

<b>Meeting Title</b>	<b>Brixham Harbour Liaison Forum</b>
<b>Venue</b>	Brixham Harbour Office
<b>Date</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> December 2016 at 10.30am

<b>Present</b>	Capt K Mowat (KM)	Mr J Wilson (JW)	Mr D Faithful (DF)
	Mr D Bartlett (DB)	Mr M Stewart (MS)	Mr B Young (BY)
	Cllr R Stringer (RS)	Mr D Fowler (DF)	Mrs A Blackburn (AB)
	Cllr V Ellery (VE)		

<b>Agenda Items</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Apologies</li> <li>2. Welcome</li> <li>3. Minutes and Matters arising from the last meeting</li> <li>4. Torbay Council's Budget 2017 - 2020 &amp; Tor Bay Harbour Budget/Charges 2017/18 – 3.0%</li> <li>5. Capital Works</li> <li>6. Maritime Events 2017</li> <li>7. Quarterly Accident &amp; Incident Data</li> <li>8. Annual Compliance Audit of the Port Marine Safety code</li> <li>9. Review of Tor Bay Harbour policy statement for local port services (LPS) – December 2016</li> <li>10. Review of Tor Bay Harbour Marine Environmental Policy – December 2016</li> <li>11. Marine Conservation Zones</li> <li>12. Harbour Committee             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Upcoming Agenda</li> </ol> </li> </ol> <p>Date of the next meeting – 9<sup>th</sup> March 2017 at 10.30am</p>
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<b>1.</b>	<b>Apologies for Absence</b>	<b>Action</b>
	Apologies were received from Cllr Nicole Amil, Cllr Nick Bye, Shaw Smith, Robbie Richardson, David Saunders, Jerry Carter and Ben Wheatley.	

<b>2.</b>	<b>Welcome</b>	<b>Action</b>
	KM welcomed everyone to the meeting.	

<b>3.</b>	<b>Minutes and Matters arising from the last meeting</b>	<b>Action</b>
	KM advised that the last meeting was a joint Torquay, Paignton and Brixham Liaison Forum meeting held in September. The last meeting prior to that was in June 2016. It was agreed that the minutes of the June 2016 meeting are an accurate record of the meeting	
<b>3.1</b>	<b>Ongoing MCA Issues</b>	
	MS & JW advised that they were still experiencing issues with Solent Coastguard not responding to both emergency and routine VHF calls; this is in addition to Tor Bay having a poor radio signal. KM advised all members to lobby their local MP's and he	

3.2	<p>will raise as an issue with colleagues at the British Ports Association meeting next week, DM will also discuss with the SWRPA on 14<sup>th</sup> December.</p> <p><b>BYC Meeting – update</b> DB and DF advised that they had a brief meeting but nothing further to report regarding the use of the Brixham Yacht club compound.</p>	<p><b>KM DB</b></p>
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4.	<p><b>Torbay Council's Budget 2017-2020 &amp; Tor Bay Harbour Budget/Charges 2017/18 – 3.0%</b></p> <p>KM advised that the forecast position for the current year is for a break-even budget. The general uplift in income from that is projected will enable the refurbishment of the Beacon Quay toilets to be funded from the revenue account.</p> <p>At the joint Harbour Liaison Forum meeting in September, a proposed increase to harbour charges of 2% was the subject of discussion. However, KM explained that a 3% increase was now being recommended due to a significant increase in the harbour authority's business rates liability.</p> <p>If approved by the Committee the harbour charges will increase, on average, by 3.0%. As usual, there will be some exceptions; including passenger boats charges which will increase by 4% to cover wear &amp; tear. The 50% reduction for the winter storage of passenger boats at Brixham will be removed. A new banded fresh water charge for fishing vessels that have water tanks will be introduced. There will be no increase in charges for visitors, slipway launches, annual launch/recovery passes, jet ski launch &amp; recovery, trailer parking and cruise ship passenger dues. Also, it will be a recommendation to introduce a charge for berthing on Princess Pier pontoons rather than the standard alongside charge. It would be introduced and increased over a 5-year period. Electricity charges will remain unchanged and new charges will be suggested for Oxen Cove storage and for waste from vessel refits.</p>	<p><b>Action</b></p>
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5.	<p><b>Capital works</b></p> <p>DB advised the Forum that the works to the drying grids have been completed, the timbers on Ballast Quay have been replaced and the Kayak storage capacity in the Oxen Cove area has been doubled due to a high demand for the service.</p> <p>DB advised that he has had notification that works scheduled for the repair of the passenger pontoon are due to start by the end of February and the original contractor Dawnus will be on site by mid January to strip out the existing electrical wiring, etc, It was advised that this will result in a total closure of the pontoon and a HM notice will go out nearer the time to advise Mariners. KM reminded boat operators to ensure that they approach the pontoon at a safe speed to avoid any further expensive accidents.</p> <p>MS highlighted an issue with holes on the surface of the breakwater arm, however DB advised that external reports are completed regularly and this has not been flagged as an immediate issue, although the area will continue to be monitored.</p> <p>JW informed that there seems to be damage to the seabed to the Eastern side of the Middle Pier in the Inner Harbour and he is now unable to berth Pilgrim in this area. He reported that there is a wheelchair and planks of wood causing an obstruction when vessels are coming in at low tide. DB advised that he will look into this matter.</p>	<p><b>Action</b></p> <p><b>DB &amp; KM</b></p> <p><b>DB</b></p>
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6.	<p><b>Maritime Events 2017</b></p> <p>KM issued that the current list of Maritime Events for 2017 will soon be published on the harbour website and an email will be sent out to ask if any events are being planned that we have not been notified of to ensure that application forms are completed. An online application form for event organisers to complete will be launched by the end of the year.</p> <p>DF advised that BYC have changed the date for the Regatta and will pass on the new dates shortly.</p>	<p><b>Action</b></p>
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VE thanked KM, DB and the Harbour staff for all the help with the unveiling of the Man and Boy statue on Saturday, the event went seamlessly and staff looked professional and worked hard throughout the entire day. The statue was now the property of the Council for insurance purposes.	
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<b>7.</b>	<b>Quarterly Accident &amp; Incident Data</b>	<b>Action</b>
	KM showed the Forum two lists showing accident & incident data for 2015/2016 and 2016/2017 to compare the position this year with the same period last year. The position is better for this year, 50 records, compared to last year with 62 instances. There was a significant incident recently involving a diesel spill in Brixham harbour from the MFV 'Progress'. The source was initially hard to identify because it involved diesel without any red dye as the vessel had bunkered in Ireland. The owners and insurance company have been identified and held responsible. MS commented that he does not know if there was any oil damage to boats moored in Brixham harbour due to the spillage but he has been advised that some customers from MDL had experienced breathing difficulties. KM advised he has been in contact with the MDL manager to enquire as to any ongoing issues.	

