

Meeting Title
Torquay & Paignton Harbour Liaison Forum
Venue

Torquay Harbour Office

Date

8th June 2010 at 10.30

Present

Capt K Mowat (KM)	Mr J Bond (JB)	Mr T Ekers (TE)
Capt P Labistour (PL)	Mr R Gater(RG)	Mr W Butcher (WB)
Mr J Turner (JT)	Mr M Ould (MO)	Cllr B McPhail (BMcP)
Cllr R Horne (RH)	Mr A Lane (AL)	Cllr C Stocks (CS)
Mr M Ritchie (MR)		

Agenda Items

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the last meeting
3. Matters Arising
 - a) Fast ferry update
 - b) Alcohol ban – Paignton harbour
 - c) Torquay harbour entrance
 - d) SeaTorbay – spatial mapping
 - e) Decriminalised Parking Orders – update
 - f) Harbourside Notice Boards
 - g) Harbour Budget and Charges 2010/11
 - h) New harbour workboat
 - i) Fishing within the harbour –update
 - j) Tor Bay Harbour Business Plan - 2010/11
 - k) Paignton harbour redevelopment
 - l) Assistant Harbour Master, Torquay
4. Capital Works
 - a) Haldon Pier – update
 - b) Torquay inner harbour pontoon berthing project - update
5. Commissioning of the Council's Harbour Authority function - update
6. Town Dock - Torquay
7. Maritime Events - 2010
8. Harbour fairways - possible changes - MR
9. Torquay dinghy spaces - WB
10. Princess Gardens/Promenade proposals
11. Harbour Committee - Upcoming Agenda

Date of the next meeting

1.	Apologies for Absence	Action
1.1	David Musgrove & John Maynard	
2.	Minutes of the last meeting	Action
2.1	It was agreed that the minutes of the 2 nd March meeting were a true and accurate record of that meeting.	

3.	Matters Arising	Action
(a)	<p>Fast ferry update</p> <p>KM reported that the Council were still considering the option to fund new pontoon facilities for embarking/disembarking passengers at Brixham and Torquay. However, other transport related schemes may be given a higher priority. The initiative was not linked to any specific fast ferry operator or proposal but was aimed at improving the experience for travelling passengers. Officers from Transport Planning still supported a fast ferry service and would expect any passenger boat service to make a commitment towards an all year round operation but it was now recognised that this would need some form of subsidy. KM agreed to keep the Forum updated.</p>	KM
(b)	<p>Alcohol Ban - Paignton Harbour</p> <p>JT reported that he had met with senior police officers and agreed that the real problem was from a group of anti-social individuals living close to the harbour area. The police had subsequently evicted these persons and it was hoped the need for an alcohol ban had therefore been removed. It was agreed to keep this matter under review.</p>	
(c)	<p>Torquay Harbour Entrance</p> <p>KM reported that the seasonal buoy had now been marked with “5 knots” and a Harbour Masters Notice was to be posted and a much bigger buoy was to be priced for possible installation in 2011. WB stressed that a problem still existed with individual boaters using the mark as an indicator to speed up. MR suggested a zoning scheme between Corbyn Head and the harbour entrance and WB reported that some 5 knot buoys had been accidentally moved. After lengthy debate KM stated that the missing 5 knot buoy would be re-instated in the charted position and that the matter would be kept under constant review. He also urged those present to report any incidents and/or near misses to harbour staff to be recorded on the harbour safety management system.</p>	KM
(d)	<p>SeaTorbay - spatial mapping</p> <p>KM advised the Forum that no further spatial mapping work had been undertaken. The “Finding Sanctuary” project was ongoing and KM was aiming to provide the project with AIS shipping data for the Tor Bay area. Both the RTYC and PSC confirmed that they had been interviewed by Finding Sanctuary and had provided them with relevant data.</p>	KM
(e)	<p>Decriminalised Parking Orders – update</p> <p>KM reported that the Orders had been posted for public comment but only one objection had been received and this was at Paignton. The objection would be considered at the next Harbour Committee meeting. There had not been any objections at Torquay and the scheme would be introduced as soon as permits were issued for the ground level car park spaces.</p>	
(f)	<p>Harbourside Notice Boards.</p> <p>KM reported that a new Notice Board would soon be installed on the Town Dock in Torquay.</p>	

