

Lyme Regis Harbour Consultative Group (LRHCG) Meeting 12 October 2021 Lyme Regis Sailing Club 18:30		
Present		
David Brown	DB	Non-Commercial Moorings Rep
Ken Buchan	KB	Head of Environment & wellbeing
David Clayton	DC	Gig Club Rep
Karen Durham Diggins	KDD	Non-Boating water Activities Rep
Peter Fosh	PF	Non – Commercial Moorings Sub
Sally Holman	SH	Sailing Club Sub
Chris Joiner	CJ	Sea School Rep
Cllr Brian Larcombe	BL	Mayor – Lyme Regis Town council
Becky McGowan	BM	Harbour Admin – Note Taker
Nick Marks	NM	RNLI Rep
Steve Postles	SP	Commercial Fisherman Rep
James Radcliffe	JR	Harbour Master
Lee Roper	LR	Power Boat Club Rep
Cllr Mark Roberts	Cllr MR	Dorset Council Harbours Committee Chair
Chris Turner	CT	Consultative Group Chair
Nick Williams	NW	Boatmen/Charters Rep

1. Welcome & introductions	Action
CT – Welcomed everyone to the meeting, individual introductions were given.	
2. Apologies	
Apologies were given – Max Gollop – Harbour Traders Rep, Will Reed – harbour Traders Sub & Marcus Dixon - Gig Club Sub.	
3. Minutes of the previous meeting	
<p>Action Points-</p> <p>NM – Queried depth information on pontoons and outside buoys. JR – Responded, pontoon and outside buoy depths were recorded by us, depths surveys will also be done prior to dredging this year.</p> <p>GG – Queried the use of treated railway sleepers around the raised platform on the slipway. JR – This is answered in the HM report.</p> <p>LR – Queried if the pontoon by the slipway has been considered, he feels it is difficult to walk a boat along to the pontoon. JR – Responded, the extension to the pontoons had been completed.</p> <p>NW – Felt tender and rack fees were not taken seriously as some had not been paid for. JR – Responded, this is ongoing, tender racks and fees are audited regularly and invoices are raised accordingly.</p> <p>NW – Expressed concern over props being tangled up with pickup lines and asked if we can enforce the need to have lead weights on the lines. JR – Responded, new mooring ropes are leaded, link lines we supply in the Harbour office shop.</p> <p>LR – Would like to discuss PWC's for the power boat club and their management of a limited number of licences. MR – Mentioned Weymouth Harbour are collecting information and detail about how the PWC's fit into a working Harbour. Suggested speaking with the Weymouth Harbour Master for advice and guidance and he could be invited to a future meeting to discuss the issue. KB – Responded, there is no further movement on this yet however, work has been done this summer in Studland, Swanage and Weymouth for</p>	JR – KB

<p>zoning and licensing of the PWC's. We will need to look at how PWC's are managed and licenced at Weymouth Harbour, gather evidence, and bring back to Committee for discussion.</p> <p>CJ – Requested a notice to be circulated to remind people to place buckets on outboards in the Harbour.</p> <p>JR – Responded, a reminder was sent within the beginning of the season report and will be emphasised in further reports. Buckets can be purchased from the Harbour office shop.</p> <p>GG – Raised concerns over the risk to the tractor getting stuck and the trailer being hit on the sand bar when manoeuvring past the 3 abreast vessels. Taking the tractor closer to the wall is dangerous as there is a large dip past the cannons which has become worse since dredging.</p> <p>NM – Added, this situation had happened, the RNLI truck had become stuck.</p> <p>SP – Added, this had worsened for the fishermen as there seems to be large fishing vessels entering the Harbour, fishermen are having to wait until the evening to land due to space.</p> <p>JR – Responded, all mooring will be looked at during November.</p> <p>NW – Raised a health and safety concern regarding dog excrement around the Harbour, especially near fish landing and passenger areas It was added that no dog warden had been seen recently to warden the area in question.</p> <p>KB – Responded, Dorset Council do have dog wardens however isn't sure on the number of resource available. Will investigate this and inform the group.</p> <p>JR – Responded, contact has been made to environmental health regarding this issue, will get in touch again for clarity.</p> <p>NW – Suggested signs to be placed around the Harbour as previously requested by SP – Asked if the Harbour has the authority to place sign around the Harbour, particularly to say, Keep dogs on leads.</p> <p>JR – Responded, this is being dealt with currently.</p> <p>NW – Raised concern over damaged ladders around the Harbour and the ropes left draping around them occasionally.</p> <p>JR – Responded, these had been repaired however damaged again. This is an ongoing issue currently.</p> <p>NW – Mentioned the crab steps need attention as they seem to be crumbling. JR is aware and will report to engineers.</p> <p>NW – Expressed concern over the built-up debris from the Harbour projects around the ice room areas.</p> <p>JR – Responded, this had been cleared promptly.</p> <p>NW – Added he felt it wasn't cleared properly as there where train wheels and chain left behind and only cleared recently for the filming to take place.</p>	<p>JR</p>
<p>4. Harbours Committee Chair's Update</p>	
<p>Cllr MR – Expressed across all 3 Harbours, we had a better than expected season. Weymouth had had the best year for overnight moorings for several years.</p> <p>The Cobb is receiving a large sum of capital investment. An application will be going to the environment agency soon.</p> <p>The HRO is underway and is hoped to be complete by the next financial year. It was encouraged all members make comment on the Harbours Strategy survey. This has been tweaked from previous comments and is out</p>	

