

**Lyme Regis Harbour Consultative Group (LRHCG)
Meeting 22 October 2019**

Present

Ken Buchan (KB)	Head of Environment & Well Being
Cllr Kate Wheller (KW)	Lyme Regis Committee Chair
James Radcliffe (JR)	Interim Harbour Master
Cllr Mark Roberts (MR)	Harbour Committee Member
Jodie Hill (JH)	Senior Business Support Officer
Becky McGowan (BM)	Business Support Officer, Harbour Administration, Note Taker
Sally Holman (SH)	LR Local Area Partnership, LRSC Ltd, Cobb residents
Ken Dibben (KD)	Unaffiliated Mooring holders
Keith Thompson (KT)	LRSC Ltd
Mark Dack (MD)	Yeomans Boat
Nick Williams (NW)	Boatmen
Nick Marks (NM)	RNLI
Derek Vickery (DV)	Unaffiliated Observer
Kelley Murray (KM)	LRPBC + PWC
Max Gallop (MG)	Aquarium
John King (JK)	Fisherman L.M.H.B
Will Reed (WR)	Principle of the BBA
Simon Hanley (SH)	Lyme Regis Harbour Assistant
Harry May (HM)	Tripping Boat Association
Stuart Wain (SW)	Lyme Regis Harbour Assistant

Notes of the meeting held at Lyme Regis Sailing Club at 18:30hrs on Thursday 22 October 2019.

1. Welcome, Introductions	Action
JR welcomed everyone to the meeting. Round the room introductions.	
2. Apologies	
Apologies received from: Mike Higgs – Assistant Harbour Master Cllr Sarah Williams – Harbour Committee Vice Chair Steve Postles – Fishing College Yvonne Lester – Business Support Team Leader	
3. Notes of the Previous Meeting	
Infrared cameras are set up and running.	
Wi-Fi - JR hopes to have Wi-Fi set up by start of the season next year. Mooring holders would like viewing access to webcams. JR hopes to install a webcam in the near future.	JR
MS & JK requested regular sweeping of the Cobb as they feel this is not done often enough. JR will look into this. It was also suggested that fishermen help with keeping this area clean and tidy.	JR
There was a discussion regarding PWC's which was continued under item 6.	
4. Matters Arising	
No matters arising from previous meeting notes. All other matters were discussed under item 5.	
5. Harbour Report Updates	

MMO funding has been secured for piling of the pontoons however engineers have now advised the piling method originally quoted for would not be suitable due to the rock bed and rock socketing is required. The cost for this is much greater, estimating £400,000. This is unattainable from funding or DC resources and so a new method will need to be sought. JR asked the group for ideas and suggested anchorage options of larger weights and chains. There are ongoing discussions regarding the MMO funding. Dorset Council is keen not to lose any funding and will seek alternative methods along with possible new funding opportunities.

There was a discussion regarding privately owned pontoons amongst the representatives. There are plates signposting private pontoons for public knowledge. These have increased the pontoon space available. Most in favour of the pontoons and positive comments were made. The Council has concerns regarding liability for privately owned sections of the pontoon and this will be looked at for next season.

Dredging – A meeting will be held next week to discuss a 3 year future plan. JR is hoping to begin dredging before the start of the season. SH requested Lyme Regis take priority as it hasn't yet been done. JR acknowledged request and confirmed funding was in place.

JR proposed ideas for the slipway to resolve the large drop causing potential health and safety issues. JR suggested either extending the slipway from one end to the other to create a larger slipway area or raise a section by 20m in and across on the side nearest the sailing club. This area would be used as storage space for the kayaks leaving the current kayak storage area empty for parking use. Parking would be first come first serve for mooring holders and Harbour users.

KD asked how safe the area would be for members of the public. JR explained the raised area would have railings placed around for safety.

SH- Requested the idea be displayed in the Notice Board.

JH- Updated the Harbour representatives with changes to Harbour renewals for this year. Notice of these changes will be sent out to all mooring holders following the committee meeting beginning of December.

6. User Representatives Reports

There was a discussion around PWC's and use in the Harbour. KM provided a letter in favour of PWC's and this was handed to Committee members. Cllr KW agreed to place on the agenda for discussion in the near future.

Cllr KW

KD – It was requested by a mooring holder to replace the yellow notice on the north wall. "No berthing beyond this point" and to also inform holders of any changes to dates or times of vessel lifts. JR- Noted this and will make better communication in future.

