



Torquay/Paignton Harbour Liaison Forum

Tuesday 5th June 2007
10.30 at Torquay Harbour Office,
Beacon Quay, Torquay

Attended:	Capt. K Mowat (KM)	Capt. P Labistour (PL)	Mr R Gater (RG)
	Mr R Perry (RP)	Mrs C Scott (CS)	Mr M Ould (MO)
	Mr R Cudmore (RC)	Mrs S Wyatt (SW)	Mr M Ritchie (MR)
	Mr John Turner (JT)	Mr Terry Ekers (TE)	Mr C Clarke (CC)
	Mr G Coleman (GC)	Mr R Brown (RB)	Mrs Y Twelves (YT)

1. APOLOGIES:

Apologies were received from Cllr R Horne, Mr J Carter, Mr A Lane, and Mr G Edwards. KM explained that he had received a letter from GE saying that he was unable to attend and suggested a different representative be sought for the tenants.

KM welcomed everyone and explained that there were two guests present, GC and RB. KM also explained that there were no Councillors present as the process of appointing to outside bodies was yet to be completed.

2. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

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

PL arrived.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST MEETING:

(a) Paignton Harbour Car Park

KM explained that Steve Hurley was unable to attend the meeting so RB came in his place. KM explained that the Paignton Harbour Users had felt that the price of the proposed car park permit was too high. RB said that the permit had been set at £300 to bring it in line with other permits but the car parks department was keen to deliver a permit that is beneficial to all. CC said that the harbour is mainly seasonal and it is difficult to get the cars off the harbour estate. KM said that realistically decriminalised parking will not be brought onto the harbour estate until 2009. KM said that the ability to park on the roads around Paignton Harbour led to the car park being under used. CC said that if the harbour users do not feel that the permits are affordable they would not purchase them. KM said that Cllr Carroll is the ward councillor for the area so Harbour Users may wish to contact him. JT said that in the summer the tourists take up the on street parking and the harbour users will not use the car park. RG explained that the problem is at its worst between May and September but the permit is expensive for those only using it once a week. CS pointed out that MDL charge £240 per annum for secure underground parking. RB suggested that harbour users might wish to purchase a number of spaces and then split the costs. KM asked if it would be possible for Marine Services to buy spaces and then sell double the number of permits and let the spaces be used on a first come first served basis. There was a general agreement to this. RG said that the cheaper charges in the evening do not help the Sailing Club as they only reduce after 7pm. RB agreed to look into this. JT asked if it is possible to ensure that the car park is opened at 8am not 8.30am or 8.45am. RB said that he

would ensure that this happens. KM said that he would circulate RB's contact details in the minutes and he would look into the option of buying spaces.

ACTION: RB to look into evening charges and ensure car park open at 08.00. KM to look into buying spaces. RB's contact details are as follows:

Mr Richard Brown – Parking Operations Officer

Parking Dept.

