

Queen's Harbour Master Plymouth  
 Longroom House  
 RM Barracks Stonehouse  
 Stonehouse  
 Plymouth  
 PL1 3RT

QHM 532/7

22 October 2008

**NOTES OF THE PORT OF PLYMOUTH MARINE LIAISON COMMITTEE MEETING**

**HELD ON THURSDAY 16 OCTOBER 2008 IN THE NBHQ CONFERENCE ROOM**

<b>Present</b>	<b>Representing</b>	<b>User Group</b>
Cdr S Layland	Queen's Harbour Master - Chairman	MOD
Lt Cdr R Smith RN	Deputy Queen's Harbour Master	MOD
Mrs K Curry	Coastal Planning Co-ordinator	Plymouth City Council
Cllr M Benson	Bere Ferrers Parish Council	Parish Councils
Mr G Black	Natural England	Environment
Sgt P Cawrse	MoD Police	Crime Abatement
Mr D Curno	Royal Yachting Association	Recreation
Mr G Skinner	Maritime Plymouth	Maritime Commerce
Mr C Moyse	PPSA	Recreation
Mr G Smith	South Devon and Dorset Coastal Authority Group	

<b>Item</b>	<b>Discussion and Decisions</b>	<b>Action</b>
1. Introduction.	a. Cdr Layland welcomed those present and asked individuals to introduce themselves and to identify their parent organisation.	
2. Apologies for Absence.	a. Apologies for absence had been received from Mr R Halliday (Duchy of Cornwall), Mr J Parlour (BSAC), Mr A Hutchings (Maker with Rame), Mr J Wiseman (Michelmores Hughes), Ms C Ridout (Devon Wildlife Trust), Capt T Charlesworth (Cattewater harbour master), Mr M Kester (PCC Boatmaster), Mr C Gaulton (Millbrook Lake Mooring), Mr P Patterson (British Marine Industries), Mr M Hagger (Diving & Marine Centre), Mr G Wood (HM Coastguard), Mr M North (HM Coastguard)	
3. Notes of the previous meeting.	The notes of the meeting held on 12 June 2008 were accepted.	
4. Presentation by Mr Graeme Smith	Mr Graeme Smith, Chair of South Devon & Dorset Coastal Authority Group (SDADCAG) gave a presentation on the Shoreline Management Plan (SMP). The SMP is a DEFRA high level target and is looking at 3 specific timeframes:  0-20 years – Short Term 20-50 years – Medium Term 50-100 years – Long Term  The coastline has been divided up into cells and the 6 of relevance within the Tamar Estuary are:-	

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. River Tiddy</li> <li>2. River Lynher</li> <li>3. River Tamar</li> <li>4. River Tavy</li> <li>5. Tamerton lake</li> <li>6. River Plym</li> </ol> <p>More information can be found at <a href="http://www.sdadcag.org.uk">www.sdadcag.org.uk</a> or by emailing <a href="mailto:smp@teignbridge.gov.uk">smp@teignbridge.gov.uk</a> or calling 01626 215748. Interested parties can register for updates via the website.</p>	
5. Matters Arising	<p>4.a. <u>Educational Events</u> Not much support from initial email. CPC will set up a working group within the present work plan and this should happen before the end of the year.</p> <p>4.b. <u>Phoenix Wharf</u> CCTV now installed at Phoenix Wharf and operational. This has helped with the problems in the area. It is now a designated Dispersal Area. The Landing Stage is now partially operational and post a revision of safety railings for the visually impaired should be fully operational by the end of the year.</p> <p>4.c. <u>Floating Classroom</u> Weir Quay Boatyard is still actively promoting the idea of the Floating Classroom.</p> <p>5. <u>PPMLC Communication</u> DQHM is still gathering information about the various Parish Councils with water frontage on the Tamar Estuary. It is intended to write to these councils informing them of the PPMLC and who to feed information through. Exactly which reps will look after the individual councils will be formalised later.</p> <p>6. <u>Marine Bill</u> Action complete as the public consultation is now complete. Mr Giles Chichester MEP will be visiting the Marine Skills Centre on 31 Oct 08 to discuss Marine Clusters and anyone wishing to attend should contact Mr John Hepburn of Maritime Plymouth.</p>	
6. SAC Matters	See attached report from Mr Gavin Black, Natural England.	
7. TECF Delivery Plan	See attached report from Mrs Kaja Curry, Coastal Planning Coordinator.	
8. Major Maritime Events 2008/9	<p>DQHM gave notice of the following events currently planned for 2008/9: All major events for this year have taken place. Events planned for next year: World Offshore rowing championships in Oct Finish of the Fastnet Race. OCR Powerboat racing 4/5 Jul Plymouth Regatta The PPSA are finalising its racing programme for 2009 which should be ready by the end of Oct 08; it will be incorporated into the Water Events Diary for 2009 which will be published on QHM's website <a href="http://www.qhmplymouth.org.uk">www.qhmplymouth.org.uk</a> in Nov.</p>	

