

WATCHET HARBOUR ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday 13th December 2021 2:00 – 4:00pm

Attendees: Peter Murphy (PM), James Burnell (JB), Craig Butler (CB), Rob Freemantle (RF), Steve Hughes (SH), David Mainwaring (DM), Katie Marks (KM), Chris Odling – Smees (COS), John Richards (JR), Johnathan Stevens (JS), Martin Stevens (MS), Cllr Loretta Whetlor (LW), Steve Yeandle (SY).

Agenda Item	Item detail/ Action	Owner
1. Apologies	Marc Lawrence (ML) and Matt Driscoll (MD) gave apologies.	
2. Minutes and actions of last meeting	<p>Notes of last meeting agreed as correct.</p> <p>Previous actions:</p> <p>ACTION: COS to arrange removal of Dredgers with owner IN PROGRESS</p> <p>MS mentioned that now the Midas gates have been removed, traffic appears to be driving and parking by Splash point, a concern also shared by LW. ACTION: SH is aware and is acting. IN PROGRESS</p>	
3. Harbour Matters	<p>CB Assistant Harbour Master provided the following update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing issues with parking along East Quay, temporary construction weights put in place to deter parking pending a permanent solution. • Vandalised light cover on West Pier has been logged for repair. • The storm boards have not yet been put up despite some severe weather. • The Navigation light records will be computerised in future. <p>KM (SWT Project Manager) provided an update on the East Quay:</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The construction of the road on the East Quay is taking place, expected to be completed before Christmas. • The new railings will be fitted. • When the road is complete, TMS Maritime will return to cut the sheet piles to road height & install the new ladder. This will take place in January 2022. <p>JR asked when the generator on the East Pier would be removed. KM responded that a solution was currently being drawn up and removal was expected within the next few weeks.</p> <p>LW asked whether progress had been made with the parking issue on East Quay. SH updated that introducing a Parking Order was not possible and had spoken to the Onion Collective to look at ways to manage the issue. Signs would be put up shortly and SH asked for any feedback to be passed to the Onion Collective. COS mentioned automatic numberplate recognition as a possible parking deterrent. MS had a powered frontier barrier which was available for use if needed.</p>	
<p>4. Marina Matters</p>	<p>RF and COS provided the following update on dredging:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The dredger would be leaving Watchet this week to commence work on a commercial job. Its return is expected in January. • The Marine Group had purchased a larger dredger with hopes to bring it over to Watchet in the future. • Dredging progress is good. • The dredger 'Innovation' could maintain Watchet Harbour in the future. • March onwards would be the maintenance phase, but the Marine Group would also look at the sediment and the possibility of running some bubble barriers for a few hours a day to determine if it could elongate between dredges. Data will be brought back and shared with the group to determine cost effectiveness. • Hammerheads would be upgraded. <p>CB asked about the old dredger removal. COS advised that a hole had been found in the bottom of the dredger on the slipway. The owner had appointed a contractor to repair the hole and it is expected to be removed from the Marina in early January 2022. The large blue crane in the boatyard would be removed at the beginning of January.</p>	

	It is expected that both old dredgers and crane will be removed asap, hopefully by the end of January 2022.	
5. Matters raised by other members/AOB	<p>DM has not received some of the notes from previous WHAC meetings. Action: DM to email KM to request the specific missing notes.</p> <p>DM asked whether it was possible to have new signs on the Marina slipway to cover all relevant vehicles such as Jet Skis, Jet bikes, Aqua bikes. Action: Take to Harbour Board for discussion.</p> <p>LW updated that the Welcome Back Fund had paid for some seating which would be placed along East Pier by Splash Point. There were also plans for flower troughs in the future. Suggestion was given of a plaque on one of the new seats in Sally de Renzy-Martin's memory.</p> <p>Action: LW to arrange. Any suggested wording to be sent to LW ASAP.</p> <p>SY updated that Bristol Channel Yacht Club would be holding their annual rally in August 2022 and it would be good to link with any other town events taking place at that time.</p> <p>COS mentioned that the Marine Group had launched a new website which would have some drone footage of the Marina in the Spring.</p> <p>If anyone had any suggestions of how the Marine Group can help the town and work together on future events, such as the Jubilee Weekend, please let COS know.</p>	<p>DM</p> <p>CB/DM</p> <p>LW</p>
6. Date of next Harbour Board meeting	Tuesday 11 th January 2022	
7. Date, time and venue of next meeting	To be confirmed pending the confirmed date of the next Harbour Board meeting.	