<p>online now for consultation for 8 weeks, the deadline for comment is 5th December.</p> <p>The Dorset Harbours draft Strategy Dorset Harbours Strategy website and survey Direct link to the survey</p> <p>It is extremely important to help guide what we will achieve over the next 10 years. The Harbour operational plans strategy is high level working towards a safe and working harbours as well as leisure.</p> <p>It was mentioned that Lyme Regis was not getting enough reference within the Harbours strategy and feel it's aimed more around Weymouth Harbour.</p> <p>Cllr MR – Responded, please make comment in the survey. This is being coordinated by Dorset Coast Forum not us and emphasised the importance of comment directly to the consultation.</p> <p>It was also mentioned that the language used within the information isn't clear. It was advised to also make comment of this within the survey and provide examples.</p> <p>It is hoped the Harbour will become self-sufficient and any income from this can be used for dredging funds for example.</p> <p>Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk management around Weymouth Harbour. The Weymouth Harbour walls also act as defences for the town, there is a 40-year scheme with a £140 million expenditure, some of which is match funded by Dorset but also provided by Harbour being self-sufficient.</p>	
<p>5. Harbour Masters Update</p> <p>HM update to be circulated with minutes.</p> <p>Harbour stores, builders have been appointed and works are hoped to start in spring however, there has been an increase in costs for materials and planning which has resulted in further funding being needed from the MMO. Applications can be put in from December.</p> <p>Phase 5 work on the Cobb – It was confirmed the start date given of 23/24 is still on track.</p> <p>It was confirmed that the stats within the report regarding visiting vessels are by volume not income.</p>	
<p>6. User Representative Reports</p> <p>LRPBC – Report to be circulated with minutes.</p> <p>LRSC – Report to be circulated with minutes.</p> <p>SH – Asked Could we have some assistance from the Harbour staff to keep clear the access point for launching patrol boats and reported the lock for the gate has also been broken.</p> <p>Non-Boating Water Activities – Report to be circulated with minutes.</p> <p>There was discussion about raw sewage discharge into the bay from the River Lyme and issues around SW Water's management of this. KDD encouraged those attending the meeting to sign a petition in relation to this issue.</p> <p>Action –</p> <p>Cllr MR – Is part of the Wessex regional southern coastal committee, the regional director of the environment agency often attends this meeting, Cllr MR to speak with the director regarding the concerns around sewage</p>	<p>JR</p> <p>Cllr MR</p>

discharge.

RNLI – Report to be circulated with minutes.

BL – Town Council - Expressed a concern over the lack of social distancing around the area and will need to be monitored closely in the summer. They had enforcement officers out to try and enforce social distancing but failed and have invested in extra CCTV to help and are working alongside Dorset police. LRTC hired evening security staff to patrol the areas costing £10,000 and this proved to be a deterrent for anti-social behaviours, this will most likely be used again next year.

