

**Watchet Harbour Advisory Committee Minutes**

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2020 at 2:00pm – 4:00pm**

Present: Michele Boobyer (MB - notes), James Burnell (JB), Craig Butler (CB), Peter Murphy (PM), John Richards (JR), Martin Stevens (MS), Cllr Loretta Whetlor (LW).

Apologies: Matt Driscoll (MD), Jerry Gilmore (JG), Chris Hall (CH).

Next meeting: Yet to be confirmed

A minute silence was held at the beginning of the meeting in respect the passing of Sally De Renzy-Martin. A book of condolences has been opened in the council offices in Watchet, for those who would like to sign and show their respects.

MS proposed the motion for PM to the Temporary chair of WHAC. LW seconded the motion. PM would temporarily chair Watchet Harbor Advisory Committee until the next meeting in 3 months' time when the chairman would be decided.

JR stood in as WACET representative.

**1. Minutes of the previous meeting**

Members agreed the minutes from the last meeting were correct.

**2. Watchet Lighthouse Update**

PM previously discussed the lighthouse with CH and the seeking of funds for its repair. PM sent a link on heritage funding to CH with a suggestion that the Council pursued this as it was open to District Councils. The grant Sally suggested previously would accept applications from Town Councils. PM expected that under the current circumstances the funding had not yet been pursued.

CB added that Aller-ford Forge contractors came out before lockdown and inspected the lighthouse. CB chasing for works to take place, potential delay due to COVID-19.

The lighthouse requires a metal plate above the door and the lantern has some rusted holes. Potentially being looked at by the council's depot. **Action:** CB to enquire about the repair.

LH added that the lighthouse needed a plate above the door and repair to the door itself.

### **3. Matters Arising**

MS and others positioned fishing stakes for the charts using a handheld GPS and an old admiralty chart following an action at the Harbour Board meeting.

DM advised the slipway needed jet washing. **Action:** CB to contact the Council's Depot and arrange for this to be done.

### **4. Harbour Report**

CB provided the following update:

- CB had continued to inspect the harbour on a regular basis during COVID-19.
- Dredging had continued
- Life rings have been replaced on the esplanade and next to the East Quay wall near the MIDA site.
- Issues of parking between the residents, contractors & marina users have been resolved.
- Payments for using the slipways can now be taken via card reader. MS advised that more notice on how users can pay is needed. **Action:** CB to arrange a sign to be put by the slipway in Watchet on how to pay along with a contact number.

LW commented that there are broken railings and loose bricks that need repairing in one of the shelters. CB had taken photos of the railing which are still taped up and will look at the other repairs in question.

MS had received reports of jet skis being ridden in Watchet Harbour, which are banned. **Action:** CB to review Jet Ski use and discuss rules and regulations with operators. **Action:** MB to add use of jet skis to the Harbor Board Agenda.

JR reported that a window was smashed on a shelter and tiles missing. **Action:** CB to visit and report to the Council's Depot if repairs are needed.

### **5. Marina Matters**

JB provided an update from the Mud Group:

- There haven't been any meetings since lockdown

- Dredging is being done. A channel has been cut to the gate and is now exposed.
- The dredger had broken down a couple of times but was up and running again.

CH would provide an update on the Marine Safety Code at the Harbor Board Meeting in August.

The outer harbour dredging is pending while awaiting the results from the samples. Cardiff Marina is the contractor and CH is still perusing the license. Once this has been issued work can start.

#### **6. Date of next WHAC meeting**

Next meeting to be arranged for the week before the next Harbor Board Meeting.

MB requested that the meeting starts at 2.00pm as found difficulty attending at 5.00pm.

#### **7. AOB**

East Quay Harbour wall works to continue once Midas contractors finish the main body of their works.