

Meeting Title

Torquay & Paignton Harbour Liaison Forum

Venue

Torquay Harbour Office

Date

31st May 2011 at 10.30

Present

Capt K Mowat (KM)	Ms Elaine Hayes (EH)	Mr D Musgrove (DM)
Mr J Turner (JT)	Cllr M Hytche (MH)	Mr W Butcher (WB)
Mr C Baker (CB)	Mr M Smith (MS)	Cllr J Richards (JR)
Mr M Ritchie (MR)	Mayor Gordon Oliver (GO)	Capt P Labistour (PL)

Agenda Items

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the last meeting
3. Matters Arising
 - a) Finding Sanctuary
 - b) Princess Gardens/Pavilion development proposals - update
 - c) Tor Bay Harbour Business Plan
 - d) Paignton Harbour - decriminalised parking review update
 - e) Torquay Harbour marine fuel station update
 - f) RTYC - boat park scheme
 - g) Coastguard modernisation - update
 - h) Beacon Quay car park policy - update
 - i) Dog mess on harbour side
 - j) Update on Beacon Quay access barrier
4. Capital Works
 - a) Haldon Pier – update
5. Town Dock - Torquay
6. Budget Outturn 2010/11 & budget pressures 2011/12
7. Tor Bay Harbour Enforcement & Prosecution Policy - review
8. Tor Bay Harbour Business Plan 2011/12
9. Changes to the Tor Bay Harbour Moorings Policy
10. Maritime Events 2011
11. Boat Watch Scheme - MS
12. Fire Safety on Boats
13. Harbour Committee - Upcoming Agenda

Date of the next meeting 30th August 2011

1.	Apologies for Absence	Action
	No apologies were received.	

2.	Minutes of the last meeting	Action
	It was agreed that the minutes of the 1 st March 2011 meeting were a true and accurate record of that meeting.	

3.	Matters Arising – continued	Action
(g)	Coastguard modernisation – update KM reported that he had submitted a response to the consultation which included an objection to the closure of the Brixham Coastguard station. He also reported that the government appeared to be reviewing their entire modernisation plans and that he would keep the Forum updated on this matter.	KM
(h)	Beacon Quay car park policy-update KM told the Forum that the Council were no longer considering short stay parking as an option for Beacon Quay. There was a lengthy debate on a range of parking issues, with some significant concerns raised by EH on behalf of Living Coasts. In conclusion the Mayor (GO) stressed that the harbour authority would, in the future, be involved in discussions on car parking policy where it impacted on the function of the harbour.	
(i)	Dog mess on harbour side KM asked the Forum if they thought the situation had improved and the general response was that it had. TOR2 had been advised that they were expected to remove dog mess and the harbour staff had also been instructed to respond to any future problems.	
(j)	Update on Beacon Quay access barrier KM reported that the barrier would be operable within a few days and when proven reliable new access cards would be issued.	

4.	Capital Works – Update	Action
(a)	Haldon Pier KM reported that the work to install the mini-piles had been successfully completed and the erosion of the foundation blocks was not as severe as first thought. Funding for Phase 2 had been secured which would involve piling the rest of the quay on the inside face and repairing any foundation blocks that were damaged. A contractor would be appointed in Autumn 2011. Phase 3 would be to infill any voids, compact the fill and re-lay a reinforced concrete deck. EH reminded KM about the risk of disturbing the Purple Sand Pipers. GO discussed his concept of a third harbour for Torquay and many of the Forum members commented on the idea. KM explained that officers would be exploring the feasibility of such a development.	KM

5.	Town Dock – Torquay	Action
	KM reported that the facility remained fully occupied with the exception of some jet-ski pods. He also indicated that some cracks in the steel structure were being investigated.	

6.	Budget Outturn 2010/11 & Budget pressures 2011/12	Action
	KM reported that the outturn results for 2010/11 had been very good with a surplus achieved on both the harbour accounts. Consequently the harbour reserve fund at Torquay/Paignton now exceeded £600k. However, KM explained that pressure would be placed on the 2011/12 budget due to increased staff costs and rising energy prices.	

