

Meeting Title	Torquay & Paignton Liaison Forum
Venue	Microsoft Teams
Date	Tuesday 23 rd November 2021

Present	Nick Burns (NB)	Nicole Amil (NA)	Judith Mills (JM)
	Jessica Marles (JM)	Tim Allen (TA)	
	Karen Annis (KA)	Christine Carter (CC)	
	Marshal Ritchie (MR)	Nick Bright (NBr)	
	Ashley Lane (AL)	Jason Bond (JB)	
	Micheal Ellis (ME)	Andrew Barrand (AB)	

Agenda Items	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Apologies 2. Welcome 3. Minutes from last meeting – 14th September 2021 4. Torquay Town Dock Replacement 5. The Sea Farm Proposal 6. Winter Lift Out- Paignton 7. Arrested Vessels – New Process 8. Unauthorised Parking 9. Staffing Update 10. Safety Issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Port Marine Safety Code ➤ Dive Works Bridge and Cill ➤ Lighting around the Quay 11. AOB
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1.	Apologies for Absence	Action
	Tim Morris, Paignton Sailing club, MDL Marina	
2.	Welcome	Action
	Nick Burns welcomed all	
3.	Minutes from last meeting – 14th September 2021	Action
	Nick ran through previous minutes.	

4.	Torquay Town Dock Replacement	Action
	<p>We are currently awaiting a commencement date from Walcon Marine for the works on Torquay Town Dock. This will be a 2 or 3 phase process that will most probably start in the New Year due to other commitments by Walcon.</p> <p>When this does commence we will have to accommodate 48 vessels moored on X pontoon. Within the visitor berthing area We have some vessels that have been lifted out for the winter so we are able to use these berths if required.</p> <p>NB advised that under the bridge the quayside is in need of some repairs. Colin Peters (TDA engineers) is looking at a contract for this, he has approached TMS who will hopefully be able to give us an estimate for the works soon. We intend to carry out the works whilst the access bridge is removed for re-furbishment.</p>	
5.	The Sea Farm Proposal	Action
	<p>NB said that we have had a number of requests for different aquaculture schemes within Tor Bay but this has been put on hold until the new Harbour Master is in position as it is important for him to meet with applicants to discuss a number of factors.</p>	
6.	Winter Lift Out – Paignton	Action
	<p>Winter lift in Paignton went well this year organised by Paignton Pleasure Cruises, all paperwork was completed prior to lifting and all vessels were lifted successfully. The tarmac around Harbour light will be monitored to check for damage throughout the winter period, NB advised some damage has been caused due to fresh tarmac being laid over the summer months which has left depressions in the location of Gabian benches.</p> <p>Next year applications for winter quayside storage will not be accepted for any vessels over 10m LOA at Paignton.</p>	
7.	Arrested Vessels – New Process	Action
	<p>NB Informed that we currently have 3 arrested boats in Torquay/ Paignton and 3 with potential to be arrested for non payment of visitor dues. We are finding a lot of customers are purchasing small boats in a poor condition, mooring them on the visitor pontoon and abandoning them.</p> <p>EBay has changed their policy and as a local government we no longer are able to sell through Ebay.It has been agreed that we can now sell vessels through Facebook Marketplace and these vessels will hopefully be put on to sell as soon as possible and recover costs owed to the authority.</p> <p>NB advised that to prevent boats in a bad condition being abandoned the Moorings Policy will be changed to state that if you are staying as a visitor for a longer period visitor dues must be paid in full in advance. After the three weeks have passed the daily fee will then be applied which is more expensive rate to promote early payment.</p>	
8.	Unauthorised Parking	Action
	<p>NB advised that we will be implementing a new charge for unauthorised parking on the quayside. £25 has been set for invoicing purposes as we cant invoice anything under £25.</p> <p>The recent installation of a barrier in Paignton will assist in stopping unauthorised vehicles from parking on South and East Quays in Paignton.</p>	

9.	Staffing Update	Action
	<p>We have recently had two members of staff hand in their resignation, one in Brixham and one recently in Torquay. Both positions within the team have been advertised. Hopefully both positions should be re-recruited by end of January.</p> <p>The team are still working across all Harbours when needed. A lot of the Harbour Assistants have Lieu time to take and a lot of holiday days to take due to working a lot over the summer which was exceptionally busy, NB stated that we hope to get seasonal staff again next year as it worked really well both in terms of income and safety messaging.</p> <p>Rob Parsons the new Harbour Master is now due to start on 20th December the team are looking forward to working with him.</p>	

