

YHAC CONFIRMED MINUTES

Yarmouth (Isle of Wight) Harbour Commissioners
Minutes of a Meeting of
The Yarmouth Harbour Advisory Committee
held at the Harbour Office
on 21 March 2018 at 0900 hours

PRESENT	Geoff Witt Nick Measor David Fox – Chair Sue Hawley Phil Keen Bill Attree Derek Graham Gill Kennett John Howe Ginny McKee Stuart Hutchinson Jamie Allen Derek Graham	Yarmouth Sailing Club Royal Solent Yacht Club Royal Yachting Association Estuaries Officer Commercial Operators Representative Commercial Fishermen’s Association Wightlink Freshwater Parish Council Totland Parish Council Yarmouth Harbour Staff Representative Isle of Wight Council British Marine Federation Wightlink
IN ATTENDANCE	Tim Adams Sarah Judd Scott Neill Mike Cowan	Chief Executive/Harbour Master Admin Assistant Deputy Harbour Master Commissioner
APOLOGIES	Mike Wheeler Jamie Sheldon Jenny Jackson	Yarmouth Business Association Country Landowners Association Yarmouth Town Council

The Chairman welcomed Commissioner Mike Cowan to the meeting. He also welcomed the newly appointed Deputy Harbour Master, Scott Neill, and congratulated him on his new post.

1. Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of 17 January 2018 were approved.

A. OPERATIONAL UPDATE

1. Matters Arising from 17 January 2018

The CE/HM explained to the Committee that Risk Assessments had previously been written by one or two members of YHC staff but that he is keen that these have input from stakeholders as well as staff members. All YHC staff now review the Risk Assessments relevant to them. The aim is to try to reduce the risk so that it is ALARP – As Low As Reasonable Practicable. The CE/HM explained to members how these are written and assessed. He distributed relevant Risk Assessments to various members of the group and asked them to read through them and identify any hazards or control measures that have been missed. Members are kindly asked to feedback this information by no later than Weds 28 March 2018.

2. Boat Numbers

Feb	Overnight Visitors	Long Term Visitors	Sailing Schools	Short Stays	Total
% +/-	+5%	+18%	+15%	-10%	+17%

3. Wightlink

The Wightlink Rep reported that the company had appointed both a new Operations Director and an Environmental Officer. The latter is a developing role as this was a very recent appointment but he will be looking at reducing the company's overall environmental footprint.

The reliability and punctuality figures for the month of January were good:

Punctuality – 99.1% (boats departing within 5 mins of scheduled departure time)

Reliability – 96.4 % (number of cancelled sailings)

This is across all three routes, but for the Lymington – Yarmouth route the figures are even higher.

There had been an incident recently in Portsmouth Harbour where a crew member on one of the ferries entered the water in order to rescue a man that he had spotted was in difficulty. His actions undoubtedly saved the casualty's life.

4. Port Marine Safety Code

YHC are in the process of updating all Standard Operating Procedures and Risk Assessments and as already mentioned are looking for input from stakeholders on this. There are two audits coming up in April 2018 – one is for compliance with the Port Marine Safety Code and the other is by the Health and Safety Executive.

B. ADVISORY ISSUES

1. Matters Arising from 17 January 2018

There were none.

2. Stakeholder Benefits

The list of Stakeholder Benefits is reviewed every year for inclusion in the Annual Report. These are things that the Harbour do/provide/support which are a benefit to the local community. The CE/HM said that he would send this out via email to members for review and requested that any additions/amendments be returned to him by Weds 28 March 2018 please.

3. Pier Restoration

The project is progressing very well and piling at the end of the Pier is almost complete. Portsmouth and Bournemouth University are scheduled to come over soon to take away the wooden piles that have been taken out in order to undertake studies on both Gribble and other organisms that have attached themselves to the piles whilst in the marine environment.

The Round House is being refurbished and when it reopens it will house an interactive display including an underwater camera showing what is happening beneath it.

25 Community Groups have already booked in talks by the County Archaeologist and more than 600 School children have learnt about the engineering side of the project so far. Many schools have also booked in for site visits and Mackley's - the contractor carrying out the work- have been very helpful and supportive of this community engagement.