<b>8.</b>	<b>Annual Compliance Audit of the Port Marine Safety code</b>	<b>Action</b>
	KM said that the annual compliance audit had just been completed. He advised that the Harbour Authority has continued to appoint the Devon Audit Partnership as the 'Designated Person'. The audit found the Harbour to be compliant and a number of recommendations have been made within the report, including foreign language translations and the need for immediate access to a translator on occasions when dealing with vessels coming into port encountering communication problems. A copy of the full audit report will be published as part of the Harbour Committee agenda for 13 <sup>th</sup> December and discussed at the meeting.	

<b>9.</b>	<b>Review of Tor Bay Harbour policy statement for local port services (LPS) – December 2016</b>	<b>Action</b>
	KM advised that it was time to undertake the biennial review of the Local Port Services Policy Statement. It is good practice to state how the harbour authority will provide Local Port Services for Tor Bay Harbour and the enclosed harbours of Brixham, Torquay and Paignton, including the need to maintain VHF communication with all vessels covered by the Pilotage Directions. There are no changes planned to the statement from 2014, which will be considered by the Harbour Committee on 13 <sup>th</sup> December.	

<b>10.</b>	<b>Review of Tor Bay Harbour Marine Environmental Policy – December 2016</b>	<b>Action</b>
	KM advised that it was time to undertake the biennial review of the Tor Bay Harbour Environmental Policy Statement. The Policy Statement will be considered by the Harbour Committee on 13 <sup>th</sup> December but no significant changes are anticipated.	

<b>11.</b>	<b>Marine Conservation Zones</b>	<b>Action</b>
	<p>KM advised the Forum that he had received a visit from Natural England (NE) to discuss proposals for increasing the local Marine Conservation Zone. One of the proposals would be to protect the sub-tidal mud and this level of protection would prohibit any vessels from anchoring in the Bay. KM had advised NE that there would be a lot of resistance to such a proposal from a range of stakeholders, including commercial fishermen, merchant shipping and recreational boat users.</p> <p>It was also proposed by NE that rafting sea birds could be protected by an exclusion zone around the Berry Head area. KM advised the Forum that his view was that such a measure would be unenforceable.</p> <p>Another proposal was for the protection of dolphins in the Lyme Bay area and a notice of motion has been submitted to the Council and referred to the Mayor on this</p>	All to note

	<p>matter. The Mayor was seeking views from the Harbour Committee before responding. A campaign is being led by the Devon Wildlife Trust but as there are no management measures to consider it is not clear what the implications will be for wider stakeholders. A number of Forum members commented on dolphin behaviour and human interaction.</p> <p>KM mentioned the issue of trawling activity in the Bay, which had been raised at the Torquay &amp; Paignton Harbour Liaison Forum. BY advised that certain areas of the Bay could still be fished by trawling and VE agreed to ask the IFCA to provide some maps to help harbour staff to deal with telephone calls from the public.</p>	VE
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12.	Harbour Committee – Upcoming Agenda	Action
	KM ran through the agenda for next Harbour Committee meeting on 13 <sup>th</sup> December 2016, which is due to be held in the Town Hall in Torquay.	All to note

**Next Meeting**

**Venue**

**Future meetings**

Brixham Harbour Office	
9 <sup>th</sup> March 2017	10.30am(Brixham)
8 <sup>th</sup> June 2017	10.30 am
14 <sup>th</sup> September 2017	10.30 am
17 <sup>th</sup> November 2017	10.30 am (Prov)
20 <sup>th</sup> March 2017	5.30 pm (Torquay)
26 <sup>th</sup> June 2017	5.30 pm (Torquay)
5 <sup>th</sup> December 2017	5.30 pm (Torquay) (Prov)
19 <sup>th</sup> March 2018	5.30 pm (Torquay) (Prov)

**Dates of Harbour**

**Committee Meetings**