

WATCHET HARBOUR ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday 27th September 2021 2 – 4pm

Attendees: Peter Murphy (PM), Martin Stevens (MS), Cllr Whetlor (Cllr W), James Burnell (JB), Chris Odling – Smee (COS), Steve Hughes (SH), Katie Marks (KM), Rob Freemantle (RF)

Agenda Item	Item detail/ Action	Owner	Achieve by
	<p>Agenda:</p> <p>1 Present and Apologies for absence.</p> <p>2 Minutes of last meeting held on 21 June 2021.</p> <p>3 Matters arising.</p> <p>4 Port Marine Safety Code matters - update from Harbour Master Marc Lawrence.</p> <p>5 Harbour matters - update from Assistant Harbour Master Craig Butler, Kate Marks on harbour wall repairs, other Somerset West and Taunton Council officers as appropriate.</p> <p>6 Marina matters - update from Marine Group on marina operations.</p> <p>7 Matters raised by other members/AOB</p> <p>8 Date, time and venue of next meeting</p>		
Item 1	<p>Apologies: Craig Butler (CB), David Mainwaring (DM), John Richards (JR), Marc Lawrence (ML), Steve Yeandle (SY), Matt Driscoll (MD)</p>		

Item 2	<p>Minutes & actions of last meeting</p> <p>Notes of last meeting agreed as correct. Group extend thanks to Michele Boobyer for her previous note taking.</p> <p>The Committee notes the promotion of officer Chris Hall of Somerset West and Taunton Council and wishes him every success in the future. We wish to place on record our thanks to him for his support to the Committee and his diligence in addressing the mud issue in the marina by working with the local Mud Working Party and with councillors to secure resources and a new marina operator for the benefit of the town of Watchet. We look forward to working with his successor in the same constructive manner.</p> <p>PM mentioned the ongoing monitoring of vehicles parking in Harbour Road.</p>		
Item 3	<p>Matters arising: None</p>		
Item 4	<p>Port Marine safety Code matters:</p> <p>CB & MD have attended and completed an Oil spill training course.</p>		
Item 5	<p>Harbour matters:</p> <p>KM provided an update from CM Assistant Harbour Master in his absence: CB and MD (Matt Driscoll from the Marina) have just completed Oil spill training to the MCA level 4 requirement. CB and MD will be able to support each other in the event of an Oil spill.</p> <p>CB has assisted with the East Quay wall repair by talking to the public about the work taking place, co ordinating the Generator/ fuel deliveries and ensuring daily checks are carried out.</p> <p>CM has not received any complaints regarding anglers causing an issue to marine traffic while fishing from the lighthouse.</p> <p>The trailer park on the West Pier is going to be relined and will be managed as a trailer park only for launch vehicles. Public parking will not be permitted.</p> <p>The smashed light on the West pier has been logged for repair.</p>		

	<p>KM (SWT Project Manager) The East Quay wall repair is now complete. There are a couple of outstanding actions, a small section of road needs to be constructed by the wall, following which the sheet piles will be cut to road level and railings completed. A new ladder will be installed in the next couple of weeks on the East Quay to replace the old one.</p> <p>MS suggested some demountable lampposts to avoid vandalism. ACTION: MS to pass information to CB</p> <p>MS suggested some cathartic protection for the sheet piles to extend lifespan.</p> <p>Cllr W has been notified by a member of public of a gap in the Marina gates which may cause a H&S issue. ACTION: Cllr W will raise with the appropriate officers for resolution.</p>	<p>MS</p> <p>CllrW</p>	
Item 6	<p>Marina matters:</p> <p>Chris Odling - Sme – Dredging in the marina will continue next week, the dredger has been in Cardiff completing some commercial work. The plan on return will be to concentrate dredging on the main channels followed by the Western side of the Marina.</p> <p>Harbour occupancy – the stats from May to now show that every 1 in 10 days there was a new berth holder. There has been a massive increase in visitors, Bristol Boatowners rally brought in 38 boats over the May Bank holiday. There are 8 permanent berth holders arriving next month.</p> <p>In 2022 the plan would be to operate on a first come first served basis or to request a deposit.</p> <p>Repairs to the fingers and purchase of additional fingers is taking place to ensure the layout of the marina caters for the maximum capacity of boats.</p>		
Item 7	<p>Other matters/AOB:</p> <p>The old dredger on the slipway is causing some concern. COS confirmed he will be speaking to Tim Taylor shortly to arrange removal of both old dredgers from the Marina.</p> <p>ACTION: COS to arrange removal of Dredgers with owner</p> <p>MS mentioned that now the Midas gates have been removed, traffic appears to be driving and parking by Splash point, a concern also shared by Cllr W. ACTION: SH is aware and is already acting.</p>	<p>COS</p> <p>SH</p>	

	<p>Future meetings:</p> <p>The Committee usually meets two weeks before the Harbour Board meeting. Online meetings have been in place for some time now, but the Committee may wish to consider a return to meeting in person as not everyone has access to Teams/Zoom, or a Hybrid proposal so members located further away can still attend online. The Committee can return to meeting in the Visitor Centre under the arrangement with Watchet Town Council. The next Harbour Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 11th January 2022.</p>		
Item 8	<p>Date of next meeting: Monday 13th December @ 2pm in Watchet Visitor Centre – subject to confirmation.</p>		