

Dorset Council Harbours Committee

25th September 2019

Bridport (West Bay) & Lyme Regis Harbours Report

James Radcliffe

Bridport (West Bay) Harbour Master

Lyme Regis Interim Harbour Master



Bridport Harbour Use

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019 To Date
Season Tickets	100	97	98	118	108
Single Launches	460	522	513	415	348
Visiting Boats Nights	82	88	136	138	165
Boat Lifts (New 2018)				62 £8,804	31 £4,588
Quay Side Parking	£644	£3,935	£3,690	£4,566	£5,370
Shop (New 2018)				£7,917	£13,588
Diving Air Fills	£3968	£18,691	£19,455	£18,352	£11,933
Boat Repairs (New 2018)				£411	£7,560
Waiting List	85	56	36	40	22
Private Moorings	143	141	141	141	139
Commercial Moorings	20	22	22	22	25

- Season tickets and day launches remain at a good level
- Visiting craft are on the increase and seems to be due to visitors finally hearing about the harbour and the maintained depths enabling us to take larger vessels.
- Boat lifts will meet the expected income with all the mooring holders due to come out soon we hope to total 60+ lifts
- The quay side parking increased this year with the addition of a new area for the commercial fishermen to park
- The shop has had a steady growth this year. The marine engineers service kits and parts which are included have totalled £5K
- Diving air remains to be a busy service and appears to be on target to at least meet previous year's targets.
- Boat repair has proven to be an excellent service and is on target to cover the expected income especially with the savings of servicing and maintaining our own kit.
- Waiting list has reduced and there is a need to do some advertising to keep a healthy list to replenish any vacancies.
- Moorings although some may not have been used have remained at full capacity

Lyme Regis Harbour Use

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019 To Date
Season Tickets	40	41	51	63	39
Single Launches	160	150	165	180	184
Visiting Boats Nights	152	180	210	340	223
Boat Lifts	65	70	68	75	37
Quay Side Parking				£250	£511
Waiting List	30	28	28	20	30
Private Moorings	208	208	206	208	177
Commercial Moorings	32	34	36	36	37

- Season tickets and launches remain on average compared to previous years and a need to advertise and provide parking for launching vehicles would encourage a higher use.
- The year has seen the pontoons disconnected and out of use some 15 times compared to last year where it wasn't required to be put out of use once. The south easterly winds cause too much movement on the pontoons and this shows in the drop from the number of nights last year.
- Boat lifts will meet the expected income with all the mooring holders due to come out soon we hope to total 60+ lifts
- Quay side parking has increased and will become more popular with schemes being investigated to have larger areas made available for parking
- Waiting list remains steady but has people wanting larger moorings that aren't available currently
- Moorings are not fully used and will benefit from some local advertising to make sure people are aware there are moorings available for certain size vessels. This is also another area that will benefit from potential increase in parking for harbour users

Harbour Staff

Bridport

- Harbour Master – James Radcliffe
- Assistant HM – Ben Harvey
- Harbour Engineer – Ben Renshaw
- Seasonal Assistants - John Hilton & Paul Attwell

Lyme Regis

- Harbour Master – James Radcliffe (Interim)
- Assistant HM – Mike Higgs
- Seasonal Assistants - Stuart Wain, Matt Rattenbury, Simon Hanley and Mike May

Current situation

Since Grahame Foreshaw left back in July the Bridport harbour master has been covering Lyme Regis also. Allan Nation who held a permanent 20 hour per week role also left in July. With the season immediately upon us there was a need to recruit to make sure both harbours were fully covered. The easiest way to do this was to recruit 2 seasonal assistants to accompany the existing seasonal assistants and full time harbour staff. Simon Hanley and Mike May were employed for the summer to fulfil this role. Simon mainly based at Lyme and Mike May working at both harbours.

The position for a new harbour master is currently being reviewed and we hope to have a way forward in place in the coming months.

