Minutes of a Meeting of the ABERYSTWYTH Harbour Users Consultative Committee held remotely via video-conference on Thursday, 24 October 2024

Representing Ceredigion County Council: Councillor Keith Henson (Chairman) Councillors Endaf Edwards

Officers in Attendance: Rhodri Llwyd, Owen Morgan, Katy Spain and Dana Jones

Harbour Users: Brian Davies, Adam Knowles, Martin Haigh, Jim Palmer, Johara Sykes-Dale

(7.30pm - 7:55pm)

1. Apologies

None.

2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 22 March 2024

It was AGREED that minutes of the meeting held on the 22 March 2024 as a true record.

Matters arising

3. Harbour Services Update

An update was provided by the Harbour Manager as presented in the Calm Waters

It was reported that there were signs in place on several ladders in the harbour as they required repair. Whilst some ladders had been repaired the second tranche was underway.

An application to NRW for a marine licence for dredging and depositing has been made, no response to date.

It was reported as the Clic service was not available during the weekend, therefore boatowners would soon be able to pay for their day launches or visitor moorings via an online payment system on Ceredigion CC website which had recently been developed. Users would have access to this on their mobiles via the website or at the Harbour office, at which assistance could be provided from a member of the Harbour Services Team if necessary on the office computer

It was reported that the Port Waste Management Plan was adhered to well.

Work to clear the harbour of debris would be procured and consideration would be given to carry out this work in accordance with available budget.

4. Redacted Mooring Waiting List

It was agreed to note the mooring waiting list as presented.

5. General Maintenance and Cleanliness

It was agreed to note the update.

6. **Issues raised by Harbour Users**

Councillor Brian Davies representing Aberystwyth Town Council, and the RNLI informed the Officers of the concerns of the harbour users regarding the future of the marina gap, pontoon in the centre of the river and proposed changes to the prom. He requested that a press release on the current position would be published by County Council to address these concerns. In response, the CLO stated that it was not appropriate to address all rumours by a press release, however, he stated that currently the lease for the marina remained with the administrators and there had been no discussion with any other organisations or companies on its future. He stated that he noted the concerns regarding the condition of the pontoons and the Council would inspect and act accordingly.

The Harbour Manager stated that colleagues in asset designs had been instructed to compile a pre planning application on the bridge in event of funds becoming available in the future. This work would not affect the gap entrance or the marina slipway and would also take into consideration NRW views on any ecological impacts of the proposals together with consultation of all harbour users.

Clarification was sought regarding the speed limits within the harbour and within its seaward limitsand whether these applied to the Lifeboat. The Harbour Manager reported that the speed limits were applicable to all harbour users including the RNLI, except during a call out/emergency during which a safe speed should be assessed dynamically with due regard to safety and the nature of the call out/emergency and in accordance with the COLREGS. It was agreed that the RNLI would respect speed limits and byelaws and set a good example to other harbour users to follow during normal routine training and exercises. The Harbour Manager agreed to share the byelaws with Mr Davies outside of the meeting.