<p>9. Speed Limits within the DPoP</p>	<p>1. QHM expressed his concern at the number of water users disobeying the Port Speed Limit. The way forward will be a 2 strand approach, firstly by raising awareness through an education campaign and secondly by ensuring that standardised signage was used on slipways and water entry points highlighting the Speed Limit, safety and facilities.</p> <p>2. The RNLI has a standard signage system that QHM hoped would be adopted within the port.</p>									
<p>10. Any Other Business</p>	<p>1. Chris Moyes reported that the Northern Waterski buoy in the Laira is aground. Jet skis are a problem in the Laira harassing and abusing junior rowers. Photos and video evidence is being gathered to present to QHM for possible follow up action.</p> <p>2. Cllr Benson raised the question of mooring density at Weir Quay and questioned whether more moorings had been laid than were licensed. DQHM said that the Port Surveyor did regular checks to ensure that moorings laid corresponded to licences issued in terms of both position and numbers.</p> <p>3. Cllr Benson also mentioned that a yacht had been sunk on her moorings at Weir Quay for approx one month and wished to know what was being done.</p> <p>(PMN. DQHM was aware of the vessel and has spoken to the owner who has had problems finding a suitable operator to lift his yacht. Assurance was given that it would be lifted by 27 Oct.)</p>									
<p>11. Dates of Next Meetings</p>	<p>1. Dates of the forthcoming PPMLC and TECF meetings were published as follows:</p> <table data-bbox="435 1205 1310 1379"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="435 1205 858 1249"><u>PPMLC</u></th> <th data-bbox="866 1205 1310 1249"><u>TECF</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="435 1272 858 1317"><b>12 Feb 09</b></td> <td data-bbox="866 1272 1310 1317">13 Nov 08</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="435 1317 858 1350"><b>11 June 09</b></td> <td data-bbox="866 1317 1310 1350">12 March 09</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="435 1350 858 1379"><b>8 October 09</b></td> <td data-bbox="866 1350 1310 1379">12 November 09</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<u>PPMLC</u>	<u>TECF</u>	<b>12 Feb 09</b>	13 Nov 08	<b>11 June 09</b>	12 March 09	<b>8 October 09</b>	12 November 09	
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Distribution:

NBC, All Committee members

**Natural England report to Port of Plymouth Marine Liaison Committee  
Meeting 16 October 2008**

**SAC Matters –**

- NE is carrying out a risk assessment of activities in SAC and their impacts on features (which are: large shallow inlets and bays; reefs; subtidal sandbanks (inc eelgrass beds); estuaries; intertidal mud and sand flats; Atlantic salt meadows; Allis shad and Annex 1 bird species (avocets and little egrets). After drafting the risk assessment of activities all relevant authorities will be contacted and the results discussed. This will focus monitoring effort and highlight activities that need attention.
- NE are carrying out a Condition Review of the SAC based on existing data.
- NE are to sign 3 year MOA with TECF, one of the first times in England NE has done this.

**Casework -**

Jupiter Point replacement and repositioning of pontoons – concerns resolved and work should have begun.

Ferry Cottage, Yealm Estuary patio extension – NE objected on grounds of permanent loss of foreshore and feature of SSSI.

Torpoint ferry telecoms cable – no objections asked to liaise with QHM.

Yacht Havens, additional lay-by pontoons at Plymstock – under consideration.

Mill Bay, application to work on dock gates – no concerns

Pottery Quay, formalisation of moorings – under consideration

Saltash Sailing Club – waiting response to letter from TECF

Bailey's Yard Slipway – work carried out without FEPA licence. Work was stopped and is now seeking appropriate licences.

Ernesettle incinerator – PCC looking at consultation on possible site for incinerator at Ernesettle.

**Monitoring –**

- Due to budget complications there has not been any eelgrass monitoring this year. Plan to rebid for survey to be carried out next year.
- Bidding for full SAC subtidal survey for 2009.
- Saltmarsh erosion assessment continues by MSc student.

Hugh Tyler - 01872 245051, [hugh.tyler@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:hugh.tyler@naturalengland.org.uk) (Cornwall)

Gavin Black – 0300 0602424, [gavin.black@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:gavin.black@naturalengland.org.uk) (Devon and SAC lead)

# Report of Coastal Planning Co-ordinator

## 1. PPMLC

Recognise difficult for PPMLC members to be expected to cascade info to other organisations. Looking to introduce newsletter. Will be collecting email addresses in order to send it out electronically. If you get the list, please do have a look and let us know of any additions, changes or deletions etc.

