

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

QHM 532/7

20 February 2006

**Notes of the Port of Plymouth Marine Liaison Committee meeting held on Thursday 9 February 2006 in Naval Base Headquarters conference room**

<b>Present</b>	<b>Representing</b>	<b>User Group</b>
Lt Cdr N Trathen RN	Deputy Queen's Harbour Master, Chairman	MOD
Mr D Curno	Royal Yachting Association	Leisure
Mr W Marsh	HM Coastguard	Maritime Regulation
Mr J Lillie	Port Of Plymouth Sailing Association	Leisure
Mr A Hutchings	Maker with Rame Parish Council	Town/Parish Councils
Mr C Turner	Tamar Protection Society	Conservation
Mr P Gregory	South West Lakes Trust	Conservation
Mr B Muelaner	National Trust	Conservation
Mr M Gilbert	Maritime Plymouth	Marine Commerce
Ms L Heape	English Nature	Environment
Mr A MacPherson	Plymouth City Council	TECF
Captain T Charlesworth	Cattewater Harbour Commission	Marine Commerce
Mr A Bale	Plymouth Marine Laboratory	Research
Mr M Kester	Plymouth City Boatmaster	Plymouth City Council
Mrs S Last	Secretary	

<b>Item</b>	<b>Discussion and Decisions</b>	<b>Action</b>
1. Introduction.	1. Lt Cdr Trathen apologised for the absence of Cdr Hugo who had been required to attend another meeting. He welcomed those present and asked individuals to introduce themselves.	
2. Apologies for Absence.	1. Apologies for absence had been received from Mr Davis EN, Mr Read (Plymouth University), Mr Lamb (Bere Ferrers PC), Mr Wiseman (Mount Edgcombe Estates), Mr Halliday (Duchy Estates), Mr Wood (HM Coastguard). Mr Gilbert was representing Mr Howard (Maritime Plymouth.)	
3. Notes of the	1. The notes of the meeting held 13 October 2005 were	

previous meeting.	accepted.	
4. Matters Arising.	<p>1. <u>Fishing/Diving Signage and Signage Audit</u>. Having secured funding from Westminster Dredging the Devil's Point signage had reached second-draft stage. The Coastal Officer passed around an example of the proposal and requested verbal comment at the close of the meeting.</p> <p>2. <u>Signage Audit</u>. DQHM reported that the database being compiled by the Port Surveyor was nearing completion. The finished work would incorporate TECF signage and form a comprehensive record, including photographs. Once this data had been analysed and costed an action plan would be initiated.</p> <p>3. <u>Dredging Disposal Site Assessment Update</u>. The scheduled routine maintenance dredging campaign would be conducted during March 06. This year's campaign would be relatively modest and only plough dredging of the berths and approaches in the Hamoaze was required. There would not be a requirement to dump spoil off Rame Head on this occasion. Mr Hutchings (M with R PC) drew attention to a forthcoming DEFRA presentation – details were available on their web site.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>QHM</p>
11. Phoenix Wharf Landing Stage.	<p>Because of Mr Lillie's early departure it was agreed to take Item 11 out of order.</p> <p>1. Mr Kester (PCC) explained that current facilities did not meet Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) criteria or health and safety standards. A feasibility study had resulted in Plymouth City Council's (PCC) preferred option being the provision of an all-purpose replacement landing stage to be sited in the Sutton channel. It was envisaged that this would provide a single facility for the various current and prospective commercial operators. Finance for the project was time-limited and PCC were eager to commence work in order to complete for the 2007 summer season. That said, there still remained time in the consultation period for input to be considered.</p> <p>2. While being mindful of the urgency to upgrade the current facilities Captain Charlesworth (CHM) was in discussions with PCC over the proposed design. The new pontoons would reduce the width of navigable waters in the approaches to Sutton Lock and QAB. Careful management of the traffic would be required. The existing moorings off Phoenix Wharf would need to be relocated and it was hoped to be able to lay alternative moorings elsewhere in the Cattewater. He advised that in order to</p>	