It was asked if the dredging can be done nearer the time in previous years as there had been many complaints around this.

Praise was given to the Harbour and Cobb staff members for supporting the towns events by interest and their contribution.

SP – Commercial fisherman – The chairman has resigned from the fisherman's association.

They have heard numerous rumours which include the swing moorings being moved and the chain moorings being moved forwards? The fisherman would like clarity on this and whether the vessels in question are going to be moved?

JR – responded, this is a winter project being looked at in November. The Harbour bed will be walked, and the layout of the moorings will be looked at, we will need to consider suitability of vessels being next to each other or draft needs to tides etc.

JR – feels there are too many moorings and the fairways aren't big enough. He asked the fishermen to please ignore any rumours or speculation.

SP – Read out a small article from Fishing News paper that discussed the piling project at Bridport and forecast this to be a large project, a question was then raised, with such a large project to handle at Bridport harbour, will there be enough time to deal with these issues this winter?

JR – Responded, this is a 5-day project that will not need to be monitored closely by himself, his time will be made available to deal with other issues this winter.

SP - We feel someone from the Harbour authority should monitor the pontoons and fairways for paddle boarders and swimmers, more presence is needed.

There has been a bad atmosphere amongst fisherman recently, without naming anyone, there has also been personal attacks.

We have issues currently between the ice committee and Blue Marine regarding the lease for the ice building.

The harbour can resolve this issue when the new ice building is complete however in the meantime, the Council need to agree we can still use the current building.

KB – Explained that this area will come under Harbour estate through the HRO

KB – Requested further information about Blue Marine, who are the liaising within property services? a discussion will need to be had around the transferability of the lease.

DB – Non-Commercial Moorings – Has received some complains, but would like to report there is a need for more guidance on people putting their

KB

<p>mooring ropes out, is it 3m or 4m, leaded, controlled props or not? people need to be aware as some mooring lines aren't correctly placed.</p> <p>PF – Emphasised tenders need to be moored correctly, and suggested centre part of the pickup buoy would be best.</p> <p>There is a concern that some people will lose their time-honoured moorings in November when moorings are being looked at.</p> <p>PF – Offered his service by providing first aid to anyone who wishes to have it, at a small donation of £2 per head. This will be run on Saturday mornings, so please get in touch.</p> <p>Thanks, was given to Richard Quint, seasonal Harbour staff member. He is extremely helpful. All agreed.</p> <p>CJ – Sea School – We have had 1 year with no activity; we have managed to run for 4 weeks with 12 students with a ratio of 2-1 staffing. Working with JR and staff proved very helpful, and we managed to work a system where instructors know what they are doing. We didn't have many problems during the 4 weeks running.</p> <p>Financially, costs are cleared, and we made a small profit, but this will go towards other expenses.</p> <p>Nicky Williams stepped down from her role, we are thankful for her time over the last year and are sorry to see her go.</p> <p>Q – What is the reach of the Seas school?</p> <p>A – We do have students as far as Hong Kong, but we do try to get as many locals as possible. These are the ones that generally progress in the sector and do very well as their career progresses.</p> <p>DC – Gig Club, after the capsize, lessons have been learnt to pick up on changing weather. It is advised now to come straight in if weather changes rather than staying out.</p> <p>Members have picked up since COVID.</p> <p>We continue to have parking issues.</p> <p>Our thanks is given to JR for his continued support.</p>	
<p>7. LRPBC Safety on the Water</p>	
<p>LR – Due to gig club accident, this has raised thought for me and the club members, and raised the question what if this happened to us?</p> <p>It was felt that safety on the water should be advised however is unsure of the best advice to give.</p> <p>NM - RNLi can provide advice on safety on the water for members and provide something to read and understand.</p> <p>BL – Raised concerns over the paddleboarders and swimmers going through the Harbour, there is also concern that if PWC's can launch from the Harbour, this could pose extra risk.</p> <p>NW – Added that paddleboarders and swimmers need to be monitored closely.</p> <p>JR – Responded, signs are to be placed in these areas to help prevent this happening.</p> <p>JR – Added Kayaks and boards are permitted to go through the Harbour here in Lyme Regis but not Bridport (West Bay) this will be investigated.</p> <p>Further discussion continued around the room.</p> <p>KB – Suggested another meeting to be held with charts at hand to highlight all the zone's safety points within the limits of the Harbour to help manage this.</p> <p>All agreed. Date to be set.</p>	<p>JR - KB</p>

