

YHAC UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

Yarmouth (Isle of Wight) Harbour Commissioners
Minutes of a Meeting of
The Yarmouth Harbour Advisory Committee
held virtually via Zoom
on 9 November 2022 at 0900 hours

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

The Chairman welcomed Jenny Harris (YHC Lawyer) to the meeting.

- 1. Apologies for Absence**
Apologies were tendered as noted above.
- 2. Approval of Minutes**
The Minutes of 14 September 2022 were approved.
- 3. Jennie Harris – Consultation on proposed amendments to**

Harbour Revision Order:

JH explained to the group that there is a requirement that this document is updated periodically and the last update was over 13 years ago.

The updates focus on the modification of existing powers set out within the original document.

A member queried the term ‘temporary borrowing’ – JH confirmed that this is used in all harbour legislation and is standard wording from the MMO.

A member asked about the Liability on Commissioners and whether this had changed. JH confirmed that they do not have personal liability for anything that happens at the Harbour.

A member asked about YHC having 'the power to invest'. JH explained that there has been a general move towards having commercial powers within all HRO's and confirmed that there is nothing in this document that is any different to the HROs of similar UK harbours.

Any investment proposals would have to be 'conducive to the efficient functioning of the harbour's operations.

All present members were asked for their comments on the HRO – all members confirmed that they were happy with the proposed amendments.

There was also some feedback from two absent members – Item 26 Harbour Full / Harbour Closed – harbour closed sign would only be used in an emergency situation i.e., oil spill / fire.

Para 42 in the General Directions – Audio/visual section. A member suggested amending the wording to 'Intrusive use of audio or visual recording equipment is not allowed. The Harbour Commissioners would be given the power to decide what is considered intrusive'. The CE/HM agreed that this wording makes sense and has asked for the document to be updated accordingly.

The HRO has already been submitted to the MMO as the fees were due to increase substantially after a certain date. It is likely to be around 12-18 months before we hear back from the MMO for the HRO. This will then move onto the formal consultation process.

General Directions – CE/HM wants to wait until the next YHAC meeting on 30 November 2022 prior to moving forwards with the formal consultation to enable any further questions/comments on the General Directions to be raised by members.

4. Matters arising

The pink pontoon refurb will be during December 2022 – this has been delayed due to issues with Walcon's availability.

The Water Lodges should be arriving by December for installation (they will need to be plumbed in). They will be marketed on Airbnb and booking.com

A member suggested that it would make sense to target watchers/ramblers/rib owners. The CE/HM confirmed that this would be their target market. They will only be available for holiday use.

Pricewise they will be approx. £200 per unit in low season and £300 in high season.

5. Yarmouth Harbour

➤ Safety

There was an Oil Spill over at the Harold Hayles pontoons on 30 Sept 2022. This was the result of an accident – an old barrel fell into harbour. Black oil was contained successfully by YHC & HH staff. Booms were deployed and absorption pads used. A Vac truck sucked out all surface oil efficiently and there was no lasting environmental damage.

➤ Harbour Works

The Hailing Station works have now been completed.

The Pink pontoon works are to be done in December.

The installation of the new waiting pontoon north of the bridge should be taking place at the same time.

The water lodges should be arriving in December.

➤ **Performance**

Overnight visits are average. Short stays have been record breaking.

➤ **Marketing & Communications**

The CE/HM reported that the Marketing & Communication's Officer's one year contract had come to an end and that she is therefore no longer working for YHC. The CE/HM confirmed that he is currently looking for a YHC staff member to be the new representative on YHAC.

Cllr Head left the meeting at 09:45.

6. Wightlink

There was no representative at the meeting. Several members asked YHC to make contact with Wightlink to see if they are able to try to make a member of staff available to attend future meetings. The CE/HM agreed that he would discuss this with them.

7. Clubs

YSC – The winter racing programme is in full swing.

RSYC – The winter series continues and will end with the Boxing Day race.

8. Councils

Freshwater PC – – nothing to report. The Parish Council are still maintaining a keen interest in the issue of sewage spills in relation to the planning process with new build houses. The aim is to ensure that it is a planning consideration prior to permission being granted.

Totland PC – The Parish Council are hoping the building at the end of pier will be up and running for next season.

Yarmouth TC – Conservation Area Appraisal is in the process of being finalised. Members were asked if they would like to see a copy of it once finished and all present confirmed that they would.

The Town Council have taken the preliminary steps necessary to try to keep Yarmouth School as a community asset.

CHOYD are offering a 'warm space' on Tuesdays and Thursdays – there are posters up in the town providing details.

9. RYA Latest

Nothing to report.

10. Boat Yards

There was no representative present at the meeting.

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

13. Date of Next Meeting - Weds 30 November 2022.

The meeting closed at 10.10.