

<b>Meeting Title</b>	<b>Brixham Harbour Liaison Forum</b>
<b>Venue</b>	Brixham Harbour Office
<b>Date</b>	31 <sup>st</sup> August 2011 at 10.30

<b>Present</b>	Capt P Labistour (PL)	Cllr Vick Ellery (VE)	Mr N Wright (NW)
	Capt K Mowat (KM)	Cllr Mike Morey (MM)	Mr S Elliman (SE)
	Mr D Bartlett (DB)	Mr D Saunders (DS)	Mr P Bartlett (PB)
	Miss K Annis (KA)	Mr T Robins (TR)	Mr S Beer (SB)

<b>Agenda Items</b>	1. Apologies for absence
	2. Minutes of the last meeting
	3. Matters arising from the last minutes
	a) Electricity Recharge - update
	b) Access Security & Parking Leaseholders Working Group - update
	c) Finding Sanctuary - update
	d) Mentorn Films – advertising the Bay
	e) Coastguard Modernisation - update
	4. Capital Works – Brixham Breakwater & Photovoltaic Panels
	5. Oil Spill Response Plan - Review
	6. Port Waste Management Plan - Review
	7. Mooring contract - update
	8. New Restaurant/Fishmongers – update
	9. Budget Setting 2012/13
	10. Results of Harbour Users Survey 2011
11. Winter Storage	
12. Boat Yard Lease – Oxen Cove	
13. Seabed Lease from Crown Estate (Ark Royal)	
14. Maritime Events 2011	
15. Harbour Committee	
a) Upcoming Agenda	
Date of next meeting 23 <sup>rd</sup> November 2011	

<b>1.</b>	<b>Apologies for absence</b>	<b>Action</b>
	Bob Curtis, Rick Smith, Shaw Smith & Dave Jones	

<b>2.</b>	<b>Minutes of the last meeting</b>	<b>Action</b>
	It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting of the 1 <sup>st</sup> June 2011 were a true and accurate record of that meeting.	

3.	Matters Arising	Action
(a)	<p><b>Electricity Recharge - update</b></p> <p>PL and Chris Varker are to form a report on electricity recharging to MFVs for the December Harbour Committee meeting. PL stated that energy costs had risen considerably around the harbour and the fishing fleet were consuming a significant amount of power. Costs and the carbon footprint needed to be reduced and this can be achieved by recharging back to the fishing industry using an automated remote monitoring and control system costing circa £50k. PB asked if it would be the boat owner or contractor responsible for paying for the recharged electricity. KM responded that it would need to be decided between the owner and contractor and that the days of free electricity were over with electricity prices due to rise by up to 19% in the next few months. TR raised the issue that the fishing industry may return to using their onboard generator sets and this could have overnight noise implications. PL felt the way forward was to consult with the boat owners and contractors; to publicise the charging regime and that it was a risk that the fishing industry may use the generators but it was a risk that had to be taken. The Forum was generally supportive of this proposal and understood the need for change.</p>	PL
(b)	<p><b>Access, Security &amp; Parking Leaseholders Working Group – update</b></p> <p>PL reported that all access rights for tenants were stated in their leases. A meeting was held by the Working Group attended by Cllr Vick Ellery, Mike Shaw and Paul Labistour the result of the meeting was to keep the access, security and parking issues under review. The key fob system and the Security/ Dockmaster team are working well at keeping a secure site.</p>	PL
(c)	<p><b>Finding Sanctuary – update</b></p> <p>PL said that Finding Sanctuary is a process central government used to produce recommendations on a network of Marine Conservation Zones (MCZs). Some of Tor Bay is being recommended as an MCZ because of the seagrass beds. A number of stakeholders are worried about the impact this will have on them. KM stated that the Harbour Authority has objected strongly to the designation and the final MCZ proposals will be open for public consultation in 2012. Everyone will then have a chance to express their views on the government's proposals. NW reported that a ban had already been imposed on trawl/dredge activity within the 5 metre contour of the Bay's coastline.</p>	All
(d)	<p><b>Mentorn Films – advertising the Bay</b></p> <p>PL said that Sky TV had now completed filming "Fish Town" and that the Mayor was very keen that the Bay was advertised within the advertising breaks. PL had passed the information on to the Council's communications team.</p>	PL
(e)	<p><b>Coastguard Modernisation – update</b></p> <p>PL reported that despite strong opposition from the public and the Harbour Authority the Brixham Coastguard Station was still earmarked for closure. Falmouth has now been reprieved and the remaining stations were now all to be open 24/7. VE has arranged a big rally with MPs and the Coastguards in the hope that the Minister (Phil Hammond) may review the situation again with the new proposals brought forward by the Coastguard's Union - all are welcome to attend. A copy of the Union's proposal was requested for the next Forum meeting.</p>	VE

