

Meeting Title	Brixham Harbour Liaison Forum
Venue	Brixham Harbour Office
Date	11 th September 2013 at 10.30am

Present	Capt P Labistour (PL)	Mrs A Blackburn (AB)	Mr M Mander (MM)
	Capt K Mowat (KM)	Mr R Smith (RS)	Mr M Stewart (MS)
	Cllr N Amil(NA)	Mr D Bartlett (DB)	

Agenda Items	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Apologies 2. Minutes of the last meeting 3. Matters arising from the last minutes <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a)IFCA Byelaw changes b)Electric Recharge project c)Latent defects d)Torbay Lass 4. Capital Works <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Fenders, Capping & Ladders b) Victoria Breakwater c) Sealift MDL d)Ice Plant 5. Fish Market Advisory Group 6. Launch & Recovery 7. Maritime Events 8. Crab care project 9. Harbour Budget 10. Harbour Committee <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Upcoming Agenda 11. Dates of next meeting 5th December 2013 at 1030
---------------------	--

1.	Apologies for absence	Action
	Apologies were received from Dave Saunders, Robbie Richardson, Peter Bartlett, Bob Curtis and Cllr Vic Ellery.	

2.	Minutes of the last meeting	Action
	It was agreed that the minutes of the last meeting on the 22 nd May 2013, were a true and accurate record of that meeting.	

3.	Matters Arising	Action
a)	<p>IFCA Byelaw changes MM, from the IFCA, explained to the Forum that they are looking to bring out new byelaws that will allow easier and quicker management of the fishery and can be changed in the light of new data. This is to be done by introducing permitting byelaws and fishermen that are issued with a permit will have to agree to the terms and conditions of the permit. The final draft byelaws are to go to the Minister for approval next month.</p>	PL/DB
b)	<p>Electric Recharge project PL informed the Forum that the MFV basin and the crane pier both now had the facilities to recharge all electricity used. The new system has had a few snagging problems but is now working well. The Harbour Authority hope that the new system will reduce electricity costs by as much as a third.</p>	
c)	<p>Latent Defects PL stated that the cost of putting right the remaining defects on the new Fish Quay building would be funded by the Harbour Authority. All the quotes for the work had now been received and it was expected that the defects will be resolved before the next Liaison Forum meeting.</p>	
d)	<p>Torbay Lass PL informed the Forum that the Torbay Lass project is being led by Trinity Sailing. PL explained that the Harbour Authority is in support of the venture but was concerned that the boat could become a liability. Consequently the owners of the vessel will sign a legal document to say that if the final funding decision is 'no' then they will take the vessel away. If the Lottery funding application is successful then a full time funding officer will be appointed to oversee the financial aspects of the project. The final Lottery decision will not be made until June 2014, however, if the first round funding application is approved the vessel will move to Brixham in the next few weeks. KM asked about the final refit site for Torbay Lass and challenged the suitability of Oxen Cove as a location given the other pressures for use of that space.</p>	

4.	Capital Works	Action
a)	<p>Fenders, Capping & Ladders Project PL reported that the fenders, capping & ladders works were underway and on schedule. Most of the fenders were being replaced or repaired, the damaged capping was being refurbished and new ladders were being installed around the MFV basin. DB informed that a new and improved landing davit will soon be installed. KM suggested that written confirmation of the agreed location for the davit would be required from BTA prior to installation.</p>	PL/DB
b)	<p>Victoria Breakwater PL reported that after a full structural survey of the Breakwater, repair works of around £150,000 had been identified. The Harbour Authority and the Council have since secured funding for this work from the Environment Agency and the repairs should be undertaken in 2014/15.</p>	EA

4.	Capital Works	Action
c)	Sealift MDL PL informed the Forum that Brixham Marina (MDL) has just purchased one of only two 'Sealifts' in England. He indicated that it would be a welcome addition to the facilities that Brixham harbour can offer to visiting vessels. It will be able to lift vessels up to 15m in length.	
d)	Ice Plant Rick Smith from the Brixham Trawler Agents explained to the Liaison Forum about the new Ice Plant that is soon to be installed. Teignmouth Marine Services have been contracted to oversee the works and the project is due to be completed in a couple of months. The new unit will be more efficient in terms of both electricity and water consumption.	
5.	Fish Market Advisory Group	Action
	PL informed the Forum that a new group had been set up, made up of tenants in and around the new Fish Market. The purpose of the group is to address Fish Market management issues including any maintenance issues that arise. The first meeting was held last month and was deemed by all to be a success. It is expected that the meetings will take place every 3 months.	PL
6.	Launch & Recovery	Action
	PL reported that this matter had been raised by Dave Saunders who was concerned over the lack of staff on the slipways taking in launch & recovery fees and collecting visitor income. PL stated that the Harbour Authority had a member of staff retire last year who used to collect the monies from the slipways and he was struggling to fill the void. He went on to say that he would carry out an investigation and a cost benefit analysis over the winter period to see how to improve the situation in the future. KM reported that the income was currently down by some £10k on last year.	PL
7.	Maritime Events	Action
	PL stated that the Mayor was very pleased with the way in which the Harbour Authority team had supported a large number of maritime events throughout the Bay during 2013. He stated that several events had already confirmed for next year. KM raised a concern that not all events had been notified to the Harbour Authority. In particular he referred to a Challenger Yacht match racing event and late notification of a water-ski championship. PL agreed to raise this matter with Brixham Yacht Club.	PL
8.	Crab Care project	Action
	PL informed the Forum that the Harbour Authority has had a number of crab care signs made up and placed in designated crabbing areas around the harbour. The art work was provided by a local artist Lynne Peets and a lot of positive feedback had already been received.	

9.	Harbour Budget	Action
	<p>KM made the Forum aware that Torbay Council had to make significant savings over the next two years and whilst there was no immediate demand on the harbour budget there was a clear indication that the Harbour Authority business unit would be expected to assist wherever possible. He emphasised that there was no intention to link this with harbour charges. KM suggested that the recommendation for harbour charges, in general, would be an increase in line with inflation (currently circa 3%), although the increase might be higher where facilities had clearly improved with new investment i.e. passenger vessel charges.</p> <p>KM continued by stressing that his recommendation would be that any payments to the Council's general fund budget should be in the form of one off annual contributions through 2014/15 and 2015/16 and not a permanent arrangement. His view was that any significant contribution over and above the current arrangement was probably unsustainable. KM indicated that the Harbour Committee's Budget Review Working Party would consider a range of measures that could deliver short term savings or increased income that could translate into a larger contribution to the Council over the next two years. One example KM provided was taking on the responsibility for the harbourside public toilets. KM did warn the Forum that the current budget forecast was for a deficit and that the harbour's capital project list was significantly larger than the available harbour reserves fund.</p>	<p>ALL to note</p>

10.	Harbour Committee	Action
	<p>KM informed the Forum of the items on the agenda for the next Harbour Committee meeting on 23rd September 2013 at the Berry Head Hotel in Brixham at 5.30pm.</p>	<p>ALL to note</p>

Next Meeting

Venue

Future meetings

Dates of Harbour

Committee

Meetings

5th December 2013 10.30 pm

Brixham Harbour Office

6th March 2014 10.30 am

23rd September 2013 5.30pm (Brixham)

16th December 2013 5.30pm (Torquay)

17th March 2014 5.30pm (Brixham)