

<b>Meeting Title</b>	<b>Torquay &amp; Paignton Harbour Liaison Forum</b>
<b>Venue</b>	Torquay Harbour Office
<b>Date</b>	29th May 2012 at 10.30

<b>Present</b>	Capt K Mowat (KM)	Mr M Smith (MS)	Mr W Butcher (WB)
	Mr J Turner (JT)	Mrs H Meacock (HM)	Cllr J Faulkner (JF)
	Mr C Baker (CB)	Mr A Brown (AB)	Cllr M Hytche (MH)
	Mr D Musgrove(DM)	Mr M Richie(MR)	Cllr J Richards(JR)
	Cllr J Richards(JR)	Cllr B McPhail (BM)	The Mayor (GO)

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the last meeting
3. Matters arising from the last minutes
  - a) Torquay inner harbour pontoon berths – Agenda Item
  - b) Torquay harbour drying grid proposal – update
  - c) Sustainable Transport Fund Bid - update
  - d) Tor Bay Harbour Business Plan 2012/13 – now approved
  - e) Tor Bay Harbour Moorings Policy – now updated
  - f) Discontinuation of Brixham Directional Light - update
4. Capital works
  - a) Haldon Pier update
  - b) Princess pier update
5. Town Dock - Torquay
6. Torquay inner harbour pontoons project
7. Budget Outturn 2011/12
8. Tor Bay Harbour Enforcement & Prosecution Policy – review
9. Maritime Events 2012 – updated list
10. Tie down points on Beacon Quay for dinghies – WB
11. Town Dock visitors – WB
12. Town Dock water berth – WB
13. Staffing and Safety on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> May – WB
14. New gateway signs for Paignton harbour & Beacon Quay
15. Harbour Committee
  - a) Upcoming Agenda

Date of the next meeting 4<sup>th</sup> September 2012 10.30am \*\*

\*\* Possibility of an extra meeting in July to discuss fast ferry infrastructure (date to be confirmed)

<b>1.</b>	<b>Apologies for Absence</b>	<b>Action</b>
	Apologies were received from Cllr V. Ellery, Capt P. Labistour, Mr J Bond and Cllr N. Amil.	

<b>2.</b>	<b>Minutes of the last meeting</b>	<b>Action</b>
	It was agreed that the minutes of the last meeting were a true and accurate record of that meeting with the exception that some details needed to be added regarding the 200 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Torbay Royal Regatta and congestion at Beacon Quay. WB to email details to KM to include in the final version of the minutes.	<b>WB</b>

<b>3.</b>	<b>Matters Arising</b>	<b>Action</b>
<b>(a)</b>	<b>Torquay inner harbour pontoon berths – agenda item</b> KM informed the Forum that this matter was on the main agenda.	
<b>(b)</b>	<b>Torquay drying grid proposal - update</b> KM reported that an outline drawing had been made and the Council's engineers were now in discussion with quantity surveyors to establish some budget costs. He emphasised that MMO consent will probably be needed. CB said that EFF funding was still a possibility.	<b>KM</b>
<b>(c)</b>	<b>Sustainable Transport Fund Bid - update</b> KM reported that the Department for Transport had granted the Council £2.75m towards this project which would now proceed with a target date for a new Torquay to Brixham ferry operation of Easter 2013. The Forum engaged in some considerable debate about the location of ferry embarkation/disembarkation point in Torquay harbour. The Forum's view was that at Torquay the ferry infrastructure should be on the outside of Princess pier. The Mayor supported this view but warned that repair work needed to be carried out on the pier and that money was just not available at this time. KM expressed the view that in order to meet the target it may be necessary to operate from Beacon Quay as an interim solution. The forum were concerned that such an arrangement would become long term and WB highlighted the potential impact on maritime events. KM stated that he hoped the new Port Master Plan would identify the long term solution. He continued by informing the Forum of the potential ferry operators who had expressed an interest in running an all year round service. The debate continued regarding the service and its economic viability once the subsidy was removed. The issue about whether or not it was a practicable option for commuters was also raised once again. In conclusion it was agreed that a special Harbour Committee meeting would be required along with a special meeting of the Liaison Forum. These meetings were required to discuss and agree the location of the pontoon infrastructure in both ports and the impact on other harbour operations like events, slipway use, etc. KM to arrange the meetings.	<b>KM</b>
<b>(d)</b>	<b>Tor Bay Harbour Business Plan 2012/13</b> KM advised the Forum that the Tor Bay Harbour Business Plan 2012/13 was approved by the Harbour Committee in March. Copies were available on request and on the harbour website.	
<b>(e)</b>	<b>Tor Bay Harbour Moorings Policy</b> KM advised the Forum that the updated Tor Bay Harbour Moorings Policy was approved by the Harbour Committee in March. Copies were available on request and on the harbour website.	
<b>(f)</b>	<b>Discontinuation of Brixham Directional Light</b> KM reported that Trinity House had approved his request to discontinue the Brixham harbour directional fairway light. This light has now been discontinued.	

