



YMDDIRIEDOLAETH HARBWR CAERNARFON HARBOUR TRUST.



MARINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES.

Meeting held 10am, Tuesday 1st October, 2024.
Board Room, Cei Llechi & via Zoom.

IN ATTENDANCE –

Ian Park (CM) Chairman

Chris Seddon (CS) Ty Calch.

Noel Bristow (NB) Portdinerwic Sailing Club.

Mike Thomas (MT) Maritime Officer Ynys Mon.

Rowland Sharp (RS) Natural Resources Wales.

John Jones (JJ) River Seiont Berth Holders Representative.

OFFICERS –

David O'Neill – Caernarfon Harbour Trust Harbour Master (HM)

Jennifer Jones – Caernarfon Harbour Trust Administrator (JEJ)

Welcome and Apologies.

Trevor Jones (TJ) The Menai Strait Fishery Order Management Association.

Tom Edge (TE) Commadore Royal Welsh Yacht Club

Minutes.

The minutes of the meeting held on the 2nd of April were proposed as being correct by NB and seconded by CS.

IP – Action points to be added to minutes going forward.

Provision of Aids to Navigation.

IP – Congratulations to the staff of CHT on the construction of the permanent mark on Mussel Bank.



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HM updates the group on the construction process of the perch through photos. HM – the intention is to construct another fixed mark demonstrating an Isolated danger to mark the Grampian Castle Wreck also. Hopefully next year. NB – What is the life expectancy of the new perch? HM – minimum 10 years. Due to its design, it is possible to easily make repairs and deal with regular maintenance.

IP – On returning to the Straits I found that C1 and C2 are difficult to navigate, especially for new visitors. Would a gate be more appropriate? HM – We opted for a Safe Water mark rather than a gate. If the visibility of C1 and C2 is an issue, we have the capacity to swap them for bigger buoys.

Harbour Facilities, Visitor Moorings, Pontoons and Crown Estate Approval.

IP – Are there areas in the Menai Straits where visitors' pontoons could be considered?

RS – There is a Sea Grass issue but trials are being conducted at Porthdinllaen with regards to suitable anchors that do not cause damage to the habitat.

HM – Nothing can be considered without Crown approval. We are getting closer and hope to have agreed heads of terms before the end of the year. The pontoons would initially be placed against the wall at Slate Quay, River Seiont. This would then give scope to other locations within CHT. Places which have historically had moorings would be the first options. The biggest issue is collecting fees (possibly via QR codes on the buoys / pontoons). Is there demand for the service?

HM - Harbour facilities. A scrubbing off grid would be a useful addition. This would also aid biosecurity as boat owners would be able to report any invasive species found on the vessels hull. This service would also be a form of income for CHT.

IP – Could a floating pontoon be considered to link North and South Side within the Victoria Dock Marina? It would only need to be opened when Above the Brine need to use the slip.

See Action Points at end of document.

Management of Harbour limits – Jetskis and other inappropriate wake issues.

IP – TJ asked for this to be addressed again in his absence.

CS – Have Jet Skis been an issue this season? HM – No issues reported until a couple of weeks ago where we received one complaint. CS – Are the mussel boats causing any issues or



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damage? HM – They have been collecting seed mussels from the south side to grow in north side. RS – The dredgers need to be careful not to disturb the seabed and a restricted to only disturbing the mussel mud.

IP – Wash from vessels is causing an issue, even at low speeds. Something some boat users do not consider. There needs to be a better way of identifying boats so that the individuals behavior can be addressed. MT – We are working towards a common approach with regards to managing the waters but prosecuting speeding / dangerous water users is not financially conducive. IP – Education is the way forward and water users need to be aware of the consequences of their actions. HM – a uniformed approach from all local authorities is the way forward and we are making excellent progress.

IP – Attendance by RYA Cymru and Plas Menai to the MAC meetings must be a priority.

See Action Points at end of document.

Feedback.

Questionnaire for Marina users and visitors to the Straits. MT – Oisin Lowe-Sellers oisin@northwalesriverstrust.org could possibly be involved as he is looking for visitor feedback. IP – I will contact Victoria Docks new Dock Master and Portdinorwic for their input into questionnaire format to ascertain what data needs to be captured.

RS – There will be an open meeting at Marine Centre Wales 15th October to discuss projects by the Menai Strait Partnership Forum. It may be worth attending for some feedback.

See Action Points at end of document.

Membership of MAC.

CHT are responsible but the MAC would be supported in their desire to appoint. IP – again, RYA Cymru and Plas Menai have been approached on numerous occasions to send representation, but to no avail. A little pressure from CHT may be required.

See Action Points at end of document.



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Action Points.

- HM to continue progress with Crown Estate.
- HM to consider further the implementation of a scrubbing off grid.
- HM, MT – To work towards a combined County approach to PB/PWC registration for next season.
- HM to contact Portdinerwic re registration of vessels in outer basin.
- IP to contact Victoria Dock Master and Portdinerwic Dock Master to help formulate a questionnaire.
- CHT to press RYA Cymru and Plas Menai for representation.

Date of next meeting.

TUESDAY 4th FEBRUARY, 2025.

10am, Old Harbour Office Boardroom or via Zoom invitation.