

Meeting Title	Torquay & Paignton Harbour Liaison Forum
Venue	Torquay Harbour Office
Date	5 th March 2013 at 10.30

Present	Capt K Mowat (KM)	Mr J Bond (JB)	Cllr A Baldrey (AB)
	Mr J Turner (JT)	Mr M Ritchie (MR)	Mr M Ould (MO)
	Cllr J Richards (JR)	The Mayor (GO)	Cllr N Amil (NA)
	Cllr J Faulkner (JF)	Mr M Smith (MS)	Ms C Rugg (CR)
	Mr W Butcher (WB)		

Agenda Items

1. Apologies
 2. Minutes of the last meeting
 3. Matters arising from the last minutes
 - a) Gateway signage – update – KM & JT
 - b) Tor Bay Harbour Port Master Plan - update
 - c) Harbour Charges & Budget 2013/4
 - d) Blue Sea Food Company - update
 - e) Harbour Marketing
 4. Capital Works
 - a) Haldon Pier - update
 - b) Princess Pier - update
 - c) Torquay inner harbour pontoon berths – update
 5. Tor Bay Harbour Business Plan 2013/14
 6. Changes to Tor Bay Harbour Moorings Policy
 7. Marine Conservation Zones - consultation response
 8. Use of external parking enforcement contractor
 9. Maritime Events 2013
 10. Harbour Committee
 - a) upcoming agenda
- Date of the next meeting 21st May 2013 1400

1.	Apologies for Absence	Action
	Apologies were received from Cllr V. Ellery, Mr D. Musgrove, Mr A Brown, Ms H Meacock, Capt P, Labistour, Mr G Jennings and Cllr M Hytche.	

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

3.	Matters Arising	Action
(a)	<p>Gateway signage KM made the Forum aware that until the new ferry and bus stop signage was decided he would defer any action at Torquay. JT stated that a new car park directional sign and a new finger sign – “To the Harbour” had now been erected at Paignton. There had been some difficulty in making the argument for the need for Paignton harbour to have its own ‘Brown Sign’. JR agreed to pursue this matter. JF made it clear that in her opinion enough work had now been done on this matter in support of harbour businesses.</p>	JR
(b)	<p>Tor Bay Harbour – Port Master Plan KM reported that following the stakeholder event in October a number of drop-in sessions had been held and the ideas submitted circulated to all on the email distribution list. A number of further comments /suggestions had been made and the intention was to publicise and circulate the link to a final draft before the Plan is presented to the Harbour Committee in June.</p>	KM
(c)	<p>Harbour Charges and Budget 2013/4 KM stated that the Budget and Charges had been submitted to and agreed by the Harbour Committee in December 2012. Invoices for the coming year had been prepared and posted.</p>	
(d)	<p>Blue Sea Food Company KM made the Forum aware that a special meeting of the Harbour Committee had agreed to extend the lease of the area of land outside the premises until December 2013. The company would therefore have the rest of the year before they needed to move their container. The planning officer had already issued an enforcement notice to this effect and in the meantime the company’s managers had agreed to work with the harbour team to minimise the impact of their operation. JT confirmed that this had started to happen. In response to a question from AB, KM explained the background and the company’s future plans as he understood them.</p>	JT/KM
(e)	<p>Harbour Marketing KM reminded the Forum of the e-marketing being carried out for Tor Bay Harbour and that there was now a half-page advert in the Paignton section of the English Riviera Guide.</p>	

4.	Capital Works	Action
(a)	<p>Haldon Pier – update KM reported that the small amount of concrete spraying had been completed but the small amount of rock armour was yet to be placed at the outer end of the quay. Repairs to the inside of the wall, within the balance of the current funding package, would be put out to competitive tender. In response to a question from WB, KM stated that the equipment and vehicles on the pier were associated with the works going on at Princess Gardens but the space would be managed to ensure that there was minimal effect on any forthcoming events. KM also agreed to follow up on the likely date for the rock armouring works.</p>	KM