	<p>achieve maximum functionality there would be a requirement to conduct some dredging in the area. Consultation was underway with the appropriate authorities.</p> <p>3. Mr Curno (RYA) iterated strong concerns held by his members and questioned the disregard of a previous proposal, which he felt had been more readily accepted. Amongst other things his members had voiced doubts over security, access and DDA compliance. The matter of public use of the facility was also raised.</p> <p>4. Mr Lillie (PPSA) was also apprehensive about security and safety aspects and felt it imperative that pertinent bye-laws were in place before commissioning.</p> <p>5. In closing this subject Lt Cdr Trathen urged members to ratify any misgivings with their respective organisations and ensure that submissions reached Mr McMahon, Project Officer at PCC before expiry of the consultation period in two weeks.</p> <p>6. Mr Kester (PCC) advised that currently Pheonix Wharf was closed awaiting essential repairs. It was anticipated that these would be completed before the beginning of the season.</p>	All
5. SAC Matters.	<p>1. Miss Heape (EN) detailed the current planning applications and consents lodged with EN. There had been no objection to the proposed housing development at Nazareth House, Plymouth and consent had been given to a FEPA licence at Ernesettle Jetty.</p> <p>2. <u>Fan Shells</u>. She advised that plans were in place for Sea Search to conduct diver studies of the fan shell population off Plymouth Hoe.</p>	
6. TECF Management Plan.	<p>1. The Coastal Officer announced that the draft Management Plan could be accessed on the TECF website. He encouraged members to study the document and submit comment/amendment/suggestion to him by 23 February. Lt Cdr Trathen commended the draft report saying that its simplified and more strategically focused format represented the culmination of a great deal of effort by the Coastal Officer. The consultation period offered the opportunity for all organisations with an interest in the management and development of the Tamar Estuaries to influence the direction and objectives of TECF. Launch of the plan was programmed for June 2006.</p>	All

7. Cumulative Effects Study.	1. This item remained the single outstanding major work from the 2001 Management Plan and it had presented a complicated scoping brief. However, consultants had recently been engaged to assess direct and indirect effects of sporadic inter-tidal development. Part of the assignment would include a workshop where planning authorities and environmental bodies would be invited to contribute.	CO
8. Splash 06.	1. The CO gave an update on the Splash 06. Following a meeting with all interested parties it had been agreed that the resources were not available to replicate last year's event. However, a valuable educational network has been established and it was hoped to co-ordinate and publish events by individual organisations. DQHM suggested establishing a 'What's on Page' on the TECF website.	CO
9. World Heritage Site.	1. DQHM reported an initiative to seek World Heritage Site status in the upper reaches of the Tamar. Tamar Valley AONB, along with various other organisations, were optimistic of receiving funding to develop projects focusing on the mining heritage of the Upper Tamar. Should the bid succeed a management forum would be needed. Mr Muelenar said that this constituted a very large project and agreed that sound management structures would be essential to take the plan forward. DQHM would aim to organise a TVAONB presentation at a future PPMLC meeting.	DQHM
10. Maritime Plymouth.	<p>1. Mr Gilbert (Maritime Plymouth) detailed ongoing work-strands. Of note was the forthcoming update of the Port of Plymouth Maritime Commercial Port Guide and the RDA funded feasibility study to investigate setting up a resource efficiency (waste management) club.</p> <p>2. He published two forthcoming events:</p> <p>Maritime Plymouth Network Meeting – 28 February. Topics for discussion would include Fishing in Plymouth and the Pontoon Development in the Barbican.</p> <p>Marine Bill Presentation by Dr Stephen Ladyman MP – 11 May</p> <p>Details from Mr Mike Gilbert, Maritime Plymouth: Tel 01752 308245.</p>	All
12. Major Maritime Events	1. Lt Cdr Trathen gave notice of the following events planned for 2006:	

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13. Any Other Business.	<p>1. <u>Cotehele Wetland Creation</u>. Mr Muelenar (NT) was disappointed to relay the refusal by Cornwall County Council to approve this scheme. National Trust would consider whether to appeal.</p> <p>2. <u>Transfer of Moorings</u>. Mr Hutchings (M with R PC) reported progress on the transfer of Cawsand Bay recreational moorings to the Rame Gig Club.</p> <p>3. <u>HMS PLYMOUTH</u>. Captain Charlesworth (CHM) wished it to be noted that enthusiasm was growing in some quarters for the siting of HMS PLYMOUTH as a tourist attraction in the city.</p>											
14. Dates of Meetings.	<p>1. Dates of the forthcoming PPMLC and TECF meetings were published as follows:</p> <table> <tr> <td><u>PPMLC</u></td> <td><u>TECF</u> (all am)</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>9 June 06</b></td> <td><b>9 March 06</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>12 October 06</b></td> <td><b>13 July 06</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>14 February 07</b></td> <td><b>10 November 06</b></td> </tr> </table>	<u>PPMLC</u>	<u>TECF</u> (all am)	<b>9 June 06</b>	<b>9 March 06</b>	<b>12 October 06</b>	<b>13 July 06</b>	<b>14 February 07</b>	<b>10 November 06</b>			
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Distribution:  
All Committee members.