Unit 3, Riviera Park

Torquay

TQ2 7TD

Tel: 01803 207674 Fax: 01803 207697

Email: Richard.Brown@torbay.gov.uk

(b) Stagecoach Ferry

KM introduced GC and explained that he was present instead of Peter Brunt. KM explained that earliest the service could commence would be summer 2009. GC explained that Stagecoach were proposing to invest between four and five million pounds into the project. Furthermore, within the Local Transport Plan there is mention of "seeking to improve the ferry service in Tor Bay". Stagecoach approached Torbay Council with the suggestion of a fast ferry running every half an hour throughout the year and late into the evenings. GC explained that there is a similar service running in South Africa and Stagecoach currently employ 500 people in Torbay. GC said that there are three parties involved; these are Torbay Council, River Link, who are looking at running the service, and Stagecoach. GC said that he wanted to make clear that, they still have no detailed proposal, there is no evidence of the actual number of potential passengers and Torbay Council will not be subsidising the service but the DfT and the RDA may contribute to some of the required infrastructure. GC said that a full consultative process will be carried out and it will be a full Council decision. JT asked where the customers would park, GC said that in Torquay it is expected that they will park in the Terrace Car Park and in Brixham they will use the full time park and ride. KM said that in the time since the 'fast ferry' headlines, not a great deal has happened but he has suggested that the consultation process should start soon. There will be two open consultation meetings, one at Torquay and one at Brixham, these are expected to take place in September. KM said that reports would be taken to various meetings/committees but the final decision would rest with full Council. MO and CS raised the fact that the seats are not full on the current boats that are running. MR asked where the vessels would berth as the current passenger carrying fleet are finding space a problem. PL suggested that a study should be carried out of the current operators and services to see if they can be improved instead of bringing in a new operator. MO and CS explained the current operations. CC pointed out that Torbay Council had been approached by current operators on numerous occasions to assist in improving the transport links. KM explained that he had attended the most recent meeting that GC had been unable to attend. KM said that it had been a quick meeting with the consultants from Stagecoach and that he had reminded everyone that widespread and thorough consultation is essential. RG said that he had concerns about the effects on maritime events in Tor Bay. KM said that he had raised the issues of wash, noise and clash with the current operators at the meetings he had attended. GC said that a business plan had been requested to enable consultation to take place. KM thanked GC for attending and said that GC's contact details would be distributed in the minutes to enable direct communication.

ACTION: GC's contact details:

Mr Geoff Coleman – Senior Public Transport Co-Ordinator

Transport Planning

Roebuck House

Abbey Road

Torquay

TQ2 5TF

Tel: 01803 207693 Fax: 01803 208882

Email: Geoff.Coleman@torbay.gov.uk

PL said that he had not received any requests for a copy of the Oil Spill Response Plan, SW said that she would like a copy. PL agreed to send one and wait for comments before finalising the plan.

ACTION: PL to send SW copy of the Oil Spill Response Plan.

(c) Mooring Policy

KM said that each Liaison Forum member had been sent a copy of the mooring policy prior to the meeting. KM said that the policy is long overdue and amalgamates existing terms and conditions, policies and customs and practices. KM gave details of the contents of the mooring policy and highlighted particular areas. KM said that the policy will be a live document and will be reviewed as often as is necessary. CC asked what the situation would be with regard to inheritance for commercial operators, KM said that if the business was inherited the facilities would also be inherited. TE said that he was surprised that there was no mention of a waiting list deposit. KM said that he would amend the policy to include it. PL highlighted the fact that Brixham does not have commercial moorings and asked the situation regarding the Harbour Master's discretion, KM confirmed that Harbour Masters will still have discretion but the policy will give guidance. JT highlighted the fact that when the policy was being put together a bench marking process took place to ensure that it was written in line with examples at other harbours. KM asked for any further comments to be forwarded to him by Thursday.

ACTION: Any comments to be forwarded to KM by Thursday.

4. CAPITAL WORKS

(a) Town Dock Update

KM advised that the Town Dock contract had been advertised for tender again with a closing date of 16th July. It is anticipated that the contract will be let in early August to enable a commencement date of 1st October. KM said that it may not be necessary to organise an extraordinary meeting of the Liaison Forum to consider the plans as the date of the next meeting should coincide with contract programme. KM agreed to invite the chosen contractors to the next meeting. KM said that the additional wave study that had been carried out to establish the effect of the widened quay and slipway had not highlighted any new concerns.

ACTION: KM to invite contractors to next meeting.

5. HARBOUR COMMITTEE – Upcoming Agenda

KM reminded everyone that the next Harbour Committee meeting is on Monday 18th June 2007 at 4.30 in the Meadfoot Room, Town Hall and all are welcome to attend. PL gave the names of the new Harbour Committee members and KM gave an overview of the agenda items. KM also explained that Cllr R Horne is the Chairman-elect for the Harbour Committee and training for the Harbour Committee members will be given by KM, YT and PL on the 8th June. KM said that he would be emphasising the importance of Councillors attending the Liaison Forum meetings.

KM closed the meeting and thanked everyone for their time.