4.	Capital Works	Action
(b)	Princess Pier – update KM reminded the Forum that all of the works to the concrete part of the pier were subject to EA funding and that the bid had not yet been submitted. The remaining works to Princess Pier were in the Council’s Capital Plan.	KM/DS
(c)	Torquay inner harbour pontoon berths - update KM reported that the scheme had now been approved by full Council. It would be project managed by the TDA with a delivery date of 1 st April 2014. In response to questions KM stated that the entry access point was yet to be finally agreed but he expected it to be from Victoria Parade and that charges were to be circa halfway between existing inner harbour fees and the Town Dock rates. KM went on to say that some pontoon berths had already been created on South Pier and these had sold very quickly at the new charge. WB asked if existing customers would have a phased increase. KM indicated that this had not yet been decided.	

5.	Tor Bay Harbour Business Plan 2013/14	Action
	KM stated that he had circulated the Harbour Business Plan for 2013/14 and he said he would welcome any comments or other feedback as soon as possible.	ALL

6.	Changes to the Tor Bay Harbour Moorings Policy	Action
	KM made the Forum aware of the proposed changes to this policy concerning the reduction in time that anyone could sub-let a facility and also some clarification on the time that users could hold a facility without their vessel on it. There were no objections to these changes from the Forum.	KM

7.	Marine Conservation Zones - consultation response	Action
	KM reported that the Government had announced the consultation process for MCZs in December 2012. He said that he would prepare a response which, subject to Harbour Committee approval, would then be to be submitted to Defra. He believed the initial MCZ designation process undertaken by Finding Sanctuary had not properly included ‘sea users’ and that development opportunities for Tor Bay Harbour would be lost if the Torbay MCZ was introduced as proposed. He made the Forum aware that he had raised this issue with the Tourism Company, Business Forum, the Yacht/Sailing Clubs, fishing industry and other user groups, urging them to respond to the Defra consultation. There followed considerable debate regarding the consequences of the rMCZ for Torbay. The Forum agreed that there would be negative socio-economic impacts arising from this proposed designation.	KM

8.	Use of external parking enforcement contractor	Action
	<p>KM gave the Forum the background as to why enforcement continued to be necessary in Paignton and at Torquay. He also summarised why the Council's own enforcement procedure was ineffective and inappropriate for the harbour estate. Many other harbours use a private contractor with no cost and they utilise harbour staff during normal working hours. JT explained that at Paignton all the businesses that had been consulted welcomed this proposal. The Mayor raised some concerns about using a contractor from outside the Torbay area, especially as the Council, along with others, were losing jobs. GO said he could not support a scheme that brought workers in from outside Torbay. JT stated that the company would recruit people from within the Bay to carry out the evening work. The Mayor did however support the principle of harbour staff issuing enforcement notices. KM said he would explore an in house solution using harbour staff to issue the fixed penalties.</p>	KM/JT

9.	Maritime Events 2013	Action
	<p>KM made the Forum aware that the 2013 Maritime Events list had been published and posted on the website. He announced that a recent addition to the schedule was a P1 Powerboat event which would for the first time be shown on a big screen mounted in Princess Gardens, which would show live footage of the event.</p>	

10.	Harbour Committee	
(a)	Upcoming Agenda	
	<p>KM informed the Forum of the items on the agenda for the next Harbour Committee meeting on 18th March 2013 at the Berry Head Hotel in Brixham.</p>	

	Other Business	Action
	<p>KM asked the Forum if it was OK to switch the start time of future meetings to 2pm to allow the Chairman of the Harbour Committee to attend. The Forum agreed to this change and KM asked everyone to note the dates and times of future meetings as detailed on the agenda and in the minutes.</p>	ALL

Next Meeting	21 st May 2013	2.00 pm
Venue	Torquay Harbour Office	
Future meetings	10 th September 2013	2.00 pm
Dates of Harbour Committee Meetings	18 th March 2013	5.30pm (Brixham)
	3 rd June 2013	5.30pm (Torquay)
	23 rd September 2013	5.30pm (Brixham)
	16 th December 2013	5.30pm (Torquay)
	17 th March 2014	5.30pm (Brixham)