look also.

8. AOB

JoeP asked if the Fishermen's Association is represented at HUG. DC says yes.

JohnP asks for another ring near the fuel berth. DC says he will look to fit some once the railings are moved as mentioned previously.

DM says the light in steps 1 isn't working. AH will look into it.