

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

QHM 532/7

28 June 2006

Notes of the Port of Plymouth Marine Liaison Committee meeting held on Thursday 8 June 2006 in Naval Base Headquarters conference room

Present	Representing	User Group
Lt Cdr N Trathen RN	Deputy Queen's Harbour Master, Chairman	MOD
Mr D Curno	Royal Yachting Association	Leisure
Mr M Read	University of Plymouth	Maritime Archaeology
Mr P Gregory	South West Lakes Trust	Conservation
Mr P Patterson	BMIF(SW)	Marine Commerce
Mr J Howard	Maritime Plymouth	Marine Commerce
Ms L Heape	English Nature	Environment
Ms M Nightingale	Plymouth City Council	TECF
Captain T Charlesworth	Cattewater Harbour Commission	Marine Commerce
Mr T Selman	Tamar ANOB	

Item	Discussion and Decisions	Action
1. Introduction.	1. Cdr Hugo welcomed those present and explained that he would shortly need to depart for another meeting. He handed over the chair to Lt Cdr Trathen. DQHM welcomed Maeve Nightingale back from maternity leave.	
2. Apologies for Absence.	1. Apologies for absence had been received from Mr Lillie (PPSA), Mr Wiseman (Mount Edgcombe Estates), Mr Halliday (Duchy Estates), Mr Muelaner (National Trust), Mr Turner (Tamar Valley Protection Society), Mr Kester (PCC), Mr Knott (University of Plymouth), Mr Hutchings (Maker with Rame Parish Council), Sgt Cawrse (MOD Police).	
3. Notes of the previous meeting.	1. The notes of the meeting held 9 February 2006 were accepted with one minor change. Item 11 - Phoenix Wharf Landing Stage para. 2 Delete ... 'The new pontoons would reduce the width of navigable waters in the approaches to Sutton Lock and QAB.'	

<p>4. World Heritage Site Presentation</p>	<p>1. Mr Tim Selman outlined the scope of the Tamar Valley Mining Heritage Project and progress towards World Heritage Site status. This broad ranging project with associated funding (£6m for the Tamar) offers a host of opportunities. One of the first elements will be the building of a new Tamar Valley Centre in Gunislake. The importance of engaging with all stakeholders was discussed and the need for a rational management structure recognised.</p> <p>2. Mr Gregory advised that there were some redundant educational materials at Lopwell Dam that may be available from South West Lakes Trusts.</p> <p>3. Mr Paterson enquired if the plans included improvements to public access to the river in the upper reaches. Mr Selman explained that access was difficult due to the riverbanks being in private ownership and fishing rights. Discussions were underway with some of the stakeholders.</p> <p>4. September will see a major photographic exhibition in Royal William Yard at which the UNESCO ratification of the World Heritage Site will be formally launched.</p>	
<p>5. Matters Arising.</p>	<p>1. <u>Fishing/Diving Signage</u>. The design work had been completed and the signs would be installed in the next few weeks. The CO agreed to liaise with Mr Gregory to organise a press facility to promote the code of conduct.</p> <p>2. <u>Fan Shells</u>. Ms Heape reported that the MCS had recently conducted another dive survey of the area off the Hoe. Six shells were located some of which were believed to be new discoveries.</p> <p>3. <u>Phoenix Wharf Landing Stage</u>. Phoenix Wharf Landing Stage is back in use following temporary repairs. Capt Charlesworth (CHC) advised that he understood that the FEPA licence associated with the works for the new Commercial Wharf pontoons was being progressed. Mr Read raised the issue of archaeological assessments and commented that any dredging may be subject to archaeological controls.</p> <p>4. <u>Educational Events</u>. The CO reported that a meeting in March saw the continued development of an educational network. It was agreed that there were insufficient staff resources to repeat Splash 05, but existing activities could be better publicised. Means of achieving this were being investigated.</p>	<p>CO</p> <p>CO</p>

	<p>5. <u>TECF Website</u>. The CO advised that the look of the TECF website would be changed in the next few weeks. The home page would be changed to the standard PCC template with associated increased functionality. DQHM encouraged members to submit any relevant items to the CO in order to keep the website current. Mr Paterson (BMIF(SW)) noted that he had experienced difficulties in accessing the Management Plan on the website. The CO undertook to investigate.</p>	CO
6. SAC Matters.	<p>1. Miss Heape (EN) detailed the current planning applications and consents lodged with EN notes of which are attached. Mr Read commented on the plans for the inner basin in Millbay noting that some of the basin walls were listed by English Heritage.</p> <p>2. <u>Eel Grass</u>. She advised that a pilot study was underway to see if aerial photography could be used to monitor the extent and condition of the eel grass beds within Plymouth Sound.</p>	
7. TECF Management Plan.	<p>1. The CO announced that the new Management Plan had been completed and was due to be endorsed at the next TECF meeting. The next stage would be to draw up an annual work programme. This would seek to detail the specific focus for the forthcoming year's work. The CO welcomed any bids for particular projects or areas to be addressed for inclusion in the programme.</p>	All
8. Coastal Planning Study.	<p>1. Originally titled the Cumulative Effects Study. the project aims to develop guidance to statutory planning authorities to assist when considering applications that impinge on the SAC. The consultants have produced a draft report that will be refined at a forthcoming meeting.</p> <p>2. Mr Paterson asked if it would be available to the general public. The CO said that once the report was finalised it was likely that it would be published on the TECF website. Mr Read asked if the guidance would include maritime archaeological issues. CO advised that this was not within the scope of the current study.</p>	
9. Maritime Plymouth.	<p>1. Mr Howard (Maritime Plymouth) detailed ongoing work-strands including new training facilities at Coypool, a training centre at Piquet Barracks opening in the Autumn and the annual School's Challenge.</p> <p>2. He also advised that Mr Mike Gilbert was taking over as chairman of Maritime Plymouth.</p>	

