

Ilfracombe Harbour Community Forum

Minutes of Meeting 10.10.19 Started at 19.05

1. Lawrence welcomed those present and apologised for it being on a Thursday which clashed with other meetings and RNLI training but was pleased to see a RNLI representative present. Thanked Kevin for the use of his Skittle Alley

2. Apologies: Andrew Bengey, RNLI; Ben Bengey, RNLI; Leigh Hanks, RNLI; Stuart Carpenter, Passenger Boats; Daryl Furnston, IDTA; Chris Tappendon, IDTA; Maggs Ashton, Ilfracombe Sub Aqua Club; SA Ilfracombe Sub Aqua Club; Paul Crabb, Ilfracombe Town Council; Geoff Fowler, Harbour Board Chair.

PRESENT. Lawrence Raybone, Chair; Dudley Jenkins, Vice Chair, Secretary and TIC ; Georgina Carlo-Paat, Harbourmaster; Chris Wallis, RNLI; Bert Gear, Ilfracombe Town Council; Wayne Thomas, Combe Martin Sea Angling Club; Kevin Prideaux, Pub Licensees; Carol Chapple, Lantern Court; June Williams, Ilfracombe Yacht Club; John Barbeary, Charter Boats; Steve Pugsley, Harbour Shop Traders; Dave Hutchings, Ilfracombe Sea Safari; Andrew Wilson, NDC Surveyor; Reporting on the Water Sports Centre ;

3. Minutes and matters arising: Minutes approved CC and seconded BG.

4. **Harbour Master's update:** George thanked Carol for her raffle raising £300 for the Wave Shark.

AONB has granted money to George. Crane Base has now been constructed, The Royal Marines Association have offered to build the shark cage and presently looking at this. Still looking for more funding.

Proposed long term cost-saving Harbour improvements by the use of black composites hand rails and ladders for harbour with photo celled top step to illuminate the ladders at night. Old Quay Head and Cove fenders. South Pier to get 2 extra landing stages and one at Quay Head steps to relieve congestion at low tides. Extra bin for Marine Drive by car park sign.

NDC have approved new HD CCTV linked to Barnstaple with a mini hub in the harbour. This will take time to implement fully but will provide far better surveillance coverage and detail.

Herring Gulls: A fresh quote for the introduction of Hawks to deter the during the nesting season early next year is expected soon. Funding towards this from any organisation or individual would be appreciated. Awaiting details of the shortfall of funds.

Boats out weekend 2nd & 3rd November. 3 Boats not coming out this winter. The mooring chains are to be raised from the sand and up to 2m or in some places 3m of sand removed to assist the draining in Broad Street areas. This would normally be done naturally by the tide but wasn't last winter with the result that even more sand was deposited in the summer. DOES ANYBODY WANT A LOAD OF FREE SAND?

GCP cancelled the summer MV Rotterdam cruise ship due to the very low tides that would have made it very difficult to get passengers safely off loaded. Because of my actions Inter Cruises are fully supporting Ilfracombe as a stopover point for cruise ships. There are 2 cruise ships at present planned for 2020.

Suggested locations required locally for cream teas and other local attractions for the passengers. A tour could possibly be arranged for the cruise ship crew possibly including Quad Bikes, shooting, horse riding or other ideas (to save them from going stir crazy.)

AOB North Devon Council's harbour toilets were steam cleaned at a cost of £325. The Great British Public really showed their appreciation by trashing the toilets an hour later. Toilet seats, to meet legal requirements cost £200 to replace. A charge for use was discussed and DJ suggested a £1 charge which would not be off-putting to holidaymakers, who would make sure that all their family got in for the £1 spend. It would be a charge not to make money but help towards the cleaning and may deter the small minded vandals.

Does anybody know the parents of a blond teenager who likes spending time in the harbour on the boats. He has been photographed. This was a question brought up by an attendee but not discussed any further.

Dive Club: A problem has been raised by the dive club because of an EU ruling banning the use of red diesel for pleasure use. The dive club needs to use white and the harbour has no facilities for providing such a commodity except at a very high installation cost to the harbour with very little return. Alternatives are being looked into. (PC who was unable to attend, e-mailed some possible solutions on the night.)

Water Sports Centre. Andrew Wilson NDC spoke about the present proposals for the Water Sports Centre. They are looking into using the Cove as a possible and cheaper site option, though Larkstone is still the preferred option. There will need to be a designated waters ports area at the harbour, and all the water needs managing. There are many points for and against both venues. The deficit will be crucial in the calculation. The ultimate goal is to **have a water sports centre**. There are no major restraints on the grant but final decision is needed soon. All want it to go ahead. AW. was vigorously questioned about the finance for the scheme by DH. DJ as Secretary was completely confused by the answers given by AW in which he appeared to contradict his statements! At this point due to the use of the skittle alley at 8 o'clock there was no further opportunity for clarification.

Meeting closed 8.00pm with the exception below which DJ promised to look into so that there could be no further delay to the skittles.

Date of next meeting Tuesday 14th January 2020

NOTE: From the minutes of 10.7.19 complaint about ticket touting on the harbour approaches.

DH noted that the 'complaint' was in fact a question from a holiday maker who had not actually experienced this at Ilfracombe as he had not been to the Harbour due to having been 'bombarded by ticket sellers' at other Harbours. Once the PSPO was explained he went on to book tickets with the TIC and then came down to the Harbour. He did not return to the TIC so no further follow up as to his experience on the Harbour can be added. **DJ** the statement above I have ascertained to be correct and this correction is duly noted. Unfortunately a local TIC volunteer on a one and only visit last summer to the harbour with family and friends from Cornwall was approached on quay road right outside the Pier Inn by somebody from the Ilfracombe Princess in violation of the PSPO so all was not as it should have been on this occasion. I have no proof that this was just an isolated case of over enthusiasm. This will be discussed at the next Harbour Forum meeting Under **AOB** as due to the time constraints it could not be discussed at this meeting.