Meeting closed 12.10pm

DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS:

4 th September 2007	10.30am
20 th November 2007	10.30am
4 th March 2008	10.30am

DATES OF HARBOUR COMMITTEE:

18 th June 2007	4.30pm
18 th September 2007	4.30pm
3 rd December 2007	4.30pm



Brixham Harbour Liaison Forum

Thursday 7th June 2007
10.30 at Brixham Yacht Club,
Brixham

Attended:

Capt. K Mowat (KM)	Capt. P Labistour (PL)	Cllr R Horne (RH)
Mr R Perry (RP)	Mr C Bedford (CB)	Mr R Smith (RS)
Mrs S Armstrong (SA)	Mr B Curtis (BC)	Mr D Ham (DH)
Mr Dave Bartlett (DB)	Mr D Jones (DJ)	Mr P Bartlett (PB)
Mr A Haines (AH)	Mr K Bower (KB)	Mr G Coleman (GC)
Mrs Y Twelves (YT)		

6. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies were received from Mr J Carter and Mr R Williams.

7. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

RW, PB and DJ asked for it to be noted that they had sent their apologies for the last meeting. It was agreed that with this exception the minutes of the last meeting were a true and accurate record of the meeting.

PL introduced RH and explained that he is the Chairman-elect for the Harbour Committee. Everyone introduced themselves.

8. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST MEETING:

BC asked if the transport planner would be attending the meeting, PL confirmed that Geoff Coleman had been invited and was running late.

RP asked what the situation was with the Environmental Management Group. PL said that the most recent meeting had been postponed until the end of the summer as a number of issues were outstanding.

KM said that the sea grass work had progressed further with the placement of white buoys with "seagrass" marked on them. The fishermen seem to be observing the guidelines and their effectiveness will be monitored over the summer. There will be a press release and a Harbour Masters information sheet will be issued in the forthcoming weeks. PL gave out hard copies of "The Nature of Torbay" and the "Tor Bay Marine Bio Diversity Action Plan".

GC arrived.

CB asked for an update on the Municipal Ports Review work. KM reminded everyone that this work is now complete and the first meeting of the new Harbour Committee is on the 18th June. KM explained that subject to the Committees approval the timetable would be adjusted with the hope that the advisors will be in place for the September meeting.

(post meeting note from KM – it is likely that the Harbour Committee advisors will not be in place by the September meeting but the names should be recommended and hopefully accepted at that meeting)

Stagecoach Ferry Service

PL gave an overview of what was discussed at the last meeting and introduced GC. KM explained that he had attended the most recent meeting that GC had been unable to attend. KM said that it had been a quick meeting with the consultants from Stagecoach

and that he had reminded everyone that widespread and thorough consultation is essential. There will be two open consultation meetings, one at Torquay and one at Brixham, these are expected to take place in September. KM explained that earliest the service could commence would be summer 2009. KM said that reports would be taken to various meetings/committees but the final decision would rest with full Council. GC explained that within the Local Transport Plan there is mention of "seeking to improve the ferry service in Tor Bay". Stagecoach approached Torbay Council with the suggestion of a fast ferry running every half an hour throughout the year and late into the evenings. GC explained that there is a similar service running in South Africa and Stagecoach currently employ 500 people in Torbay. GC said that there are three parties involved; these are Torbay Council, River Link who are looking at running the service and Stagecoach. GC said that he wanted to make clear that, they still have no detailed proposal, there is no evidence of the actual number of potential passengers and Torbay Council will not be subsidising the service but the DfT and the RDA may contribute to some of the required infrastructure. CB said that he had written to the Mayor at some length on the subject, he also explained that he had researched the craft that Stagecoach were proposing and was very concerned by what he had found out. CB said that Brixham Town Council wish to be consulted on the subject as a matter of urgency. GC said that the full consultative process will be carried out and it will be a full Council decision. SA said that it would damage all the existing operators, as River Link will back up the services with their own vessels. SA said that she had approached Torbay Council in the past to ask about running through the winter and there is a current operator with a vessel that is able to run through the winter. BC said that he agreed with CB and SA, he also said he was concerned which facilities the vessels would use to embark and disembark. KM reminded everyone that the harbour had not driven this project and there are lots of operational and risk management issues to be considered. Furthermore MCA approval would be required but this cannot be sought until there are more details. GC said that a business plan had been requested to enable consultation to take place. KB said that he was concerned that the fishermen would be displaced from the Old Fish Quay in Torquay. PB said that the RYA would like a copy of the formal risk assessment when it is issued. RH suggested that if local operators were concerned they should put forward their own suggestions to be considered along with the proposal from Stagecoach. PL said that it would be kept as a standard agenda item and that GC's contact details would be distributed in the minutes to enable direct communication.