The website is slightly delayed but should be live by the end of the week. The Facebook page is now up and running.

The CE/HM showed members some time lapse footage of the works.

4. Harbour Works

A section of the pink pontoon was damaged in the recent bad weather. Some adjoining bolts broke and the pontoon has moved out of alignment. This will be fixed temporarily for the summer period and will be looked at again by Walcon later in the year.

5. Environmental Matters

The CE/HM explained about Yarmouth's Clean Seas Project. A logo has been designed and will be made into signs that are to be placed around the harbour. The aim of the project is to highlight the importance of the 'Reduce, Reuse, Recycle' message in and around the Harbour and Town. It is hoped that schools will become involved and may even come out on site to do some beach cleaning. YHC have already begun to make some small changes within the organisation – i.e. using reusable cups/mugs, reducing the use of single use plastic etc. The Reception Team are looking into the possibility of selling reusable coffee cups.

The Wightlink representative reported that they were currently investigating the possibility of working with the company 'Sea Bin' – there is already one of these capture devices installed in Portsmouth Harbour and it appears to be working fairly effectively.

The Freshwater representative outlined the aims of the Fresh Water for Freshwater project. She and the Estuaries Officer recently attended a meeting with Surfers Against Sewage and it was very well attended. It appears that the issue of plastic in the environment is fairly prominent in everyone's minds at present and it is therefore a good time to try to get local businesses and the community to work together in order to make a difference. A further meeting is scheduled for 26 June which is to be an 'Environmental Conference' looking at reducing use of plastics amongst other things.

It was noted that once again there was no representative from the YBA present at the meeting – the group felt that it would be beneficial for someone to be at the meetings in order to feedback information to the Yarmouth town traders – specifically at the moment with regards to this drive to reduce plastic waste – **ACTION DF/TA.**

Another member added that the tourism sector also need to be educated as it is often holiday makers that create litter. Wightlink and YHC said that they were keen to promote the Yarmouth Clean Seas and Fresh Water for Freshwater projects on board the ferries and in and around the harbour so that the issue is highlighted to tourists.

YHC are in the process of switching their skip supplier. The company is not only cheaper but take the skip of collected rubbish from the harbour back to their yard for further sorting thus reducing the amount of waste that has to be landfilled.

The representative from IWC reported that when the new waste to energy plant in Forest Road is operational, the amount of rubbish that is landfilled will be vastly reduced.

6. Events

- Funfair in Yarmouth – The CE/HM has just had a meeting with Matthews Funfair and local residents and businesses regarding the fair being held in Yarmouth in summer 2018. Last year there were numerous complaints about the noise levels. It has been agreed that the fair will come to Yarmouth again this year but will close earlier – by 21:00 and that the noise levels will be reduced.
- YHC Spring Festival – Sat 5 May 2018. This will include a Boat Jumble once again. YHC to contact Seasafe to see if they are prepared to do a Flare Amnesty as Harwoods are not doing one this year. Both the RSYC and the YSC are holding an Open Day on the same day as the Festival. **ACTION – SN/SJ.**

7. Any Other Business

- A member asked the Wightlink representative for the dates of any future 'Meet the Managers' events. He confirmed that he would send these to the YHC Admin officer for distribution to the group as soon as he had them. **ACTION DG.**
- A member asked for a list of all public recycling sites in the West Wight that are going to be removed. The IWC representative confirmed that he would send these to her once they had been confirmed. **ACTION SH.**
- A member asked the CE/HM about recent fuel prices, citing that some commercial operators have been able to get their fuel cheaper in Lymington. The CE/HM explained that the price of fuel varies each and every week and that YHC have undertaken extensive research into this and continue to do so. YHC have collected data from other harbours/marinas in the Solent area and YHC are one of the most competitively priced suppliers.
- A member enquired about the progress on installing a camera at the end of the commercial pontoon. The CE/HM said that this was scheduled to be installed very shortly. **ACTION TA/SN.**

8. Date of next meetings

9 May, 11 July 0218.

The meeting finished at 1020.