

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

QHM 532/7

12 February 2018

**NOTES OF THE PORT OF PLYMOUTH MARINE LIAISON COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON
 THURSDAY 8 FEBRUARY 2018
 CHARTER ROOM, GUILDHALL, PLYMOUTH**

Present	Representing	User Group
Mr C Necker	Queen's Harbour Master	Harbour Authority
Mr N Trathen	Deputy Queen's Harbour Master	Harbour Authority
Mr A Jones	MOD (QHM)	Harbour Authority
Ms B Siddons	Natural Infrastructure Officer	Council
Mr M Goble	PCC Pier Master	Council
Mr R Allan	Cattewater Harbour Commissioners	Harbour Authority
Ms K Butler	RNLI	Navigation and Rescue
Mr S Crayford	RNLI	Navigation and Rescue
Mr S Hannaford	RNLI	Navigation and Rescue
Mr H Quinlivan	RNLI (Volunteer)	Navigation and Rescue
Mr M Wood	RYA	Recreation
Ms S Beddingham	Marine Management Organisation	Nature Conservation
Ms C Smith	Devon Wildlife Trust	Nature Conservation
Mr C Turner	Tamar Protection Society	Nature Conservation
Mr C Bush	Mayflower Marina	Marine Commerce
Mr M Peonides	Plymouth Boat Trips	Marine Commerce
Mr R Leithall	Bere Ferrers Parish Council	Parish Council
Mr K Banks	Millbrook Lake Mooring Assoc.	Moorings
Mr J Lowther	Plymouth University	Research
Mr K Fraser	Plymouth University	Research
Lt Col Neil Wraith	1 AGRM	Water User
Mr B Grose	Port of Plymouth Canoeing Assoc.	Water User

Item	Discussion and Decisions	Action
1. Introduction	QHM welcomed everyone and thanked Plymouth City Council for hosting the meeting. QHM asked all present to introduce themselves.	
2. Apologies	Apologies for absence were received from: Mrs K Curry (PCC/NIO), Ms K Deeney (PCC), Capt. T Charlesworth (CHC), Mrs A Gall (Natural England), Inspt. A Micallef (MDP Marine Unit), Dr K Latham (Calstock PC), Mr Graham Reed (Bere Ferrers PC), Mr J Roe (Recreational Angling).	
3. Notes of the previous meeting	The notes of the previous meeting held on 12 October 2017 were accepted as a true record of the meeting with one correction: Ms K Fartham should read Ms K Fortnam	

Item	Discussion and Decisions	Action
4. Matters arising	<p>10a. <u>Greater use of social media linking to events on the water:</u> QHM unable to have dedicated social media access however will investigate usage of existing account (HMNB/PCC etc.).</p> <p>Update 8/6/17: progress has been made; two PLNTM have been published via the TECF Twitter page and various group Facebook accounts. DQ requested any organisation with relevant social media accounts (Twitter/Facebook) that would be prepared to post/share safety/water events information to forward contact details of their editor to him. A distribution list would then be formalised to ease the quick dissemination of information.</p> <p>Update 12/10/17: QHM requested some use statistics of current social media (re-tweets etc.) as way of establishing the coverage obtained so far.</p> <p>Update 08/02/18: QHM stated that, although it is still early days, social media is being used to good effect to deliver important messages to the waterborne community and encouraged its continued use. NIO EMS provided an update (see Para 8e).</p> <p><u>Complete</u></p> <p>MMO will explore the possibility of digital formats for the marine plans and inclusion on electronic charting.</p> <p>Update 8/6/17: No MMO representative.</p> <p>Update 12/10/17: No MMO representative. NIO requested to obtain an update and encourage attendance.</p> <p>Update 08/02/18: Ms Beddingham (MMO) agreed to request an update from the relevant team.</p> <p><u>Action Ongoing</u></p> <p>6. <u>Review of bathing water quality:</u> NIO awaiting response from Environmental Health regarding improved notification system.</p> <p>Update 12/10/17: System now up and running however there is no auto trigger. Information is promulgated on the internet which will be placed on TECF website and social media (manually).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All requested to contact Ms Beth Siddons if they would like to be added to an email distribution list. <p><u>Action</u></p> <p>RNLI informed the group that they understand they receive an email direct from EA. Action: to discuss further with NIO to determine whether TECF can receive direct communications in future.</p> <p>Update 08/02/18: NIO and PCC public health are on the list, TECF will retweet notifications regarding bathing water quality.</p> <p><u>Complete</u></p> <p>7c. Further discussion regarding the location of public defibrillators. It would be useful to obtain a map of locations; Mr C Bush (Mayflower Marina) will contact the South West Ambulance Trust for information.</p>	<p>MMO</p> <p>All</p>

