

Minutes of the Harbour Committee

30 March 2026

-: Present :-

Councillor Strang (Chair)

Councillors Carter (Vice-Chair), Fellows, Fox, Penny and Twelves

32. Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting of the meetings held on 16 June 2025 and 5 January 2026 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

33. Declarations of interest

No declarations of interest were made.

34. Review of Delegated Powers of the Torbay Harbour Master

The Interim Director of Tor Bay Harbour Authority presented the report as published, noting that this constitutes a standing annual item. It was noted that there were no changes since the previous review.

Resolved (unanimously):

Having reviewed the powers delegated to the Tor Bay Harbour Master, the Harbour Committee finds no reason to propose changes to the Council for determination. The Committee have been briefed on the proposed changes to the Port Marine Safety Code and any changes required will be brought to this committee in March 2027.

35. Tor Bay Harbour Masters Safety and Management Report

Members noted the report as published, with the Harbour Master providing the committee with additional detail on a number of incidents which had occurred in the bay. In addition, the Harbour Master detailed the newly implemented dynamic risk assessment framework, changes to the safety code and ongoing training across the harbours. Members questioned public engagement in relation to Oxen Cove, further detail on specific incidents and ongoing maintenance works and the cost implications of recent storm damage.

36. Tor Bay Harbour Budget Q3

Members noted the submitted report, with The Interim Director of Tor Bay Harbour Authority providing further detail on the figures presented. Members queried specific line items, and noted a positive overall position. Members discussed the potential impact of geopolitical events on the Harbour budget, ongoing debtor positions, reserve spending and the impact of the upcoming Local Government Reorganisation.

37. Required PMSC Policies Report

Members discussed the submitted report, with The Harbour Master providing further detail on the practical implication of the amended policies.

Resolved (unanimously):

That the Harbour Committee endorse the policies and procedures required by the Port and Marine Facilities Safety Code following a presentation received during the Operational Visit held at Torquay Harbour on 5 March 2026.

38. Update on PMSC Compliance Audit (full report to follow at next meeting)

The Harbour Master provided a verbal report following discussions and presentations at the recent operational visit by Committee members. The Chair expressed thanks to the Harbours team for the work undertaken on this matter, and the Committee noted the quality of the policy document provided to them on the operational visit.

Chair