

## YHAC CONFIRMED MINUTES

**Yarmouth (Isle of Wight) Harbour Commissioners**  
**Minutes of an Additional Meeting of**  
**The Yarmouth Harbour Advisory Committee**  
**held virtually via Zoom**  
**on 25 January 2023 at 0900 hours**

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

- 1. Apologies for Absence**  
Apologies were tendered as noted above.
- 2. Approval of Minutes**  
The Minutes of 30 November 2022 were approved.
- 3. Matters arising**  
Bridge Operation (standby lights) – YHC staff to be consistent in the operation of the bridge to ensure standby lights are activated.

Updates with latest positions from:

- 4. Yarmouth Harbour:**
  - 1. Safety** – there were no issues to report. The CE/HM ran through the recent changes to the maintenance team structure following the retirement of Dave Rice.
  - 2. Harbour Works** – works to the pink pontoon are well underway. The main infrastructure is in place – this is a ‘breakwater pontoon’ and has minimal gaps in between sections. Works on the installation of the waiting pontoon north of the bridge should commence within the next two weeks or so. The scow moorings south of the bridge are currently being refurbished ready for the season and the outside moorings should go back into the water

in March. Dredging – YHC are going to trial the water injection method of dredging this year – this should allow dredging to take place much more accurately and relies on the disturbed sediment being carried out on the tide. It is hoped that work on the project south of the bridge will commence in February but contractor availability remains an issue as it seems to everywhere at present. The new water lodges have arrived in the harbour and seem to have been well received. There has already been a lot of interest in people wanted to book them up for friends/family members to stay in during the season.

3. **Performance** – this past Winter has certainly been one of the harbour’s worst in terms of visitor numbers. This is undoubtedly a result of the poor weather. The CE/HM said that he will update the committee with more information once the end of year figures have been processed.

## 5. **Wightlink**

New Masters have now been recruited for the Yarmouth-Lymington route. A new business hub has also been introduced in Lymington which is focusing on trying to attract the company’s freight customers to utilise the West Wight route rather than just the ports-Fishbourne route. It is hoped that this may lead to an increase in sailings to and from Yarmouth as well as freeing up availability on the other route. There has recently been a 5-minute timetable table amendment to allow the ferries to coordinate more successfully train times on the mainland. A member enquired as to why multi-link customers are unable to use their book of tickets on some sailings. The Wightlink rep said that he would kindly raise this with their Customer Service team and report back.

## 6. **Clubs**

YSC – the winter programme is in full swing. The training programme is already fully subscribed which is encouraging.

RSYC – Preparations for the Taittinger Regatta have already begun. There is also a new Contessa rally which will be taking place on 10 June 2023. The club are planning a race of some sort for Coronation weekend. There are going to be 2 open days at the Club this season – one in the Spring time and one in August.

## 7. **Parish Councils**

**Freshwater** – the Council are holding their annual Parish Council open day today in the Memorial Hall – open until 7pm. There was recently a public meeting led by IW & Hampshire Police where residents discussed the impact of recent crime & disorder issues that are being experienced in the West Wight area. The PC continue to follow the sewage discharge issue closely – there seems to be an increased awareness about it which can only be a good thing.

**Totland** – the owners of the café at the shore end of the pier have applied to change the building into accommodation. Work s continue on the restaurant at the other end.

Neither Parish Council currently have any specific plans for events over Coronation weekend but YTC & the Carnival Committee are planning to hold a tea party in the Square on the Sunday – details to follow.

## 8. **Yarmouth Town Council**

The Yarmouth Primary School site has now been approved as a community asset. One member kindly explained to the Committee the current situation and details of this are to be circulated to members for their information. Another member invited anyone who is interested in an escorted tour of the site to please get in touch with her should they wish to attend – there are to be two tours on Friday 3 Feb 2023 the first at 10am and the second at 6pm. It has been suggested that the site could be used as an educational facility, a new headquarters for CHOYD or for a community housing project. The IW Council are asking for expressions of interest.

**9. RYA Latest**

There is a watersports show coming up in Farnborough and RYA members can gain free entry should they wish to attend. The CE/HM raised the subject of the upcoming restrictions on calor gas provision. YHC are currently the only place locally for people to purchase this and the current supplier has discontinued the production of the 4.5 litre butuane bottle. This will undoubtedly have quite an impact of boat owners. YHC are currently investigating other suppliers – Flogas is an alternative but the only island supplier of this is not taking on any more customers. YHC will need to liaise with the local chandlery to ensure that they can stock the correct regulators to enable boat owners to continue using gas on their vessels. The CE/HM asked if perhaps the RYA could assist in raising awareness of this issue.

**10. Boatyards**

There was no representative present at the meeting.

**11. Events – none that have not already been covered.**

**12. Any Other Business – there was none.**

**13. Date of Next Meetings – Weds 22 Mar & Weds 17 May 2023.**

*The meeting closed at 1007.*