LR – Power Boat Club, the club is doing well across the bar. We are sharing facilities the BBA and working well.	
8. Winter Moorings – David Brown	
<p>DB – Asked if October month could be added to the season April to September.</p> <p>JR – Responded, this is available to all mooring holders however at a separate fee.</p> <p>SP – Suggested that we could have better use of the pontoon in the winter by bringing in and attach it to the wall.</p> <p>JR - Responded, agreed this could be a possibility.</p>	
9. Q&A's	
<p>Q – Are the swimmers in the Harbour and paddleboarders given guidance?</p> <p>A - JR made to point that paddle boarding is a fast growing sport and anyone can come to Lyme and launch from the beach without any guidance. Not everyone goes through the established paddleboard providers which make it difficult to manage. There are signs to suggest to swimmers not to swim, more effort will be made in future to manage this.</p> <p>Q – How have the larger 3 boats in question been allowed in the Harbour?</p> <p>A – JR had a meeting with the association last week, the vessel was larger than anticipated.</p> <p>SP – Stated Harbour policy re vessel changes.</p> <p>SH – Requested a discussion is to be held with us not just to make a plan without acknowledgment.</p> <p>Q – If there is an issue with someone bringing in a vessel not under your watch, if it isn't as it should have been, can they be asked to leave?</p> <p>A – Yes, we will be looking at the Harbour bottom first before making any decisions. Those people in question will be involved. Asking them to leave will be last resort.</p> <p>Q – Is anyone monitoring west east costal drift building up?</p> <p>A - The engineers will be monitoring with an eye to the phase 5 cobb. The next phase of work is due 2023 however it is always monitored. The scheme is to place sheet piles around the outside of the wall at the bottom of the wall toe, the surface will also be done, this is with English heritage.</p> <p>Q – In the Harbour Rules, it states there is located areas for storage, where are these?</p> <p>A – There isn't any in Lyme Regis, the Harbour Policy covers both Bridport and Lyme Regis Harbours.</p> <p>Q – Can we have more cleats on the pontoons?</p> <p>A – This is being looked into.</p> <p>Q -Can we have coloured bands for allocated or unallocated parts of the pontoon to easily identify?</p> <p>A – This is being investigated over the winter period.</p> <p>Q – What is the max strain the pontoons can take?</p> <p>A – Maximum 10m vessel size.</p> <p>Q – Has the metal been cleared this year that gets build up around the old</p>	

<p>tip? A – Yes, this is checked and dealt with accordingly by a contractor through DC Waste Services.</p> <p>Q - Car parks by stores, why has spaces been extended from 10 to 11 spaces. A – This will be investigated</p> <p>Q – Is there a procedure in the Rules and Regulations Policy regarding appeals? A - 9.0.4 Any appeal shall be made in writing and dealt with by the next higher management level.</p> <p>Q – Is the office shop taking staff away from the Harbour? A – No, the shop is covered as and when needed.</p> <p>Q – In the Harbour Policy it states there is a service manager available, who is this? A – Ken Buchanan is the service manager, you can also put any queries through Harbour Management which will be passed onto the relevant officer.</p>	
10. Any Other Business	
<p>User representative reports are now requested early for circulation prior to the meeting to save time.</p> <p>Thanks, was given to Richard Quint, seasonal Harbour staff member. He is extremely helpful. All agreed.</p> <p>Defibrillator locations where confirmed –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the rear of the Marine Theatre Church Street • End of the Cobb, outside the fishing college • Hallett Court, Queens Walk • Monmouth Beach • Outside the Lifeboat station on the Cobb <p>BL – Town Council, Car park machines were not working properly, there was a push for new machines and decided on one of each, cash, card, and phone.</p> <p>Chair - Suggested another meeting to be held end of November, early December to discuss mooring and what changes are to be expected.</p> <p>JR – Announced Mike Higgs resignation. Will be recruiting for new position in November time. Thanks, was given for his service..</p> <p>The meeting Concluded at 21:00</p>	JR