ACTION: PL to keep as a standard agenda item. Formal Risk Assessment to be passed to RYA. GC's contact details:

***Mr Geoff Coleman – Senior Public Transport Co-Ordinator
Transport Planning***

Roebuck House

Abbey Road

Torquay

TQ2 5TF

Tel: 01803 207693

Fax: 01803 208882

Email: Geoff.Coleman@torbay.gov.uk

GC left the meeting.

9. WINTER STORAGE

PL explained that Marine Services do not plan to provide winter storage at Brixham harbour this year due to the regeneration work at Oxen Cove and the parking issues which will have an effect on the Breakwater Hard area. PL went on to say that he was not sure if winter storage facilities will ever be able to be provided in Brixham Harbour again. CB asked if there are winter storage facilities in Torquay, PL explained that they were sacrificed for the redevelopment. KB asked if Berry Head Quarry had been considered as an option. KM said that he had thought about it and he had also considered Kings Quay/Southern Quay but the wider community would need to be

convinced. RP reminded everyone that Dartside Quay has excellent facilities for winter storage. BC said that Seven Quarries would also be an option. BC said that he felt if there is a requirement for winter storage a location must be found. AH pointed out that the requirement for winter storage will change dramatically when a northern arm is built. CB said that a temporary facility is essential until a northern arm can be built as most insurance companies will not insure vessels in Brixham Outer Harbour during the winter months. KM said he would explore the options.

ACTION: KM to explore the locations for winter storage.

10. HERITAGE REGATTA

SA said that she was pleased to see that the event was expanding but she had concerns about safe berthing of the vessels in poor weather conditions. PL said that the vessels had to be moved off the pontoon due to the wind conditions.

11. MOORING POLICY

PL said that each Liaison Forum member had been sent a copy of the mooring policy prior to the meeting. KM said that the policy is long overdue and amalgamates existing terms and conditions. KM said that the policy will be a live document and will be reviewed as often as is necessary. SA said that it is important that affordable facilities are maintained. KM asked for any comments. CB said he would give his comments after the meeting.

(post meeting note – KM has incorporated CB's comments into the draft policy document)

12. HARBOUR COMMITTEE BUSINESS

PL reminded everyone that the next Harbour Committee meeting is on Monday 18th June 2007 at 4.30 in the Meadfoot Room, Town Hall and all are welcome to attend. PL gave the names of the new Harbour Committee members and an overview of the agenda items. PL said that there is a possibility that the Committee meetings will move around the Bay. PL said that copies of reports are available from the Harbour Office or on the Torbay Council website a few days prior to the Harbour Committee meeting.

13. REPAIR PROJECTS

PL said that the Middle Pier work is now complete and the experimental fendering has just started. PL said that the resurfacing and electrical work will hopefully commence in the summer.

14. REGENERATION

PL said that Dean and Dyball have been appointed as the contractors and the next stage is to carry out surveys and finalise designs. SA asked if there is a clause in the contract for the event a problem occurring. PL said that he could not give a definitive answer but would check. AH said the BYC feel it is important to have dialogue with the appointed contractor to ensure operations continue. KM said that part of the contract is to ensure that day to day operations continue. SA agreed that the harbour should operate as business as usual. KM said that termination notices have been served on all the existing tenants to ensure the process is not delayed and vacant possession is achieved.

ACTION: PL to check clauses of contract.

All agreed that future meetings should be at 10.30.

PL closed the meeting and thanked everyone for their time.

Meeting closed 12.15pm

DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS:

6th September 2007 10.30am

22th November 2007 10.30am

6th March 2008 10.30am

DATES OF HARBOUR COMMITTEE:

18th June 2007 4.30pm

18th September 2007 4.30pm

3rd December 2007 4.30pm