RNLI- Lyme Regis Lifeboat has had another busy year with 27 shouts to date. Whilst a number of these have resulted in giving assistance to boats from Lyme Regis and West Bay Harbours, about half have been to people in difficulty on the coast including getting cut off by the tide. The episode of 'Saving Lives At Sea', featuring the Lyme Regis lifeboat crew, is scheduled to be broadcast on BBC 2 at 8pm on Tuesday, November 5. The lifeboat week was at its best ever record raising £52000. £42000 went to charity.

NM- Expressed concerns over the launch and recover of the lifeboat during

<p>low water tides in the Harbour mouth due to the lack of dredging. The alternative launch route across the beach to the north of the North Wall is easily blocked if pontoons are stored in the North East corner of the harbour. If no launch route is available the Lifeboat could be declared "Off Service" with the concomitant loss of lifesaving cover at this end of Lyme Bay. JR proposed opening an access point in the wall specifically for the lifeboats access. JR & NM will discuss this further.</p> <p>It was requested that car parking spaces are left clear for the RNLI shop and station volunteers.</p> <p>Thanks were given to the Harbour staff for their excellent support this season.</p> <p>Sailing Club- The boat park is at full capacity. The Fire Fly's event was great fun with no issues. Members are grateful for the Harbours help and assistance this season.</p> <p>NW- Requested the steps be replaced by the North wall as he feels it would be better for two points of access instead of one.</p> <p>BBA- The student boat launch is December 4th. All are welcome to attend.</p>	
<p>7. Future Harbour Staffing Arrangements</p>	
<p>KB- Explained the future status of the Harbour consultative group. Bridport, Lyme Regis and Weymouth Harbours are now together under one authority, Dorset Council. They all remain independent with their own cost centre and any income generated will go back into its own harbour helping them become self sufficient.</p> <p>One Harbours Committee will oversee all three Harbours. It is proposed to formalise Lyme Regis Consultative Group by appointing a Chair. Harbour representatives were asked to think about the opportunity to become a Chair and to put forward their interest, the responsibilities include producing of Harbour representative reports, preparing meeting agendas and chairing the Harbour Consultative Group meetings with assistance of the Harbour Master. The Consultative Group reports will be presented and information shared amongst the group and Committee.</p> <p>Cllr KW asked the representatives to think about and put forward any groups that are not represented currently that could be in the future.</p> <p>SH asked whether Lyme Regis Harbour will have its own Harbour Master. KB advised future Harbour staffing is still to be discussed and decided. When making a decision the council will consider feedback on staff structure, Health & Safety and budgets from the new designated person from Marico. The designated person is due to visit the Harbour next week to begin Harbour reviews. There is no specific date for a decision. It is hoped to have some proposals by the end of January 2020. JR will fulfil the current role until the end of January 2020. Consultation with the Harbour users will also be discussed with any decision making.</p>	
<p>8. Q&A's</p>	
<p>Q- Is there a plan to extend the pontoon? A- JR- No, we may need to reduce the size due to weather implications.</p> <p>KT asked if water depth figures can be displayed for public knowledge. JR agreed and advised Harbour staff always available for advice.</p> <p>Q- SH- What is happening with phase 5 of the Cobb?</p>	<p>JR</p>

<p>A- JR- Piling works to begin 2021 for both sides of the wall. An engineer can be asked to attend the next meeting to discuss.</p> <p>Q- SH- Will Lyme Regis budget pay for the Harbour Revision Order? A- Cllr MR- There is a budget of £31,500 which will be spread over a period of two years. This would include the cost of specialist marine lawyer required to make the application.</p> <p>Q- SH- Is there anything left from the Coastal Community Team funding? A- KB- Wasn't sure but will find out.</p>	<p>KB</p>
<p>9. AOB</p>	
<p>SH- Asked if the tube tackle line bins could be moved to a different location due to the misuse. Representatives didn't think it would make a difference and thought extra bins would be beneficial.</p> <p>SH- Expressed concern over the lack of reporting on Lyme Regis Harbour at the Harbour Committee meeting held on 25 September 2019 and the following press release. Cllr MR who was present at the meeting felt this was not the case. It was suggested using Dorset Council's communications team to increase publicity and raise the profile of Lyme Regis Harbour.</p> <p>Representatives gave personal thanks to JR for his help and support throughout the season.</p> <p>Meeting concluded 20:25</p> <p>Date of the next meeting is to be arranged. Aiming at March – April before the new season begins. New Harbour representative chair to be elected.</p>	<p>Cllr MR</p>