

YHAC CONFIRMED MINUTES

**Yarmouth (Isle of Wight) Harbour Commissioners
Minutes of an Additional Meeting of
The Yarmouth Harbour Advisory Committee
held virtually via Teams
on 22 March 2023 at 0900 hours**

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

- 1. Apologies for Absence**
Apologies were tendered as noted above.
- 2. Approval of Minutes**
The Minutes of 25 January 2023 were approved.
- 3. Matters arising**
Gas Canisters – there was nothing further to report on this other than the main problem is going to be the size of gas lockers on boats as many will no longer fit the new size bottles in them.

Updates with latest positions from:

- 4. Yarmouth Harbour:**
 - 1. Safety** – YHC will be holding a major Oil Spill Exercise on Thursday 23 March 2023 with their Tier 2 responder Adler & Allen in attendance. Members were invited to attend if they wished.
 - 2. Harbour Works** – Dredging – dredging has now been completed and seemed to be less intrusive/lengthy this time around as YHC are trialling the use of a water injection method as opposed to the use of a digger on a barge. The project to upgrade the pontoons south

of the bridge has commenced but progress seems to be slow. Contractor availability seems to be the issue. It was estimated that this work would take around a month to complete – works are currently one week in and are already delayed. Works to the pink pontoon have been mostly completed – there will still be a few minor tweaks to undertake but it is anticipated that it will be useable by the weekend. YHC are hoping to launch the two new water lodges at the end of the month.

3. **Performance –**

Overnight visits for Jan-Feb 330 boats.

Short Stay visits Jan- Feb 361boats.

LTV's up by 300 boat nights reaching 4360 and Sailing School visits were at 88 for the same period. Therefore income is up.

5. **Wightlink**

A new booth has now been installed in the marshalling lanes in Yarmouth – the old one will be removed shortly. Still no further news on the reinstatement of later sailings via the Yarmouth-Lymington route.

6. **Clubs**

YSC – The full sailing season starts next week. The CE/HM encouraged the club to liaise with the team currently working on the pontoons by the club when racing is going ahead to ensure safety at all times.

RSYC – Spring series racing has already started on Sundays with the full program kicking in during April. There have been a few changes to Boatmen for this season so some new faces will be appearing soon.

7. **Parish Councils**

Freshwater – the Council have made the conscious decision not to hold any rival events for the Coronation weekend and will be encouraging everyone to head to Yarmouth. Freshwater Independent Lifeboat are seeking to increase the size of their building in the bay and are hoping that the new building will include a new training facility within it. The Albion Hotel is under new ownership and the building will be undergoing a complete renovation in the coming months. It is hoped that this, along with additional stalls etc on the Green will encourage more boats to come round and visit the bay.

Totland – there was no representative present at the meeting.

8. **Yarmouth Town Council**

The Coronation weekend event will be taking place on Sunday 7 May. Local businesses will be offering takeaways/ pre booked picnic hampers etc and people will be encouraged to sit together on the tables /chairs provided throughout the town. People are also welcome to bring their own food and drinks. There will also be live music. Additional litter bins will be brought in for the event.

9. **RYA Latest**

Nothing to report.

10. **Boatyards**

Nothing to report from any other boatyards but RYB extended their thanks to YHC regarding their cooperation with the recent dredging project which seemed to work very well.

11. Events

- Easter Duck Races – 8 April 2023
- YSC Open Day – 23 April 2023
- RSYC Open Day – 29 April 2023

12. Any Other Business

A member raised concerns over the number of rats around on the Causeway – this is undoubtedly a result of the food that is around where people feed the swans. FPC kindly offered to perhaps put up a sign to see if that would help and various members are going to try to relay the information to the IWC's Environment Officer.

A member enquired about the new passenger vessel purchased by the owners of Coral Star and their proposal to run scheduled trips to and from Lymington from 2024. The CE/HM confirmed that he was currently in discussions with them regarding the proposals.

Members were reminded about YHC's Informal Public Meeting taking place on 29 March 2023 at 1700.

13. Date of Next Meetings – Weds 17 May, Weds 19 July, & Weds 13 Sept 2023.

The meeting closed at 1000.