Harbour Works

Lyme Regis Harbour

The bottom of the slipway needs repairing and extending to avoid further issues and a potential safety hazard. As you can see from the pictures the bottom edge has become exposed and many of the concrete slabs have cracked and buckled.

The works will cost is in the region of 39K. A potential 'invest to save' project is being looked into which would include raising part of the slipway area to accommodate storage and repair of the remaining part of the slipway. With extra works the cost would be in the region of £50k, but this would present an opportunity to increase income to the harbour. By raising the slipway area this will provide storage for the tenders currently earning £7K per season and introduce a new area where parking for mooring holders and launching vehicles could be made potentially increasing the harbour revenue by £15K. The harbour master will work with DC engineers to develop a plan/design and planning permission may be required before proceeding.



Lyme Regis Pontoon Piles



The piles for the pontoons in the pool area are still being planned and with consent from the MMO now in place they are a step closer. Funding has been applied for from EMFF (European Maritime & Fisheries Fund) and an award of 75% of the cost below 100K has been awarded. The Engineers are currently looking at costings and a way forward.

Bridport Harbour

The timber piles at both harbours are in need of replacement

The pictures show the state the current piles are in, these cause many issues

- Boats ropes get caught on the jagged edges holding them down
- Boats get caught on the stumps
- No protection for ladders or for the boats from the ladders
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Costings are currently being looked at to remove the damaged piles and install the new already purchased piles.



Coastal Defence Works



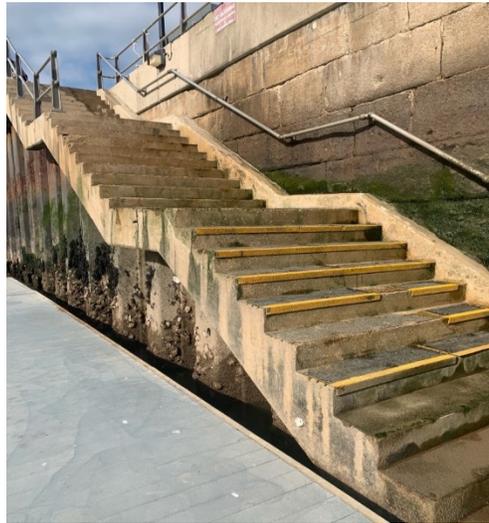
Coastal Defence Works

These were completed in time for the summer holidays, the esplanade was cleared during this time and now work has begun again to complete the flood wall on the back of the road

Accidents and Incidents

Bridport Harbour

Two separate incidents of Harbour Users falling down the steps by the pontoons. One managed to turn and step off the side of the steps at low tide and fell some 10ft The second carrying their diving kit lost balance and fell backwards down the steps. One boat has sunk due to lack of owner maintenance



Lyme Regis Harbour

Two Boats sunk due to the high winds in August, spray from the waves overtopping the Cobb Wall overwhelmed the boats leaving them unable to cope with the water ingress.

Events

Bridport Harbour hosted the following events:

- Power Boat Racing - This event was very well attended with the weather being perfect for racing, flat seas and sunshine brought the crowds out to see the action.
- Gig Regatta – Was cancelled due to the weather.
- Water Ski Racing - Will return this October.
- West Bay Days - The West Bay Days group hosted their events:
 - Pirates Day
 - West Bay Day

Their next event will be Bonfire By The Beach on 26th October. They will install the Christmas Tree on the Harbour Green for December. All the events were very popular and had good crowd numbers. The group are on target for donating £8000 to local groups and charities at the Christmas tree light switch on which is on the 1st December.

- RNLI - The RNLI had their Raft Race which had 20 rafts battling their way up the river. The excellent weather meant there were large crowds spectating.

Lyme Regis Harbour hosted the following events:

- The Fire Fly dinghy sailing national championships, with 35 teams taking part.
- The Lyme splash swimming event when over 200 people entered the water and swam to Charmouth
- A water polo event using the pontoons as a court with over twenty teams taking part.
- There was also the very popular annual Lifeboat week, as well as the town carnival week with the parachute team from the RAF falcons dropping in.