	<p>3. Maritime Plymouth would be responding to the consultation for both the Marine Bill and the Ports Policy Review.</p>																	
10. Speed Limits in the Cattewater	<p>1. Capt Charlesworth reported that following consultation the speed limit for power driven vessel in the Cattewater would be reduced from 8 to 6 knots. The speed limit of 4 knots in the Sutton Channel would remain unchanged.</p> <p>2. The change would be implemented as part of the ongoing revision of the Dockyard Port of Plymouth Order.</p>	CHM/QHM																
11. Major Maritime Events 2006.	<p>1., Lt Cdr Trathen gave notice of the following events planned for 2006:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Start of Round Britian & Ireland Race</td> <td>11 Jun</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HM Naval Base South Yard Open Day</td> <td>11 Jun</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Port of Plymouth Regatta</td> <td>23 – 29 Jul</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Classic Boat Rally</td> <td>28 Jul – 1 Aug</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C1 Power Boat Grand Prix</td> <td>4 – 6 Aug</td> </tr> <tr> <td>National Fireworks Championships</td> <td>15 – 16 Aug</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Navy Days Rehearsal & Public Preview</td> <td>25 Aug</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Navy Days</td> <td>26 – 28 Aug</td> </tr> </table>	Start of Round Britian & Ireland Race	11 Jun	HM Naval Base South Yard Open Day	11 Jun	Port of Plymouth Regatta	23 – 29 Jul	Classic Boat Rally	28 Jul – 1 Aug	C1 Power Boat Grand Prix	4 – 6 Aug	National Fireworks Championships	15 – 16 Aug	Navy Days Rehearsal & Public Preview	25 Aug	Navy Days	26 – 28 Aug	
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12. Any Other Business.	<p>1. <u>Tombstoning/Swimming from landing stages</u>. It was reported that the City Boat Master was meeting with the Community Police Officer to discuss the continued problem of a troublesome group of young children tombstoning and swimming from the jetties/wall in the Hoe/ Barbican area.</p> <p>2. <u>Fuel Barge</u>. Capt Charlesworth reported the imminent arrival of a new fuel barge in port to provide a commercial bunkering service following the withdrawal of the Humber Endeavour.</p> <p>3. <u>Jet Skis</u>. Jet Skis had been reported proceeding at full speed through bathing areas. DQHM advised that the MDP would respond to timely reports provided security commitments allowed. Capt Charlesworth added that jet skis often had a registration number, if noted this could be used to trace the owner and appropriate action could be taken or guidance issued.</p> <p>4. <u>Abandoned vessels</u>. Mr Howard commented on 2 abandoned vessels on the Tamar, one at Saltash Passage and one on Saltash Town Pier. DQHM noted that neither vessel constituted a significant hazard to navigation and as the vessels were on the foreshore responsibility lay with</p>																	

	<p>the local authorities. It was understood that Caradon DC had traced the owner of the hulk on the Town Pier and were waiting for it to be removed. DQHM undertook to obtain an update from the City Boat Master regarding the vessel on the hard at Saltash Passage.</p> <p>5. <u>Local Notice to Mariners</u>. Mr Paterson asked if there had been any statistical analysis following the suspension of the postal distribution of LNTMs. His feedback was that many preferred the postal copies. DQHM stated that no evidence had been received indicating a lack of information and it was not intended to revert to hard copies. However establishing an e-mail distribution was being investigated.</p> <p>6. <u>Marine Archaeology</u>. Mr Read gave a short brief on the consultation requirements. He advised that under the Harbour Works Regulations English Heritage should be consulted to advise on marine archaeology issues. He also distributed reports (attached) on surveys conducted off Drakes Island and in the Cattewater and advised that a seminar was being held at the University in mid September.</p> <p>7. <u>Diving Representative</u>. Mr Gregory offered to represent the recreational diving fraternity at future meetings. DQHM advised that he would have to check the Terms of Reference as he believed the recreation representative posts were all allocated.</p>	<p>DQHM</p> <p>DQHM</p> <p>DQHM</p>								
<p>14. Dates of Meetings.</p>	<p>1. Dates of the forthcoming PPMLC and TECF meetings were published as follows:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td><u>PPMLC</u></td> <td><u>TECF</u> (all am)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12 October 06</td> <td>13 July 06</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15 February 07</td> <td>9 November 06</td> </tr> <tr> <td>14 June 07</td> <td>15 March 07</td> </tr> </table>	<u>PPMLC</u>	<u>TECF</u> (all am)	12 October 06	13 July 06	15 February 07	9 November 06	14 June 07	15 March 07	
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Distribution:
All Committee members.