<b>4.</b>	<b>Capital Works</b>	<b>Action</b>
(a)	<b>Brixham Breakwater</b> KM reported that although the Harbour Committee had agreed to £150,000 to come from capital funding to repair the Breakwater voids, assistance was still being sought from the Environment Agency.	<b>KM</b>
(b)	<b>Photovoltaic Panels</b> KM stated that the Council had approved a project to install photovoltaic panels on Council buildings. The New Fish Market has been identified by the Council as one of the sites for the panels to be situated. It will cost approximately £50,000 to fund with the benefit coming from reduced energy costs and the government's feed-in-tariff scheme. KM indicated that the money could come from the harbour reserve fund and that this would deliver the full benefit of the feed-in-tariff to the harbour account. The Forum fully supported this approach.	
<b>5.</b>	<b>Oil Spill Response Plan – Review</b>	<b>Action</b>
	PL said that it was a statutory obligation to have an Oil Spill Response Plan which incorporates a Tier 2 contractual responder and that all relevant officers were fully trained. The plan is due to be reviewed and it will go out to consultation to various stakeholders and then on to the MCA for approval. PL asked interested parties to contact him directly.	<b>All PL</b>
<b>6.</b>	<b>Port Waste Management Plan - Review</b>	<b>Action</b>
	PL reported that the Port Waste Management Plan was also a statutory obligation. The plan is due to be reviewed and it will go out to consultation to various stakeholders and then on to the MCA for approval. PL asked interested parties to contact him directly.	<b>All PL</b>
<b>7.</b>	<b>Mooring Contract – update</b>	<b>Action</b>
	PL reported that the new mooring contractor Teignmouth Maritime Services, who have a three year mooring contract with the Harbour Authority, had made an impressive start. As required they had indemnified the moorings and had carried out all of the necessary work for 2011. The moorings are now in good order.	
<b>8.</b>	<b>New Restaurant / Fishmongers – update</b>	<b>Action</b>
	PL reported that the Old Market House redevelopment was due to open within the next two weeks. As a project initiated by the Harbour Committee he was confident that it would be a success. It had been an interesting journey to get to this point but the significant private sector investment can now be clearly seen. The restaurant in the new harbour building is now subject to an Agreement to Lease with owners who are linked to 'The Glassblowing House' on the Barbican in Plymouth. KM said that a name had been chosen for the new restaurant which is due to start fitting out in the autumn with the lease starting and the opening due in the spring of 2012.	

<b>9.</b>	<b>Budget Setting 2012/13</b>	<b>Action</b>
	<p>PL informed the Forum that the Harbour Committee's Budget Working Party had recently held a meeting to discuss the 2012/13 harbour budgets. There would be two more meetings of this Working Party ahead of the December meeting of the Harbour Committee where the budget setting report would be considered. The Working Party was made up of Councillors and External Advisors from the Harbour Committee.</p> <p>KM said that the in year budget for 2011/12 was on track and he explained a number of variations. He said it was always hard to forecast the budget for next year ahead of the third and fourth quarter results. The Forum was reminded that the Brixham Harbour account was set to show a deficit over the next few years of around £50,000, although fish toll income was currently performing well.</p> <p>KM advised the Forum that Torbay Council was facing a significant budgetary challenge with an estimated funding gap of £10m for 2012/13. He said that the Harbour Authority had been asked to help contribute towards this shortfall. Following a meeting with the Mayor and the Council's CEO, the Chairman (VE) and KM agreed to recommend to the Harbour Committee a cash dividend contribution of £50,000 to Torbay Council and in return the Council would reconsider commissioning the Harbour Authority function and revisit the level of recharging for support services. This outcome would protect the policy of ring fenced accounts for the Harbour Authority and help deliver future cost savings. VE added that it was very important that the Forum was happy with commissioning of the Harbour Authority as the Committee believed it was the correct way forward. The Forum was generally supportive of this approach. KM indicated that the Budget Working Party (BWP) would be looking for feedback on proposals to increase harbour charges in 2012/13 to keep pace with rising costs. Options for consideration included a general increase of 2.5% or 3.5% or 5%. KM also mentioned the ongoing need to review the differential in harbour dues across the Bay and between different end users. A number of Forum members indicated that certain elements of the fishing industry were currently doing very well and the Working Party were encouraged to look at the charges on an individual basis rather than simply implementing a generic increase.</p>	<b>BWP</b>
<b>10.</b>	<b>Results of Harbour Users Survey 2011</b>	<b>Action</b>
	<p>KM gave the Forum some headline figures from the annual Harbour Users Survey; he said that a full report would be going to the Harbour Committee in September with the results being available to anyone who is interested.</p>	<b>All</b>
<b>11.</b>	<b>Winter Storage</b>	<b>Action</b>
	<p>PL reported that the winter lift out dates were 11<sup>th</sup> October for the Breakwater lift and 12<sup>th</sup> October for the Oxen Cove lift.</p>	
<b>12.</b>	<b>Boat Yard Lease – Oxen Cove</b>	<b>Action</b>
	<p>PL stated that Simon Beer a local shipwright had approached the Harbour Authority with a view to renting space to create a boat yard facility at Oxen Cove and also perhaps some space adjacent to the Breakwater slipway. If this initiative is approved by the Harbour Committee the lease opportunity would need to be subject to a public tendering process. SB explained how the boats could be hauled out and re-launched via the existing slipways using a towed or self-powered trailer/cradle/hoist. This type of specialised equipment could also be used for winter storage in future years.</p>	

