

YHAC CONFIRMED MINUTES

Yarmouth (Isle of Wight) Harbour Commissioners
Minutes of a Meeting of
The Yarmouth Harbour Advisory Committee
held virtually via Zoom
on 14 September 2022 at 0900 hours

PRESENT	David Fox – Chair Jamie Allen – Vice-Chair Tom Symes Louisa Mamakou Martin Palmer John Howe Gillian Head Daniel James	Royal Yachting Association Boat Yards Royal Solent Yacht Club Marketing & Communications Officer/YHC Staff Rep Yarmouth Sailing Club Totland Parish Council Yarmouth Town Council Freshwater Parish Council
IN ATTENDANCE	Tim Adams Sarah Judd Anne Kyle Scott Neill	Chief Executive/Harbour Master Minutes Commissioner Deputy Harbour Master
APOLOGIES	Sue Hawley Danny Arthur Martin Gulliver Peter Spink Jamie Sheldon	Estuaries Officer Yarmouth Business Association Wightlink Representative Isle of Wight Council Country Landowners Association

The Chairman welcomed Anne Kyle (Commissioner) and new member Cllr Gillian Head to the meeting.

- 1. Apologies for Absence**
Apologies were tendered as noted above.
- 2. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair**
Members proposed David Fox continue as Chair, and Jamie Allen as Vice-Chair. This was unanimously agreed.
- 3. Approval of Minutes**
The Minutes of 20 July 2022 were approved.
- 4. Matters arising**
The MMO have finally come back to YHC and approved the proposed updates to the Harbour Revision Order (HRO). The document needs to be approved by the Commissioners in the first instance and will then be presented to YHAC along with the updated General Directions document for comment. This may be best achieved by calling an Extraordinary Meeting of YHAC in Nov/Dec.

5. Yarmouth Harbour

➤ Safety

As well as the Harbour's Port Marine Safety Code audit which is carried out by an independent designated person, YHC also ask Wight Safety to come in and undertake a similar audit. This recent audit did not record any non-conformities which is a great result.

A member raised the issue of bridge protocol/safety. There are some instances when the standby lights are not being used as they should. The HM said that he would ensure that this is passed onto the Reception team so that this does not happen again in the future.

➤ Harbour Works

The MMO have finally issued the Licence for the development south of the bridge. Crown Estates are still undertaking some investigations regarding any potential issues with the sea bed. The project has been delayed due to barge availability issues with Walcon – it is hoped that works will commence around March time and be completed by Easter 2023. Work to the pink pontoon will go ahead and should be completed by the end of the year.

The MMO have now issued the Licence for the installation of a waiting pontoon north of the bridge.

Repair/replacement works have almost finished at the Hailing Station.

➤ Performance

	Overnight Stays	Short Stays
July 2022	3362	1328
Aug 2022	3641	1303

➤ Marketing & Communications

Traffic to the new Yarmouth Harbour website has increased exponentially compared to the same period last year which is encouraging. Similarly, the number of subscribers/followers on Social Media platforms continues to grow. A member enquired about YHC merchandise sales – the HM/CE reported that the sale of t-shirts has been slow but other items such as towels and toiletries are selling well.

6. Wightlink

There was no representative at the meeting.

7. Clubs

YSC – The winter racing programme has just started. The club continues to be busy with new members joining all of the time.

RSYC – The Club has had a good season with Taittinger and Folk Boat week very well attended as always. Racing will be taking place on Weds evening and Sunday mornings and a member asked if YHC could bear this in mind in terms of staffing at these times. There is going to be a new Contessa Regatta in June 2023.

8. Councils

Freshwater PC – There have been several sewage discharge issues in West Wight during the season and the analysis report on this will be shared with members.

Totland PC – It is hoped that the new restaurant at the end of the Pier will be completed in time for next season. The Parish Council thanked the CE/HM for his help and advice on various projects during recent months.

Yarmouth TC – The Town Council recently had a presentation from the IWC’s Environment Officer who can be contacted should anyone have any issues with things such as dog fouling. The Council thanked the CE/HM for the Harbour’s attendance at Town Council meetings which they feel is always very useful.

9. RYA Latest

The Southampton Boat Show starts the weekend of 16 September 2022.
A member enquired about where to dispose of out-of-date flares. The CE/HM said that he would try to find out how/where these should be taken to.

10. Boat Yards

A commercial operator has raised the issue of shortage of space on the South Quay when unloading/loading passengers. The DHM/HM both said that there should be room for two vessels to berth alongside at the same time but if not one of the vessels should contact the berthing staff via radio and they would be diverted to a suitable alternative.

11. Events

- 20 May 2023 - JOG Rally
- 27-28 May 2023 – Solent Old Gaffers Rally & Sea Shanty weekend
- 9-11 June 2023 – Contessa Regatta
- 1 July 2023 – The Round the Island Race
- 14-16 July 2023 – Taittinger Regatta
- 29 July – 4 Aug 2023 – Cowes Week
- 6 Aug 2023 – Carnival Week

12. Any Other Business

A member asked whether the Harbour would be operating normally on Monday 19 September and the CE/HM confirmed that it would.

A member shared that they had recently read lots of positive comments on various social media platforms regarding YHC’s berthing and Reception staff.

A member said that it might be useful for everyone to introduce themselves at the start of each meeting going forward for the benefit of those attending virtually. All were in agreement.

A member asked for an update on the installation of the water lodges – it is hoped that they will arrive before January 2023. They will be located at the start of the red pontoon.

13. Date of Next Meeting - Weds 9 November 2022.

The meeting closed at 1015.