

## YHAC CONFIRMED MINUTES

**Yarmouth (Isle of Wight) Harbour Commissioners**  
**Minutes of a Meeting of**  
**The Yarmouth Harbour Advisory Committee**  
**held virtually via Zoom**  
**on 12 August 2020 at 0900 hours**

<b>PRESENT</b>	Tom Gregory David Fox – Chair Gill Kennett – Vice Chair Jamie Sheldon Stuart Hutchinson Katie Davies John Howe	Yarmouth Sailing Club Royal Yachting Association Freshwater Parish Council Country Landowners Association Isle of Wight Council Royal Solent Yacht Club Totland Parish Council
<b>IN ATTENDANCE</b>	Tim Adams Sarah Judd Sue Poston Scott Neill	Chief Executive/Harbour Master Minutes Commissioner Deputy Harbour Master
<b>APOLOGIES</b>	Ginny McKee Bill Attree Sue Hawley Lee Hall Mike Wheeler Jamie Allen	YHC Staff Representative Commercial Fishermen’s Association Estuaries Officer Commercial Operators Representative Yarmouth Business Association Yarmouth Town Council

The Chairman welcomed Commissioner Sue Poston and new member for Yarmouth Sailing Club Tom Gregory to the meeting.

### 1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were tendered as noted above.

### 2. Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of 3 June 2020 were approved.

### Matters arising

- Review of YHAC Constitution document – the suggested changes highlighted in red were accepted by the Committee.
- Yarmouth Business Association rep on YHAC – Danny Arthur has said that he is happy to attend meetings on behalf of the town businesses. The Chairman is to discuss this further with Danny to find out which days he is available. It was also noted that Phil Keen has offered to attend as YBA rep.

## Updates

### Yarmouth Harbour

- **Safety** – Overnight stays commenced once again at the harbour on 4 July 2020. YHC have introduced some new guidance on issues such as rafting in relation to Covid-19 and an PMSC Covid-19 safety audit was recently carried out by the harbour’s designated person. No non-conformances were identified. The harbour’s cleaning regime has been stepped up with additional resources being put into cleaning the showers in particular.

A member mentioned concerns over the use of personal water craft – primarily jet ski’s - and their proximity to swimmers at both Totland Bay and Colwell Bay. Another member outlined a new policy that the IWC are hoping to introduce next season with the cooperation of all harbour authorities within the Solent which will aim to provide guidance on the safe use of such craft. The CE/HM said that any areas within YHC’s jurisdiction are covered by General Directions which aim to enforce safe behaviour but those areas outside are difficult for the harbour to ‘police’. Members were advised to contact the Marine Police Unit should they have any particular concerns on 111.

- **Harbour Works** – The harbour are currently still closely monitoring all spending as a result of its disaster recovery plan being implemented following the pandemic. Works to the linkspan have now been completed. New flag poles have been installed along South Quay – these had already been ordered prior to lockdown but were obviously unable to be installed so this work was delayed until recently. New doors have been put on the outside toilets.
- **Performance**

#### Boat Numbers - July 2020

Overnights	Short Stays
2982	820

(both down on last year)

#### Boat Numbers – August so far

Overnights	Short Stays
1400	502

(both up on last year)

There have been very few visits from Sailing Schools who are really struggling with safety issues related to Covid-19 such as social distancing.

On behalf of the Committee the Chairman passed on thanks to all YHC staff for their outstanding customer service during recent months.

### **3. Wightlink**

MG was not present; therefore the HM gave the following update:

The ferries seem to be busy which is positive.

### **5. Clubs**

Yarmouth Sailing Club – The club are now operating a full sailing programme. PPE has been supplied to all safety boat crews. The clubhouse remains closed but the outdoor area has been utilised for several socially distanced gatherings.

Royal Solent Yacht Club – Club racing commenced on 15 July. There are currently 23 entrants to the Folk Boat racing coming up on 22-29 August. The changing rooms remain closed but full catering is now in operation and drinks can be either enjoyed in the bar area (sitting down at a table) or out on the lawn. Additional safety measures have been introduced such as temperate checks, one-way systems and social distancing in the bar area.

### **6. Councils**

Freshwater Parish Council – The issues with The Causeway Bridge have still not been resolved. The owners of The Brambles had applied for the WW2 lookout to be taken down at Cliff End but this was overturned by planning. The beaches at Colwell and Totland have been extremely busy due to the good weather.

Totland Parish Council - Safety concerns were raised once again in relation to ribs/jet skis operating in the designated swimming areas off of the beaches at both Totland and Colwell Bays. Additional marker buoys could possibly help but it was noted that the cost of these and then their ongoing maintenance and replacement presents a major outlay for whichever Council is paying.

The CE/HM offered his assistance by perhaps being able to combine the removal of such buoys with the lifting of the Harbour's outer mooring buoys at the end of the summer so that some of the costs may be reduced for Town and Parish Councils.

### **7. Yarmouth Town**

The Committee noted the sad news that Colin Campbell had recently passed away and that the funeral is to be on 20 August. It is hoped that Island Roads will be able to postpone some scheduled works to the Square in the town so that all of those wishing to pay their respects as the cortege passes through are able to do so.

### **8. RYA latest**

No report.

### **9. Boat Yards**

No Report.

### **10. Events**

No report.

### **11. AOB**

Fuel – the harbour ran out of all fuel at the weekend. As Island Fuels are no longer, YHC have been using a company called Certas which brings all of its fuel to the island via trucks on the ferries. YHC are using Everson's as a backup supplier although they are considerably more expensive. Petrol is particularly difficult to source at present. A member informed the Committee that the IWC are

investigating a potential storage facility on the island but as this has to go through planning and be built this is unlikely to be before next year.

**12. Date of Next Meeting**

Date of next meeting – Weds 7 October 2020

*The meeting closed at 09:58am.*