

CONFIRMED MINUTES

Yarmouth (Isle of Wight) Harbour Commissioners
Minutes of a Meeting of
The Yarmouth Harbour Advisory Committee
held at the Harbour Office
on 15 November 2017 at 0900 hours

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

1. **Approval of Minutes**

The Minutes of 13 September 2017 were approved.

A. **OPERATIONAL UPDATE**

1. **Matters Arising from 13 September 2017**

- Pile Replacement - works to replace the piles to the south of the bridge is scheduled to commence on 27 Nov 2017. YHC have already begun to move boats in preparation for this.
- Pontoon Improvements – replacement and extension to the Dinghy Park pontoon will commence in the next few months. Eventually this will have both water and electricity services to it. This will create additional mooring space for tenders as well as creating several additional berths for slightly larger vessels.
- Dredging – YHC will not be dredging the harbour this winter as the pre-dredge survey illustrated that this was not necessary. This will continue to be monitored annually. RYB are currently undertaking some dredging works.

The representative for YSC left the meeting at 0910.

2. Boat Numbers

Jan-Oct	Total number of Boats
2016	34,710
2017	37,444
Variance	2,734
% +/-	+8%

The representative from the YBA mentioned that several businesses within the town had noted that this season seemed to be one of the best in the last 10 years.

The representative from YSC returned to the meeting at 0920.

3. Wightlink

Vehicle numbers on the Yarmouth-Lymington route are currently down which is to be expected at this time of the year. However, foot passenger traffic was up. The new passenger walkway has been very well received.

The Wightlink rep briefed the Committee on a recent unfortunate incident involving a fire on one of its vessels - Wight Sky. The crew member that was involved suffered some injuries and was treated in hospital. He is currently recovering at home. The MAIB (Marine Accident Investigation Branch) are in the process of carrying out an investigation into the incident. The vessel is now back in service.

4. Port Marine Safety Code

- Boat fire – there was recently a small fire (more of a smoulder) onboard a boat within the harbour. The fire was initially dealt with by the vessel's owner and subsequently by the Fire Service. YHC are currently investigating the use of thermal imaging cameras in and around the harbour and have recently undertaken a site walk with the fire service in order to clarify any areas that may require additional safety measures.
- Flood Exercise – On 28th Sept Vikoma carried out a demonstration of their newly developed flood booms at the Harbour. This was followed by a presentation. It was felt by all that this was a worthwhile exercise where several lessons were learned.
- There was a three-yearly Oil Spill Exercise on 17 October 2017. The exercise involved bringing in a crane to lift a boat out of the water into a fully bunded area, and the use of various booms and skimming equipment. All agencies in attendance as well as the Tier 2 responder Adler & Allen were very impressed with the harbour's performance throughout.

B. ADVISORY ISSUES

1. Matters Arising from 13 September 2017

There were none.

2. Pier Restoration

The contractor that is to carry out the works has now been chosen – Mackleys propose to commence works towards the end of February 2018. This is likely to mean that the Pier will need to be closed from the start of the month. It is anticipated that the work will be finished at some point in July 2018.

A new website is currently under construction - when this goes live this will contain lots of information on the project such as the results of the environmental surveys that have been carried out as well as footage of what was found beneath the Pier. The work that is being done with local Schools and Community Groups is progressing very well. An information board to go in the Round House is currently being worked on. It is hoped that this area can be locked at night to prevent vandalism.

The Estuaries Officer left the meeting at 0950.

3. Harbour Works

The toilets at the pier have recently undergone refurbishment. Gossips Cafe has also been newly painted.

4. Environmental Matters

The Environmental Rep had left the meeting to attend a Workshop so this item was saved for the next meeting.

5. Events

- YHC Spring Festival – Sat 5 May 2018. This will include a Boat Jumble once again.

A member suggested that YHC send notification of this event to their Rallies database to encourage boats into the harbour for the event. The CE/HM informed the group that an email had recently be sent which contained a link to website where a short video of the Spring Festival (amongst others) could be viewed.

6. Any Other Business

- A member informed the group that the IW Council's Regeneration Officer was coming to give a presentation on regeneration of the West Wight. This is to be held at West Wight Sports Centre on Thurs 23 Nov 2017 at 1830. Members were encouraged to attend if possible. Members agreed that it would be useful to raise the issue of a new cycle track from West Wight to Newport as well as the on-going issue of car parking in Freshwater, Totland and Yarmouth. It was suggested that a cohesive approach by the Town and Parish Council's is required in order to bring this issue to the attention of the IW Council.
- A member enquired whether the increased numbers of boats mooring in both Totland Bay and Colwell Bay were impacting on the harbour. The CE/HM said that although this may have affected the number of short stays, the number of overnight visitors were unlikely to have been affected. Members were concerned over safety in these areas with people coming ashore in tenders etc. Also, the speed of arriving/departing vessels was cited as sometimes being a problem. As this is outside of the harbour's jurisdiction, YHC are unable to become involved in this.
- A member raised the issue of current fuel prices. The CE/HM said that YHC order their fuel from one of two suppliers and will go with whomever is cheapest at the time. He explained that YHC do carry out market research into fuel prices at other harbours in and around the Solent and said that he would update this and report back to the Committee at the next meeting.

7. Date of next meetings

17 January 2018, 21 March 2018.

The meeting finished at 1035.