

Meeting Title	Torquay, Brixham & Paignton Liaison Forum
Venue	Zoom
Date	Wednesday 12 th December 2020 10:30am

Present	Mr Adam Parnell (AP)	Cllr Andrew Barrant (AB)	Bob Benfold (BP)
	Jessica Marles (JM)	Tim Allen (TA)	David Faithful (DF)
	Nick Burns (NBS)	Cllr Nick Bye (NB)	David Markham (DM)
	Simon Pinder (SP)	Mike Stewart (MS)	Cllr Nicole Amil (NA)
	Steven Poulton (SP)	Mike Ellis (ME)	
	Cllr Judith Mills (JM)	David Saunders (DS)	
	Cllr Vic Ellery(VE)	Matt Bailey (MB)	

Agenda Items	1. Apologies
	2. Welcome
	3. Budget monitoring (this year's budget)
	4. Next year's budget
	5. Fees and Charges
	6. Port Marine Safety Code
	7. New charted anchorage positions in the Bay
	8. New charted 5 knot positions'
	9. AOB

1.	Apologies for Absence	Action
	Robbie Richardson, Tim Morris	

2.	Welcome	Action
	AP welcomed everyone to the Liaison Forum	

3.	Budget monitoring (this year's budget)	Action
	<p>AP advised that the Harbour Authority was forecasting a significant year-end deficit for a number of reasons, none of which were budgeted for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - £50k additional 'take' by General Fund; - £82K less income from fish toll income against (in hindsight) an overly ambitious target; - £54k in-year increase in the internal support service costs; - £60k reduction in visitor revenue due to Covid. <p>Even including an expected (but not yet confirmed) £125k government grant to off-set Covid losses, the year-end position will be £167k in deficit, which will reduce harbour reserves to <£10k.</p>	
4.	Next Years Budget	Action
	<p>Employee costs will rise as Harbour will establish a new H&S Officer post; £10k borrowing assumed pa from next year to pay for a dredging campaign; Fish toll income is based on BTA estimate of £40m market turnover next year; Covid restrictions assumed to no longer be a factor after April 2021 ie visitor income etc will return to pre-Covid levels + 2%;</p>	
5.	Fees and Charges	Action
	<p>Budget working party recommended 2% average increase for 2021/22 budget. Two exceptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jet ski pods rise from £850 to £950 pa as part of a multi-year increase to market average (even at the new rate, Tor Bay charges significantly less than other harbours in the region for this facility); -Harbour dues will now be 'banded' rather than set for each individual vessel ie all vessels 6-8m will pay the same price, all 10-12m the same price etc. This considerably reduced administrative burden and makes it fairer to facility holders as everyone will pay the same price for an identical facility. 	
6.	Port marine safety code	Action
	<p>The PMSC annual audit has been completed and Harbour Authority remain compliant with the Code. This will be reported to MCA, who require a statement to this effect triannually.</p>	
7.	New chartered anchorage positions in Tor Bay	
	<p>Chartered deep water anchorage positions will change at the next publication of chart 26: there will be 6 new circular anchorages in place of the existing 5, these will be outside of the 10m contour line but more sheltered.</p>	
8.	New Chartered 5 knots buoy positions	
	<p>SP advised that, following a recent review of 5 kt buoy positions, some will be moved and 3 more buoys emplaced to better demarcate the 5kn limit. Chart 26 will show new positions at next amendment.</p>	

	<p>VE raised concerns about pleasure craft coming inside 5knot marker buoys too close to swimmers etc. AP advised byelaws only allow us to limit speed and not prohibit where pleasure craft can go, and this can also only be done within named months. Some other harbours have zones for swimmers/ boats etc but it would be very difficult to enforce without popular consent. This remains under consideration but HM wanted to see if additional 5 kt buoyage would make a difference.</p> <p>DS advised of a nature trek contract where he is doing wildlife safaris using the coastline by 5 kt marker buoys- would be happy to take on marshall positions to report people along the coastline not obeying to rules.</p> <p>Identifying jet skis – recently granted to interrogate national database for data tags.NB exhibited new stickers that all jet skis have to display; they are clearer than previous iterations with larger identifying numbers thereon.</p>	
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9.	AOB	
	<p>AP advised of 2 x redundancies in the Harbour Assistants to fund uplift of 6 seasonal staff 1st May- 30th Sept. This will allow staffing of patrol boat as well as slipways in all 3 harbours 7 days a week</p> <p>AP advised that a bid for land reclamation in Brixham to extend fish market is being developed for LEP.</p> <p>AP advised that Brixham town pontoon has been inspected by engineers after recent storm damage and was pleased to announce that while the furniture needed replacement, the pontoons themselves still had 5-10 years' serviceable life in them. Electrical supply to pontoon will also be updated.</p> <p>NA asked if seasonal staff could work beyond Sept given increasing maritime use outside of peak season. AP responded that resources precluded this at present.</p>	

**Next Meeting
Venue
Future meetings**

**Dates of Harbour
Committee Meetings**

