

Meeting Title	Torquay & Paignton Harbour Liaison Forum
Venue	Torquay Harbour Office
Date	2 nd June 2009 at 10.30

Present	Capt K. Mowat (KM) Capt P. Labistour (PL) Mr M. Smith (MS) Mr T. Ekers (TE) Mr J. Bond (JB) Mr M. Ould (MO) Cllr R. Horne (RH) Mr W. Butcher (WB) Mr J. Turner (JT) Mr D. Musgrove (DM)
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Agenda Items	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Apologies 2. Minutes of the last meeting 3. Constitution of the Harbour Liaison Forums 4. Matters Arising 5. Torquay Inner Harbour Pontoon Berthing Project <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) South Pier pontoons Usage 6. Decriminalised Parking Orders - update 7. Capital Works <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Town Dock (ii) Haldon Pier – works area & start date 8. Harbour Committee – Upcoming Agenda 9. Future National and World Sailing Events in Tor Bay <p>Date of next meeting</p>
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1.	Apologies for Absence	Action
1.1	Mr C. Easterbrook, Mr A. Lane, Mr N. Penman, Ms H. Meacock, Cllr N. Amil	

2.	Minutes of the last meeting	
2.1	It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting of 10 th March 2009 were a true and accurate record of that meeting.	

3.	Constitution of the Harbour Liaison Forums	
3.1	<p>KM advised the Forum that the Harbour Committee had now agreed a constitution for the Liaison Forums. He pointed out that under the new constitution it would be necessary to formally appoint a Chairman. KM said it could be any Forum member. The Forum then elected KM as Chairman.</p> <p>KM advised the Forum that the start of the new municipal year had seen some changes to the appointment of Members to the Harbour Committee and the appointment of a Member to the Torquay & Paignton Harbour Liaison Forum. The Councillors appointed to the Harbour Committee were read out by KM and it was explained that the Committee would have a new Chairman and Vice-Chairman. It was understood that Cllr. Horne was the Chairman elect. The Forum recorded its thanks to Cllrs. Oliver and Amil for their support and attendance at the Liaison Forum.</p>	

4.	Matters Arising	
4.1	<p>Stagecoach/Fast Ferry - update</p> <p>KM reported that Charles Uzzell (CU) had asked him to liaise with Geoff Coleman (GC) regarding the fast ferry issue given that the Department for Transport had indicated that the Council could bid into a substantial pot of money called the</p>	

	<p>Transport Innovation Fund (TIF). KM indicated that CU could see that a successful bid would result in some investment in harbour infrastructure to accommodate a future fast ferry service.</p> <p>GC had been asked to prepare an ambitious plan which could include facilities for a fast ferry.</p> <p>KM highlighted that he was continuing to advise all concerned of the need for a structured project plan and feasibility study that was adequately resourced, which he considered was essential before any bid was made.</p> <p>The consensus of the meeting agreed that if there was to be an all year round ferry service, irrespective of what type and who operated it, the seaward side of Princess Pier (the old Western Lady jetty) was the only logical operating point.</p> <p>KM stated that he had been tasked by the Harbour Committee to ask the Mayor to ensure that the Committee were involved in any debate over ferry services. All agreed that submissions for funding to improve harbour infrastructure should be made irrespective as to whether or not there is to be a fast ferry.</p> <p>KM agreed to keep the Forum advised on any developments.</p>	KM
4.2	<p>Alcohol Ban Paignton Harbour</p> <p>JT gave an update on the current situation and issues.</p> <p>Neil Penman (NP) was not in attendance but he had not yet written to the Police on this matter. TE reported that NP had now witnessed some of the problems first hand and he felt in a stronger position to write to the Police, which he would now do.</p> <p>JT & TE agreed to remind NP.</p>	JT & TE
4.3	<p>Torquay Harbour Entrance - Risk Review</p> <p>KM would be issuing a Harbour Master's Notice and would further consider the need for "Dead Slow" signs painted on the pier ends. Anglers were reported as still being a concern due to casting lines into the harbour entrance. KM advised that any incidents should be reported and his staff so that they could respond promptly. He also advised that other than fencing the end of the pier there was not a lot more that could be done other than for harbour staff to continue to monitor and enforce the byelaws.</p> <p>KM was also asked to consider a 'Welcome to Torquay Harbour' sign.</p>	KM
4.4	<p>Seatorbay - update</p> <p>The coastal partnership was making progress and the minutes of the first Steering Group meeting would be circulated shortly. The small Spatial Mapping project had been completed which KM considered to be an invaluable tool for the decision making process. KM offered to arrange for a demonstration to the Forum.</p>	KM
4.5	<p>Mussel Farm Extension</p> <p>KM made the Forum aware that there would be navigational marks/lights on the NW and NE corners of the extended Mussel Farm area. There was some debate as to whether all 4 corners should be marked and the fact that the Farm was causing an increase in mussel seed, which was covering pots and fouling boats throughout the Bay.</p>	
4.6	<p>Harbour and Marine Services Business Plan</p> <p>KM reported that the Business Plan had been accepted and signed off by the Chairman of the Harbour Committee. Copies were now available and the Plan could be downloaded from the website.</p>	