6.	Budget Outturn 2010/11 & Budget pressures 2011/12 - continued	Action
	EH a member of the Budget Review Working Party wished for a vote of thanks to be recorded for Pete Truman who had been very proactive and supportive throughout the financial year.	KM
7.	Tor Bay Harbour Enforcement & Prosecution Policy – review	Action
	<p>KM explained that the Tor Bay Harbour Enforcement & Prosecution Policy would be reviewed by the Harbour Committee at their next meeting. He suggested that any changes would be of a minor nature and all Forum members were asked to contact KM for further information.</p> <p>An interesting debate ensued on the subject of crabbing. Concerns were raised about the issues and risks associated with crabbing in inappropriate areas. It was suggested that the Coast & Countryside Trust might be able to offer some guidance and/or solutions to this issue.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>KM</p>
8.	Tor Bay Harbour Business Plan 2011/12	Action
	This item had been covered in matters arising.	
9.	Changes to the Tor Bay Harbour Moorings Policy	Action
	KM made the Forum aware that the changes previously circulated had now been adopted by the Harbour Committee and the updated Moorings Policy was now operational.	
10.	Maritime events 2011	
	<p>KM reported on the maritime events to date and informed the Forum that the cruise ship visit had been cancelled. The Mayor (GO) observed that there needed to be a significant improvement in infrastructure, facilities and attractions for the Bay to increase the number of cruise ship visits. He emphasised again his support for a third harbour or at least a facility for cruise ships to dock.</p> <p>JT made the Forum aware that PSC were bidding for the Optimist Nationals in 2012 and that this would be a huge event with potentially up to 500 boats competing. The Club would need support from a number of Council departments to achieve a successful bid and that he had already committed the support of the Harbour Authority. The Mayor requested JT to make him aware of more detail and that he would speak with his colleagues to ensure support was forthcoming.</p>	JT
11.	Boat Watch Scheme	Action
	MS made the Forum aware of a MDL idea to launch a boat watch scheme in the Tor Bay area to help reduce marine related crime rate. He hoped it would be a multi-agency approach. The Forum offered their support for this initiative.	
12.	Fire Safety on Boats	Action
	KM made the Forum aware of a Fire Safety initiative for boat owners launched by the Devon & Somerset Fire Service. He showed the Forum some fire safety literature that was now available.	

13.	Harbour Committee - Upcoming Agenda	
	KM informed the Forum of the items on the agenda for the next Harbour Committee meeting on 13 th June 2011. He indicated that the Committee had some new members who had recently been appointed and that an induction/training session had therefore been scheduled for 10 th June 2011.	KM
14.	Non Agenda Item – HMS Ark Royal	Action
	KM was requested to provide information on a reported plan to sink HMS Ark Royal in Tor Bay. KM responded that the ship was too big to sink inside the Bay but that he had been in discussions with the group making the proposal. KM felt that the concept of an artificial reef was worth pursuing and it matched one of the outcomes in the Tor Bay Harbour & Maritime Strategy. He agreed to keep the Forum informed about any progress.	KM

**Next Meeting
Venue
Future meetings**

30 th August 2011	10.30am
Torquay Harbour Office	
22 nd November 2011	10.30am
21 st February 2012	10.30am
29 th May 2012	10.30am

**Dates of Harbour
Committee
Meetings**

13 th June 2011	5.30pm (Torquay)
12 th September 2011	5.30pm (Brixham)
5 th December 2011	5.30pm (Paignton)
5 th March 2012	5.30pm (Torquay)
11 th June 2012	5.30pm (Brixham)

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**Dates of Harbour
Committee
Meetings**

14 th March 2011	5.30pm (Paignton)
13 th June 2011	5.30pm (Torquay)
12 th September 2011	5.30pm (Brixham)
5 th December 2011	5.30pm (Paignton)
5 th March 2012	5.30pm (Torquay)