



Report 349/2006
Brixham Harbour Liaison Forum

Thursday 23rd November 2006
14.00 at Brixham Yacht Club,
Overgang, Brixham.

Attended:	Capt. P Labistour (PL) Cllr M Hytche (MH) Mr C Bedford (CB) Mr D Ham (DH) Mr R Perry (RP) Mr D Bartlett (DB)	Capt. K Mowat (KM) Cllr J Davies (JD) Mr R Smith (RS) Mr K Bower (KB) Mr D Jones (DJ) Mrs Y Twelves (YT)	Cllr D Browne (Cl.B) Mrs S Armstrong (SA) Mr N Garswood (NG) Mr R Curtis (RC) Mr R Williams (RW)
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1. APOLOGIES:

Apologies were received from Mr P Bartlett, Cllr Lomas, Cllr Jennings, Cllr Charlwood, the Marine Fisheries Agency and Mr J Carter.

2. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

It was agreed that the minutes of the last meeting were a true and accurate record of the meeting.

3. MATTERS ARISING:

(a) Parking on Kings Quay

PL explained that the Car Park department will contact him when a space becomes available. KB suggested that a space could be created adjacent to the electric box. DB said that the Car Park department had insisted that the area needs to be kept clear for turning.

Cl.B arrived.

(b) 2005/06 Outturn Report

PL explained that the breakdown of the Other Operating Costs had been given in response to CB's request at the last meeting. RC asked for a further breakdown of the consultancy costs. KM explained that it included regeneration, oil spill response, site investigation and Port Marine Safety Code work. KM explained that if there is money left over at the end of the New Fish Market and Oxen Cove Development it will be fed back into the harbour account in lieu of the consultancy fees. SA asked if the Security staff would be returning to four members of staff. PL said that he intended to continue with three. PL explained that in the future he intends to start charging for electricity to encourage people to be more careful with the usage. CB asked if the fish tolls would be renegotiated if that was to happen. PL said he had no plans to renegotiate fish tolls. A discussion about the collection of fish tolls took place.

MH arrived

(c) Accelerated Low Water Corrosion Project

PL reported that work on the Accelerated Low Water Corrosion Project had commenced and was proceeding well.

(d) Harbour Side Maintenance Project Schedule

PL reported that the fender experiment was going ahead and with the agreement of the Forum the electric box replacement and quay resurfacing could be started. PL explained that this would mean that the fender and ladder work would need to wait. PL said that all the electric boxes on the quay had recently been tested and a large number of sockets had been disconnected as they are no longer safe. He also explained that

the resurfacing work is important as there are related oil pollution issues. NG explained that the cathodic protection work had started and was due to finish at the end of January. He then explained that there is a choice of two options, either carryout remedial resurfacing work and repair the electrics and lights or carryout repairs to the fenders and ladders. The first option would commence in April 07 and complete in August 07, the second option would start in April 07 and complete in June 07. The cost of just the repairs to the electric pillars and lighting would be in the region of £92,000. KM advised the Forum of the current budget situation and explained that once a project has been chosen the remaining project may have to wait a number of years until the reserve funds have been replenished. RC asked if the fuel tanks would be surveyed as part of the resurfacing work. PL said that it was his understanding that the responsibility for the tanks lies with BTA but they are working in partnership to provide a fit for purpose fuelling system. A discussion about safe fuelling took place. PL explained that he had set up an Environmental Management Group, the first meeting is arranged for the 12th December at 10.30am. PL invited all Forum members to attend and agreed to put the issue on the agenda. PL asked if there were any objections to going ahead with the resurfacing works. RC asked if it would cause a problem for the passenger boats. NG said that with consultation with the contractors inconvenience can be kept to a minimum. SA said that repairs to the hand rails on the steps are important. NG said that the steps are part of the contract and the timing of the contract can be arranged around passenger boat requirements. RS said that September to March would be the worst time for the fishing industry. NG explained that it would be better to carry out the work in the dry weather, he also explained the process involved. SA asked if the steps could have a white line painted on the edge of them so that they are clear. The general consensus of the Forum was that the resurfacing and electrical work to go ahead. KM explained that if the tenders come in over budget then an extraordinary meeting will need to be called. SA asked if not replacing the fenders and ladders would compromise safety. PL said that the fishing industry has a bad habit of tying to the ladders so they are regularly repaired. PL also said that the HSE are carrying out regular investigations and are taking an interest in our repair. PL advised the Forum that scaffolding was being erected on Middle Pier to facilitate emergency repairs to prop up and support the fenders. PL said that he had not put "fuelling via barge" on the agenda as he had attended a Brixham 21 meeting recently which had touched briefly on the subject. RC said that he would like to see a fuel barge on the end of the Breakwater but he accepts that it would need to be refilled. RS said that anyone that runs it would need to have a large working capital.

ACTION: PL to put fuelling on the Environmental Management Group agenda.