10.	Safety Issues	Action
	<p><u>Port Marine Safety Code audit</u> NB informed that the Devon Audit Partnership is currently auditing our Port Marine Safety Code and a report is being compiled which will be returned in the near future.</p> <p><u>Dive Works Bridge and Cill</u> Works on the linkage for the outer cill were carried out on Thursday 18th November and will continue with divers completing the same process for the inner cill gate on Thursday 25th November. This will alleviate any further issues with the cill gates which we have encountered recently.</p> <p><u>Lighting around the Quay</u> It has been noted that there are a number of failing streetlights on harbour estate NB advised that we have been in talks with SEC and due to different factors it has been a slow process to get the piers in Torquay added to their contract and the quayside sufficiently illuminated. Engineers were on site last week and completed trials, a quote is due to follow.</p> <p>A recent police incident brought up lighting issues as it was impacting the clarity of the CCTV images in some areas of the estate.</p> <p>Navigation lights are all working fine at present and have passed a recent Trinity House audit.</p> <p>NBr warned about the decorative lights not working correctly in Paignton Harbour they keep tripping out and only stay on for a short amount of time. NB has raised this with Havills and is awaiting a repair.</p>	

11.	Pollution Incidents	Action
	<p>NB advised there has been a few minor oil spills in Brixham recently. Steve Poulton is completing the MCA 4p pollution management course so will be qualified to deal with this happening in the future. We now have 4 members of staff qualified to deal with oil spills throughout the management team.</p>	

12.	Harbour Charges 2022/23	Action
	<p>NB read statement on new charges advising due to inflation most of the fees and charges will be increased by 4% rounded up to the nearest £ other than the Town</p>	

	<p>Dock which will be raised by 7.5% with a phased increase until 2024. This is to facilitate the upgrades to the Town Dock. NB advised he does not have any further information on this and had been asked to raise it at the Liaison today. KA advised we will pass on any concerns.</p>	
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12.	AOB	Action
	<p><u>Maritime Events</u> NB confirmed we have already got 3-4 cruise ships booked in for next year and the maritime events list is quickly filling up. We have accommodated a large amount of events, throughout the 2021 summer season resulting in more than one event on most weekends.</p> <p>A member of Tor Bay Harbour staff will be attending an event in London next week to promote Tor Bay to the cruise ship industry in the hope of generating more cruise ship calls.</p> <p>MR raised concerns about the central council take on Tor Bay Harbours funds. NB advised this is out of our control unfortunately but we will obviously voice your concerns.</p> <p>ME also raised concerns that he was not aware of the fees and charges increase. NA advised that the 4% was agreed however she also was not aware for the 7.5% for the Town Dock. KA / NB let the group know that the decision was made after the Budget Working Party and NB was asked to raise it at today's Liaison Forum.</p> <p>All members advised that any concerns should be sent to Kevin.</p> <p>MR warned of seafarms taking up large areas of Tor Bay. NB said the safety of mariners is paramount and this will be discussed with the new HM on his arrival.</p> <p>AL raised concerns on the seafarms also mentioning the increase in Portuguese Oysters that are slowly taking over. He advised that the bottom of one of his vessels has a carpet forming. NB advised we are aware of issues and they are being monitored.</p> <p>MR asked about the parking situation at for Town Dock and Inner Harbour for loading and unloading. NB said that this is still permitted as long as you are seen to be loading / unloading and do not exceed the 20 minutes stay for the Town Dock. The Inner Harbour loading area is public highway and customers have been receiving parking penalty charges for short times whilst unloading. The area reverts into a taxi rank after a certain time and customers have received penalty charges as a result. Unfortunately this is public highway and not managed by the harbour authority.</p> <p>MR asked what plans we have for the future for the environment. NB stated that we do now have an electric forklift in Brixham, solar panels on the fish market and hoping in the near future to have a electric work van but at the moment there is no sign of a supplier for these vehicles. JB said that solar energy at this time would not be efficient enough to power anything of serious demand.</p>	

**Next Meeting
Venue
Future meetings**

**Dates of Harbour
Committee Meetings**

TBC