Since resignation of Martin Read as Archaeological Rep, keen to know whether there are any other volunteers.

## 2. Planning Obligations – Developer Contributions

Currently going through Plymouth. Also presentations to Cornwall in the hope that a common approach will be adopted. As Cornwall moves to a unitary we'll have a real opportunity to have a coordinated approach across the EMS.

## 3. Marine Bill

Jonathan Shaw has been replaced by Huw Irraca-Davies as new Minister of DEFRA. (he's Welsh). Government is still committed to Marine Bill in order to ensure sustainable use of the marine space. They intend to establish the Marine Management Organisation to effectively deliver existing and new functions including marine spatial planning, fisheries management and conservation. The MMO will make the majority of decisions on marine uses and where not will have an advisory function. The MMO will work closely with other Departments and agencies including the Infrastructure Planning Commission.

The process of marine licensing wont in itself change, but through the MMO will be carried out more efficiently.

The planning process behind the Marine Spatial Plans will be 'transparent and open' with full involvement of local communities and authorities enabling local people to have their say in their local seas (although no detail if given on how this will be done). However, there will be no identified statutory consultees.

The Marine Bill will also lead to the replacement of the Sea Fisheries Committees with 'IFCAs' (Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities). Coastal authorities will be required to contribute to their existence and will receive funding to do so.

The MMO will consist of the existing c200 staff plus an additional new 50 staff (up from the original 40 identified in the draft bill) making 250 in total. Decision on the likely location expected this side of Christmas.

The Coastal Access element will also continue and will enable access to the entire length of the coast - impact currently unknown in Plymouth but likely to be low since does not apply to ports and harbours, MOD establishments etc. Again local consultation will identify most appropriate route. The Marine Policy Statement and subsequent marine spatial plans will have an impact on all public bodies making decisions on the marine environment including local authorities, and the Marine Management Organisation will be at the heart of this.

Likely timetable:-

Bill to Parliament this Winter

Royal Assent next summer

Plans already for consulting on some of secondary legislation by Xmas

Come into force April 2010.

Key areas of concern:

Exactly how the terrestrial and marine planning regimes will come together and the integration of PPG/S 20 on Coastal Planning with the proposals for Marine Spatial Plans.

We will need clarification on how the marine licensing system will integrate with the terrestrial licensing system.

We are in discussion with both DEFRA and CLG on how best to do this.

Key areas of work for next few months are input into finer detail of Marine Bill, coastal planning PPG and our own Coastal Planning Supp Planning Doc – postponed to enable national work to be undertaken first.

## **4. Invasives & River/estuary bank Owners Responsibilities**

Workshop held last month. 15 attended. Raising awareness amongst landowners about what their duties are. Trees, invasives and licensing. Work still on-going on Japanese Knotweed, Himalayan Balsam and number 1 enemy Giant Hogweed. Landowners have duty to manage invasives. Guidance and support available on how best to deal with these tenacious plants. All locations to be reported to Environment Agency.

## **5. Developments**

Recent / Current applications currently in hand include:

Yacht Havens to put in additional pontoons and layby at Yacht Haven Quay, Plymstock.

Millbay – work to lock gate.

Pottery Quay – proposal to put in moorings.

Saltash Sailing Club to extend out over defences to provide additional car parking / boat storage.

Drift Cottage at Turnchapel.

Bayleys Slip.

Land next to Wolseley Road, St Budeaux.

Land at Ernesettle now being consulted on - check to see how long they have to respond.

Also Torpoint Ferry – putting cable.

Ferry Cott, Yealm – patio extension

Also responding to proposed developments up at Millbrook, proposed works at Mayflower Marina and proposal to site pontoons above Laira Bridge.

## **6. Links to Other Key Projects**

PCC are putting together a bid to Access to Nature Lottery Fund administered by Natural England. 3 yr project to increase use of local green and blue space – understand barriers, enable access – enable training. Very exciting project which will deliver real benefits to some of the most deprived parts of Plymouth which also happen to be on the waterfront. There may potentially be links to sailing clubs for those people who come forward with an interest in this area.

Coastnet are progressing another HLF funded project developing links to marine heritage amongst people of Devonport. A part-time officer called Susan Carleton has been appointed for 2 years and will be based in Devonport Guildhall. [susan.carleton@coastnet.org.uk](mailto:susan.carleton@coastnet.org.uk) – consider inviting her to PPMLC?

Work on-going putting together a project for European funding through the Interreg programme.

Mrs Kaja Curry

**Coastal Planning Co-ordinator**

**Tamar Estuaries Consultative Forum**

c/o Planning Services

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