4. SOUTH WEST WATER

PL explained that South West Water had served the harbour with a non compliance notice. He said that all the harbours in the South West had recently been inspected follow an incident in Plymouth. Most of the harbours that had been inspected have been served with a notice. PL reported that the new development will be fully compliant with the regulations and they are hoping to resolve the current situation by coming up with an agreement with South West Water that would not cost more than a few thousand pounds. However, this could end up costing the port tens of thousands of pounds if SWW do not agree. KM gave a brief overview of SWW's requirements and explained that the British Ports Association had not been consulted and will be subsequently lobbying about the situation.

5. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT GROUP

PL reiterated that the new Environmental Management Group would be meeting in the Brixham 21 offices on the 12th December at 10.30am. PL gave details of the likely attendees and the agenda items. PL again invited all Forum members to attend.

6. REGENERATION UPDATE

PL reported that the new fishmarket project is going ahead and the TDA has written a report looking for extra prudential borrowing as the specification of the light industrial

units has increased. PL reported that the TDA has a new partner called "Fishworks" it is a celebrity chef who will be running a fish restaurant and culinary school. This will help to push up the prudential borrowing. Within the report the TDA are asking to proceed with the tendering for the Oxen Cove development but it seems to be slipping from Spring 2007 to Autumn 2007. RC asked how many members of the fishing industry use the Oxen Cove car park. PL said approximately 50 people and then explained that the parking issue would get worse but there would be 30 spaces once the resurfacing has been completed and 80 spaces once the reclaimed area has been completed.

7. MOORING CONTRACT

PL explained that this is a rolling 3 year process and Millennium Marine Contractors have been successful for the last 6 years. Last year the contract was renewed for an extra year until the regeneration situation was clearer. Marine Services have now put this contract out to tender again and at the next meeting the details of the new contractor will be given. SA said that the Harbour Users would like to have their moorings inspected before they put their boats back on their moorings in the spring. KM said that the moorings are indemnified for 18 months after they have been inspected to allow for an overlap. PL agreed to attend the next Harbour Users meeting to explain the situation. PL also said that anyone having problems with their insurance company can have a copy of the indemnity sheet for their mooring.

ACTION: PL to attend the next Harbour Users Meeting to explain mooring contract.

8. HARBOUR/MARITIME STRATEGY

KM reported that the second draft had been sent out for consultation and is available on the website. He explained that the consultation would finish on the 31st December; the report would then be presented to Cabinet in January and Full Council in February. He thanked everyone for their feedback. KB said that it was a very good document as it is easy to read.

9. HARBOUR CHARGES

KM explained that he had written to the chairmen of each of the Harbour User Associations to ask them for their response to a proposed increase in charges of 3% or 5%. KM said that it is important to keep pace with inflation and that the Brixham Harbour Users had suggested a 2.5% increase. KM also explained that there is likely to be a £43,000 deficit in the Brixham Harbour account at the end of 2007/08 before any increase in harbour charges. KM explained that the expected deficit is due to the redundant capacity in moorings for the redevelopment, no income from winter storage and a contingency for Pay Modernisation. CB said that the fish tolls are always underestimated; KM said that this is no longer the case as it has been estimated on previous income levels. JD suggested that if the charges were too high users would go elsewhere, KM said that he did not feel that the charges were too high as there are large waiting lists for facilities. PL asked for feedback on the proposed 3% or 5%. All agreed that 3% would be better than 5% and that increases should be kept in line with inflation.

RS left the meeting.

10. LDF CONSULTATION

PL explained that as an established example of community liaison the Forum had been chosen to consult on the Local Development Framework. PL distributed copies of the Statement of Community Involvement and explained that it is out for consultation until 15th December. He asked anyone that was interested, to respond individually. C.I.B explained that it is a very bureaucratic system but it is a government system not Torbay Councils.

11. HARBOUR COMMITTEE

PL reminded everyone that the next meeting is on Monday 4th December at 4.30pm in Town Hall. PL gave details of the agenda items.

12. SEA GRASS PROJECT

PL explained that the Torbay Coast and Countryside Trust had received a grant for a one year project to research and monitor the sea grass beds in Tor Bay. He explained that these are situated at Livermead, Elberry Cove, Fishcombe Cove and Saltern Cove. There is more sea grass in Tor Bay than was originally thought. PL said that the project team are looking for outputs such as advice to boat owners, interpretation boards on the beaches, voluntary protected areas and to raise the profile of the sea grass. PL said anyone wanting further information should contact him. PL said that the TCCT want to take precautionary measures and the Harbour Authority to need to meet them half way. CB said that this had been discussed before and it was suggested that the activities in the area may assist growth. PL suggested that colleagues from the TCCT could give a presentation at the March Liaison Forum meeting or if a decision is needed before hand a special meeting could be held.

PL closed the meeting and thanked everyone for their time.

Meeting closed 15.50pm

DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS:	8th March 2007	14.00pm
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DATES OF HARBOUR COMMITTEE:	4th December 2006	4.30pm
	19th March 2007	4.30pm