4.7	Beacon Quay Public Toilets - keypad KM reported that no progress had been made but Cllr Horne had offered his support if required.	KM
4.8	Exception from Alcohol Limits for Non-Professional Mariners KM made the Forum aware that the Harbour Committee was supportive of the Forum's view that there should be no exceptions. The Forum was assured that the UK Harbour Masters Association and British Ports Association shared the same view and that KM's formal response to the consultation reflected this position.	
5.	Torquay Inner Harbour Pontoon Berthing Project	
5.1	KM reported that in line with the Tor Bay Harbour and Maritime Strategy he was considering further improvements to harbour facilities and infrastructure. He said that he wanted the Forum's view on the idea of replacing the Torquay inner harbour chain moorings with pontoon berths. KM circulated an indicative pontoon layout for discussion. After a brief debate it appeared that the idea was supported but several people recognised that the pricing structure would need careful consideration if the facility was to be welcomed by existing customers.	
5.2	(i) South Pier pontoons Usage The issue of the existing pontoon was discussed and KM was given some clear advice about how the space could be arranged between the business use and use by inner harbour users/visitors. KM to implement new agreed areas.	KM
6.	Decriminalised Parking Orders - update	
6.1	KM informed the Forum that the Orders were proceeding and that they would soon be subject to public consultation. The Orders would introduce fixed penalty parking restrictions at Paignton harbour and Torquay harbour but implementation was now not likely to be before mid summer.	
7	Capital Works	
7.1	Town Dock Update. KM reported that the waiting list had been reopened and there were now 20 application slots on each mooring size. The Forum was advised that more ladders were to be installed together with measures to better identify the location of each ladder. MS offered the opportunity for harbour staff to view the arrangements on Torquay Marina, which may assist in providing an example of the possible solutions. The question of a larger security keypad was also raised, which KM agreed to consider. KM indicated that a request to have bicycle racks on the Town Dock had been rejected but it was recognised that some racks should be installed at a suitable location on Beacon Quay.	
7.2	Haldon Pier KM reported that the first phase of the work (concrete spraying) is expected to take 12-15 weeks, which it was agreed would not commence until September so as not to disrupt the summer season. The contractors would require a compound, which would be from the shelter down to the end of the pier. The rock armouring element of the work was to commence in early 2010. A plan showing the site area was circulated for information and discussion. The Forum accepted that certain aspects of the site set-up would need to move onto Beacon Quay during the autumn.	

8	Harbour Committee – Upcoming Agenda	
8.1	KM made the Forum aware of the agenda items for the forthcoming Harbour Committee meeting and advised them that it was a public meeting and they were welcome to attend.	

9.	Future National and World Sailing Events in Tor Bay	
9.1	WB advised the Forum about two World Championship sailing events that would be hosted in the Bay during 2011. These were the 'Tasers' and the 'Laser SB3s'. WB emphasised the economic benefit of these two events and stated that the RTYC would be seeking both in kind and financial/sponsorship support from Torbay Council. KM suggested that a report should be presented to the Harbour Committee in September so that any necessary recommendations can be made to the Mayor and/or full Council.	KM & WB

	KM thanked the Forum members for their attendance and for their valued contribution. The meeting closed at 12.30pm.	
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Next Meeting

1st September 2009 at 10.30

Venue

Torquay Harbour Office

Future Meetings

24th November 2009
2nd March 2010

Dates of future Harbour Committee Meetings

22nd June 2009 - Brixham
14th September - Paignton
7th December - Torquay
15th March - Brixham