

Bridport (West Bay) & Lyme Regis Harbours Report

Harbours Advisory Committee
12th June 2024



James Radcliffe

Bridport (West Bay) and Lyme Regis Harbour Master

Bridport Harbour Statistics as of 1 June 2024

The stats for Bridport show season tickets are comparable to last year so far but with the weather we have had in April and beginning of May, day launches and visiting boats are down.

	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2023/24 (June 23)	2024/25 (June 24)	Against Previous Year Profile
Season Tickets	74	85	82	85	23	27	17%
Single Launches	504	525	489	404	57	11	-80.70%
Visiting Boats Nights	67	167	157	163	29	9	-68.96%
Boat Lifts	63 £7715	69 £9,033	71 £11,098	51 £9,435	6 £1,020	14 £2,205	133%
Quay Side Parking	£5,617	£9,763	£8,478	£10,024	£174,17	£1,856	965%
Shop	£15,943	£37,799	£26,278.66	£19,313	£1,706	£1,597	-6.3%
Diving Air Fills	£13,006	£14,134	£28,239	£23,134	£1,765	£2,425	37%
Boat Repairs	£6,292	£18,158	£13,337	£1,683	£360	£140	-61.11%
Waiting List – Leisure	31	37	17	9	15	14	-6.6%
Commercial	6	6	6	7	6	7	16%
Leisure Moorings (out of 137)	139	124	124	110	130	119	-8.4%
Commercial Moorings (out of 26)	24	26	23	12	19	15	-21%

Boat lifts are higher than this time last year again due to weather delaying many vessels going in until after April 1st. The shop remains steady and is well stocked ready for a new season.

Diving air fills have had a good start to the season with a strong support from the commercial users.

Mooring occupancy is currently 86.86% for private and 57.69% for commercial.

Applications to join the waiting lists are continuously being received and should the vessel be suitable for available moorings we can offer straight away. Commercial mooring waiting list has been gone through and we are checking the list for vessel details before allocation.

Lyme Regis Harbour Statistics as of 1st June 2024

	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2023/24 (June 23)	2024/25 (June 24)	Against Previous Year Profile
Season Tickets	54	61	79	78	31	25	-19.35%
Single Launches	213	211	249	159	10	5	-50%
Visiting Boats Nights	185	375	412	313	19	3	-84%
Boat Lifts	61 £7450	112 £14,722	90 £10,231	70 £11,341	23 £3,570	24 £3,862	4.3%
Quay Side Parking	£4828	£15,535	£21,827	£21,541	£4,417	£33,480	657.98%
Shop (New July 2021)		£6,626	£8753	£14,219	£1,039	£1,470	41.48%
Waiting List – Leisure	24	32	20	14	19	14	-26.31%
Commercial	11	11	11	09	09	09	0%
Leisure Moorings (out of 209)	193	195	195	158	196	168	-14.28%
Commercial Moorings (out of 35)	34	35	35	30	34	31	-8.8%

The stats for Lyme Regis are like Bridport with comparable season tickets and low day launches and overnight stays for the same reason of poor weather. Boat lifts are comparable to last year.

Quayside parking has seen a large increase, this is because the compounds that were previously leased to Fishermen and Traders associations have been taken back under the control of the harbour and this has allowed us to deal directly with the customer charging the same fees as we were for our own compound.

Moorings allocation is down compared to this time last year but up on year end, this is a very similar picture to Bridport and many other harbours around the Southwest, although we are having requests for moorings all the time so are hoping the picture will improve.

Moorings occupancy is 80.38% for private and 88.57% for commercial.

Staff Training and Competency

- Planned Courses
 - Day Skipper
 - First Aid
 - Power Boat level 2

Harbour Consultative Group

Both HCGs met in late April and early May, and they were both well attended, these have been reported upon by the groups Chairs.

Harbour Revision Order (HRO)

- No further update, still waiting for response from MMO.

Harbour Works

Both Harbours

Dredging Works

Dredging operations in both harbours were completed in time for Easter. Following the post dredge survey some areas of concern were raised and talks are currently ongoing with Royal Smalls for them to come back and revisit the area.

Lyme Regis

Harbour storage building

Works started in April and as you can see by the pictures below it is progressing well.



30th April

7th May

16th May

The building is scheduled for completion in July.

Bridport Harbour

Quay Wall

Works on installing a new toe to the wall were completed ahead of schedule allowing kiosk to open in advance of Easter. More details on the next stages will be reported on in the FCERM update.

Waste/litter

The pictures below show two of the new housings which will house wheelie bins to assist with the litter in the evenings following resort cleansing staff finishing. As reported previously these have been built by the harbour staff and staff will be working with Waste services to empty as required.

More are being built and it is hoped to have a further four in other areas of the harbour by mid-June.



Accidents and Incidents / PMSC Issues

Bridport has suffered from the storms, in March/April, the slipway area has seen some large waves engulf the area coming over the sea wall. On two occasions with waves from different directions has resulted in damage to vessels and pontoons which were in storage. Due to the change in the weather pattern where this seems to happen more frequently, we are talking to car parks for options of future storing in this area.

A leisure vessel on its mooring managed to become snagged on a ladder with an incoming tide, the vessel unfortunately sank, staff were called in from home and managed to right the vessel within the hour and left it afloat on its mooring until the following day where assistance was given to get it out onto the owners trailer.

At Lyme the storms placed approximately 1000 ton of stone from Monmouth beach onto the Cobb causeway and into the harbour, harbour staff and contractors spent Good Friday clearing the stone to make it usable for the remaining of the Easter weekend.



Stone and wave action also exposed the power cable that supply's all the Cobb buildings



In May the power cable in a different location shorted out and caused sparks to come from the Cobb surface, this left the building without power while National Grid were called to come and repair the damaged cable. This is about the 5th time this cable has failed in this way in recent years emphasising the need for the new ducting and upgrade as part of the Phase 5 works.

Below you can see the burnt surface and extent of the repair required.



Aids to Navigation

The Aids to Navigation are all in working order and no further inspection has taken place since February, Bridport still requires one of its unlighted Beacons to be painted, this will be done soon and reported back to Trinity House on completion.

Harbour Watch Scheme

Both Harbours held their Harbour Watch schemes in April and were very well attended. Dorset Police Crime Commissioner David Sidwick opened both events along with Cllr. Mark Roberts.

There were some representatives from the Harbour Consultative Groups.

There will be plans made for a follow up event later in the year.

Stickers as shown below have been distributed around business and boat owners at both harbours.



Maritime and Local Events

A full list of a events can be seen below with more event information on our harbour websites.

Bridport

- West Bay Days are planning to hold all their events.
 - Pirates Day 26th May
 - West Bay Day 4th August
 - Bonfire By the Beach 26th October
- OMRA Model Boat Racing 15th – 16th June
- Gig Regatta 29th June
- Power Boat Racing 5th – 7th July
- RNLI Raft Race 25th July
- Yeovil Freewheelers (YFW) Blood Bikes Charity Ride 8th September
- Boxing Day swim

Lyme Regis

- RNLI Blessing of the Boats 5th May
- Gig Club Master's Regatta 19th May
- RNLI Lifeboat week 27th July – 2nd August
- LRSC Regatta 3rd – 4th August
- Carnival week 2nd – 10th August

- Gig Club Open Regatta 10th August
- Lyme Splash Water Polo Championship 24th – 25th August
- Lyme Splash Swim 8th September
- Firework and Bonfire Night 2nd November
- New Years Day Swim