<b>12.</b>	<b>Boat Yard Lease – Oxen Cove - continued</b>	<b>Action</b>
	<p>PL said he would be preparing a report for the December meeting of the Harbour Committee and he asked for the Forum for their views on this proposal. SB said that the Harbour Authority had hired a crane in the past this had only given customers a two to three day window in which to have the boats lifted. He suggested that this proposed alternative would be more appealing to the customers as they could come in and out of the water to their own time table and that there was no other facility in Brixham which provided this at the moment. DB added that the current crane hire costs and manpower costs were very high. Also, the crane can only access the water to lift the boats in or out at the top of a big tide and this combined with bad weather provided limited windows of opportunity.</p> <p>MM thought that it would be a good idea as long as it was done sensitively and in consideration of all the various factors like the car park capacity and the RDA's regeneration funding agreement. KM said that these and other issues would be addressed in the report. The lease would need to be relatively short but long enough to allow the tenant to recoup their investment. Forum members agreed that such a facility was needed and it would both sustain and create jobs. In broad terms the idea was well supported.</p>	<p><b>PL</b></p> <p><b>KM</b></p>

<b>13.</b>	<b>Seabed Lease from Crown Estate (Ark Royal)</b>	<b>Action</b>
	<p>KM said that a report regarding a lease of the seabed from the Crown Estate would be considered by the Harbour Committee in September. A bid had been put in for the Ark Royal by a local charity who would like to create an artificial reef off of Tor Bay. However, the Crown Estate required the Council to take a lease of the seabed for 125 years. They would not grant a lease to the charity. KM explained a number of risks associated with this proposal especially if the charity ceased to exist. The risks included a possible financial burden on the Council/Harbour Authority. The Forum understood the concerns expressed by the officers and the potential risk exposure. They agreed it was a good idea to seek further advice on the various risk issues.</p>	

<b>14.</b>	<b>Maritime Events 2011</b>	<b>Action</b>
	<p>PL informed the Forum that Fishstock is take place on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2011 and that the Michelmores Cup is on 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> September 2011. A copy of the Maritime Events list is available in the harbour office if anyone is interested in a copy.</p>	

<b>15.</b>	<b>Harbour Committee</b>	<b>Action</b>
(a)	<p><b>Upcoming Agenda</b>  PL informed the Forum of the items on the agenda for the upcoming Harbour Committee meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2011.</p>	

<b>Next Meeting</b>	23 <sup>rd</sup> November 2011	10.30am
<b>Venue</b>	Brixham Harbour Office	
<b>Future Meetings</b>	22 <sup>nd</sup> February 2012	10.30am
	30 <sup>th</sup> May 2012	10.30am

**Dates of Harbour  
Committee Meetings**

12 <sup>th</sup> September 2011	5.30pm (Brixham)
5 <sup>th</sup> December 2011	5.30pm (Paignton)
5 <sup>th</sup> March 2012	5.30pm (Torquay)
11 <sup>th</sup> June 2012	5.30pm (Brixham)