(g)	<p>Harbour Budget & Charges 2010/11 KM informed the Forum that Officers and the Chairman had attended user group meetings at both Paignton and Brixham. The meetings had been very useful and constructive. The feedback would be considered by the Harbour Committee's budget monitoring group when formulating their recommendations for the 2011/12 budget and charges. KM informed the Forum that this working group met quarterly.</p> <p>TE asked KM for an update on the concept of monthly payments. KM reported that that he was supportive and the matter was being pursued, but there were systems problems and he could not at this point give an implementation date.</p> <p>KM reported that the 2009/10 outturn figures showed a surplus of circa £100K which had been transferred to reserves but would be absorbed in future years with the cost of borrowing related to the Haldon Pier works and other costs.</p>	<p>KM</p> <p>RH</p>
(h)	<p>New Harbour Workboat KM reported that delivery of the new workboat had been delayed. KM confirmed that the basic price of the new craft was circa £25 k but it was still the intention to sell the old boat on E-bay.</p>	
(i)	<p>Fishing within the Harbour KM suggested that the problem could be expected to return with the onset of the Bass fishing season. He confirmed that the Police remained supportive and that the Council's night patrols would be targeted to Princess Pier. The issue was debated at length without a clear solution being found. KM agreed to raise the matter with Devon Sea Fisheries regarding the regulations affecting Bass fishing, especially undersize catches.</p>	
(j)	<p>Tor Bay Harbour Business Plan 2010/11 KM reported that the amendments put forward by CS had been adopted and the plan was with the Chairman for signature.</p>	
(k)	<p>Paignton Harbour redevelopment KM reported that this project was now considered to be on the medium term plan of the Mayor's Vision rather than the short term plan. The TDA would review the position in 18 months time. Redevelopment was therefore unlikely in the near future.</p>	
(l)	<p>Assistant Harbour Master, Torquay KM announced that following the departure of Nick Clarence to Dart Harbour, Nick Burns had been recruited internally and promoted to Assistant Harbour Master. An internal advert was now being progressed for his replacement.</p>	

4.	Capital works	Action
(a)	<p>a) Haldon Pier KM reported that a recent survey of the inside wall had shown considerable degradation to some of the foundation blocks. The EA were being pursued regarding flood defence funding and that until this work had been completed the use of the pier by heavy transport would be restricted.</p>	

(b)	Inner harbour pontoon project - Torquay KM explained that this project was adjacent to the Marina car park/Pavilion site, which was a key site in the Mayor's Vision. Consequently whilst approval of the scheme had been reached by the Harbour Committee it was appropriate to delay progress on the project until it was clear what options might be presented for the whole area, including the Princess Gardens/Promenade. It was also not prudent to increase borrowing at this time.	
5.	Commissioning of the Council's Harbour Authority Function	Action
	KM reported that following Harbour Committee approval in January the proposal had not received full political support and an amended report was to be considered by the Harbour Committee at their June meeting. KM stressed however that the final decision would rest with a meeting of the full Council.	
6.	Town Dock – Torquay	Action
	MR stated that the users were requesting increased power and water points with at least one provision per finger. KM agreed that this issue had come out from the Harbour Users Survey but stressed again that the Town Dock was not and had never intended to be a fully serviced marina. It was questioned whether users would be prepared to pay for such facilities as the survey had suggested they would not. KM agreed that he would address the issue of berth holder s not being able to access water/electricity facilities because of the number of visitors.	KM
7.	Maritime Events 2010	Action
	An events list had been widely circulated to all users and posted on the website. BMcP suggested that there was currently no linkage between the various Council strands involved with events in the Bay e.g. Tourism, Car Parks, etc. The Forum collectively urged the Councillors present to stress the economic benefit of maritime events to colleagues and to other Council departments.	CLLRS present
8.	Harbour Fairways-possible changes	Action
	MR asked if there were any plans to reduce the fairway sizes at Torquay. KM confirmed that there were not.	
9.	Torquay dinghy spaces	Action
	WB asked why there were vacant spaces when it was known there was a waiting list for facilities. KM confirmed that this should not occur and that he would investigate the problem. He also suggested that these matters could be put directly to the harbour staff and he offered to arrange a suitable meeting.	KM/WB

10.	Princess Gardens/Promenade proposals	Action
	<p>KM informed the Forum that there had been two public meetings and an exhibition and that there would be a very short briefing at the June Harbour Committee. KM continued by stating that his perception was that the scheme seemed to receiving positive support. The three issues that concerned the harbour were; the impact on the harbour estate, the impact on navigable water and the possible impact on harbour income (linked to MDL's turnover). A separate meeting had been set up with the commercial fishermen. KM stated that he would keep the Forum updated.</p>	KM
11.	Harbour Committee - Upcoming Agenda	Action
	KM ran through the various Agenda items for the forthcoming Harbour Committee.	

Next Meeting
Venue
Future meetings

7th September 2010
Torquay Harbour Office
23rd November 2010
1st March 2011

Dates of Harbour
Committee
Meetings

21 st June 2010	5.30pm Paignton - Oldway
20 th September 2010	5.30pm Torquay
6 th December 2010	5.30pm Brixham
14 th March 2011	5.30pm Paignton