<b>4.</b>	<b>Capital Works</b>	<b>Action</b>
<b>(a)</b>	<b>Haldon Pier – update</b> KM advised the Forum that underwater works had been completed before Easter and that a small amount of concrete spraying and additional rock armouring was required on the outside of Haldon Pier. This work and further underwater repairs would be undertaken in the autumn/winter and this would absorb the balance of the £1.3m EA funding and bring the total repair spend to £3.1m.	
<b>(b)</b>	<b>Princess Pier – update</b> KM reported that a further dive survey had been arranged for this summer to determine the urgency of any underwater repairs. He confirmed that Royal Haskoning were working with the Council on a further bid for Environment Agency funding, to be submitted later this year. The issue of whether the Harbour Authority are to take over the management responsibility for the whole of the Pier was still a matter of debate but in all likelihood the problem of the repairs to the steel/wooden elements of the structure would need to be resolved first.	
<b>5.</b>	<b>Town Dock – Torquay</b>	<b>Action</b>
	The Forum was advised that Solent Marine and Council Engineers were still working on a stronger pontoon frame design using a steel box section structure. KM stated that although there was still no intention to provide full marina style facilities it was his intention to install one water point on each of the main pontoon legs. This would hopefully avoid the current congestion at the wave screen water point. It was also pointed out that discussions were ongoing with TOR2 to improve the waste recycling.	<b>KM</b>
<b>6.</b>	<b>Torquay inner harbour pontoons project</b>	<b>Action</b>
	KM circulated a draft proposed drawing and explained that the cost of the project would be circa £800k with a life expectancy of 20 to 25 years. The charges he envisaged would be established at about midway between the Town Dock charge and the current inner harbour rates. KM indicated that he would be writing to MDL to advise them about the proposals. BM asked if there would be any impact if MDL developed the car park area, etc. KM stressed that the plan was flexible enough to be changed to reflect any such development if that was agreeable to the harbour users and the Harbour Committee. He went on to say that any contract for the new pontoon berths would not be awarded for another 12 months. The Forum gave the project their unanimous support.	
<b>7.</b>	<b>Budget outturn 2011/12</b>	<b>Action</b>
	KM reported a surplus of £63k had been achieved from the Torquay/Paignton account and a surplus of £145k had been achieved from the Brixham account. This meant that the overall reserve fund level for Torquay/Paignton was to £621,000 which was well over the targeted minimum and therefore the surplus had been used to reduce the overall level of harbour account borrowing.	<b>KM</b>

<b>8.</b>	<b>Tor Bay Harbour Enforcement &amp; Prosecution Policy - review</b>	<b>Action</b>
	KM indicated that the revised Tor Bay Harbour Enforcement & Prosecution Policy had been circulated to the Forum, in advance, for information and comment. As no comments were forthcoming KM advised that it would be considered by the Harbour Committee at its next meeting.	

<b>9</b>	<b>Maritime Events 2012 – updated list</b>	<b>Action</b>
	A revised events list was circulated and KM ran through some upcoming events including the visit of the cruise ship Delpin. The Mayor emphasised the need to work with tour operators to ensure that cruise ship passengers were encouraged to visit Bay attractions. He stated that he was working with the Tourism Company to make such contacts. WB expressed the need for support for all sailing and maritime events.	<b>KM</b>

<b>10.</b>	<b>Tie down points on Beacon Quay for dinghies - WB</b>	<b>Action</b>
	WB advised the Forum about the need for tie down points for dinghies stored on Beacon Quay. KM agreed that now that the boat park was properly established it was appropriate to find a solution. It was agreed that KM & WB would work together to take this matter forward.	<b>KM &amp; WB</b>

<b>11.</b>	<b>Town Dock visitors – WB</b>	<b>Action</b>
	WB raised a concern about a Brixham visitor who had been turned away from the Town Dock. KM agreed to look into the matter.	<b>KM</b>

<b>12.</b>	<b>Town Dock water berth - WB</b>	<b>Action</b>
	This item was covered under Agenda Item 5.	

<b>13.</b>	<b>Staffing and Safety on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> May – WB</b>	<b>Action</b>
	WB raised some concern regarding the level of staffing at the harbour on Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup> May and some related safety issues. A small speed boat had launched with no persons wearing lifejackets and with easterly weather in the Bay. Problems were also observed with jet-ski behaviour. KM indicated that he had seen the jet-ski speeding himself. He felt that staffing levels were probably adequate but he would investigate what more could be done to dissuade people from launching into bad weather and also encourage the public to at least wear a lifejacket. JT, who was also an RNLI Sea Safety Advisor, said it was often a challenge to make people realise how dangerous it can be in certain sea conditions.	<b>KM</b>

<b>14.</b>	<b>New gateway signs for Paignton harbour &amp; Beacon Quay</b>	<b>Action</b>
	<p>KM advised the Forum that it was necessary to promote footfall to both Torquay and Paignton harbours. In the case of Paignton it would help if visitors could be directed towards the harbour. KM circulated some draft design signage for both ports emphasising the differing needs and advised that budget provision needed to be made for 2013/14. The Forum was supportive of the Beacon Quay submission but not everyone approved of design put forward for Paignton with some believing it would have little impact. It was felt by some that smaller advertising style boards along the sea front would be more helpful. The Forum was also of the view that the costs were about 50% too high ! KM &amp; JT agreed to take on board the views of the Forum and progress the two options for delivery in April 2013.</p>	<b>KM &amp; JT</b>

<b>15</b>	<b>Harbour Committee</b>	<b>Action</b>
<b>(a)</b>	<b>Upcoming Agenda</b>	
	<p>KM informed the Forum of the items on the agenda for the next Harbour Committee meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2012 at the Berry Head Hotel in Brixham.</p>	

**Next Meeting  
Venue**

\*\* Special meeting in July (to be advised).  
 4<sup>th</sup> September 2012      10.30am  
 Torquay Harbour office  
 27<sup>th</sup> November 2012      10.30am

**Dates of Harbour  
Committee  
Meetings**

11<sup>th</sup> June 2012      5.30pm (Brixham)  
 17<sup>th</sup> September 2012      5.30pm (Paignton)  
 17<sup>th</sup> December 2012      5.30pm (Torquay)