Item	Discussion and Decisions	Action
	<p>Update 12/10/17: Mr Bush has collated a number of sources of defibrillator locations within easy access of the water. Most establishments are happy to advertise and some can be found on http://www.heartswell.org.uk and https://www.swast.nhs.uk.</p> <p>Action on NIO to share the information and look into options of keeping it updated, NIO informed that it had been raised with PCC Public Health to promote registration.</p> <p>Update 08/02/18: All information collated by Mr Bush has been distributed by NIO as requested. The action regarding keeping the information updated was discussed further. The committee agreed that this would not be practical and that the two named websites above were the best source for up to date information in the future.</p> <p><u>Complete</u></p> <p>8f. <u>Slipway Audit</u>: comment from Mr K Banks regarding safety of EA owned Millbrook Lake slip. It has been deemed a safety hazard due to proximity to an outflow pipe however no signage is present. NE to investigate.</p> <p>Update 8/6/17: EA have been in contact with Mr Banks.</p> <p>Update 12/10/17: Mr Banks nor EA present.</p> <p>Update 08/02/18: Mr Banks informed PPMLC members that EA have updated the signage. However, he still feels that the wording is ambiguous and could lead to safety concerns.</p> <p>NIO will request an update from EA, plus attempt to reinvigorate their attendance at future meetings.</p> <p><u>Action</u></p> <p>5b. <u>Canoeing and Paddlesports</u>: Mr Grose was requested to distribute Water Users Guide to relevant shops to improve knowledge of Plymouth port amongst small craft users.</p> <p><u>Complete</u></p> <p>6a. <u>Port Safety Meetings</u>: The RNLI have assessed that these meeting are no longer required and that safety issues can be satisfactorily addressed through the PPMLC.</p> <p>Action on RNLI to determine whether additional attendees may be required.</p> <p>Update 08/02/18: RNLI will confirm; consideration is being given to whether the Royal Life Saving Society are potential attendees.</p> <p><u>Action</u></p> <p>7a. <u>Information panels</u>: Five areas have been selected for the pilot – Saltash Passage North, Ferry House Inn, Mutton Cove, Richmond Walk, Arnolds Point</p> <p>A sample panel will be available for viewing at a future meeting once the art work had been completed.</p> <p>Update 08/02/18: NIO presented a sample of the information panel – further information is at para 8b.</p> <p><u>Complete</u></p> <p>7b. <u>Crab tiling survey</u>: Drone survey has been completed and results are awaited, this will highlight pressure points.</p>	<p>NIO</p> <p>RNLI</p> <p>NE/NIO</p>

Item	Discussion and Decisions	Action
	<p>Update 08/02/18: Survey complete, report awaited <u>Action</u></p> <p>12a. Calstock Parish Council: Dr Latham discussed the EA plans to breach the Bund north of Calstock as a flood risk measure. Consultation is expected in Nov '17. DQHM will raise concerns to TECF. Update 08/02/18: The plans were raised at TECF Nov 17. Mr Crowe (NE) facilitated consultative meetings with Calstock residents. Calstock Parish Council content that appropriate consultation is taking place. <u>Complete</u></p> <p>12b. Green-Blue: Ms Fortnam discussed the support being given to PCC with the slipway audit and codes of conduct. All to distribute Green-Blue leaflets. <u>Complete</u></p> <p>12c. Sutton Harbour: Capt Charlesworth on behalf of Mr P Bromley – Advised that Draft Harbour directions have been produced to bring byelaws into one place. Copies would be forwarded to members of the Port User Group for feedback before being opened up for public consultation. Update 08/02/18: Documentation for consultation has been sent to Port User Group members by Sutton Harbour. Mr Bromley unable to attend and has asked for any feedback to be forwarded direct to him. <u>Action</u></p>	All/ Mr Bromley
5. Presentations	<p>1 Assault Group Royal Marines (1AGRM) – Lt Col Neil Wraith presented on the work and training of 1AGRM with specific content regarding Plymouth.</p> <p>QHM gave an overview of his role as an independent Harbour Authority and the close dialogue which is shared between 1AGRM and both Port Control Stations.</p>	
6. Plymouth Water Safety Update	<p>Mr Crayford gave an overview of current RNLI work.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hand-outs for this spring/summer safety campaign will be available at June meeting <u>Action</u> <p>Mr C Turner gave an overview of RNLI callouts (5yr period):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o To vessels- 541 o Mechanical breakdown- 303 o People in trouble- 250 o Cut-off by tide- 63 o People missing- 27 o People injured- 84 o False alarms- 152 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - RNLI work focuses on education and response inc. school visits. <p>QHM queried whether “on-the-water” education was possible?</p>	RNLI

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr Turner explained how there were not enough assets to support preventative launches as previous attempts have been met with limited success; - An “advice on board” service is available at boat owners request; - RNLI will look to make an asset available for education during programmed events eg. National Firework Championships <p><u>Action</u></p>	RNLI/DQHM
7. MMO Matters	<p>Ms Bedingham presented an update on Marine Planning on behalf of Neal Gray: The MMO is now actively engaged in Iteration 2 processing, the Visions and Options for the remaining plan areas. The SW area plan is being considered at three regional workshops:</p> <p>6th March – Newquay 7th March – Plymouth 8th March – Weston-Super-Mare</p> <p>Places are filling up rapidly. Weston is now full, though there are a limited number of spaces left for the Plymouth and Newquay events.</p> <p>The workshops themselves will support and lead onto the online consultation which considers a number of preferred options for identified issues and opportunities. This consultation runs from 29 Jan to 29 Mar and can be accessed through the above link. It is recommend that participants in the workshops familiarise themselves with the online content before attending the workshop.</p> <p>With regards the digital output of the marine plan, this is proceeding on course. It is currently in a ‘discovery’ phase which will continue until Mar 2018. This includes analysing user research findings, building a list of user needs, building the future vision, and developing a content strategy. If anyone would like to be involved in the project, this can be requested by emailing the planning team at Planning@marinemanagement.org.uk.</p> <p><u>Action</u></p> <p>Ms Beddingham also outlined some complaints and possible contentious issues the MMO are currently facing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Re. Cattewater/Yacht Haven dredging: reports have been received regarding disposal in the incorrect place, this has been checked and there is no evidence to suggest this is the case. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o PCO informed PPMLC members that the UKHO have now charted the new “Plymouth Deep” disposal site. - Boston’s Boatyard: the current application may prove contentious. 	All

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8. EMS Recreational Impacts Project	<p>a. Ms Siddons highlighted the current IFCA consultations on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wrasse fisheries and potting - Potting - Net fisheries <p>b. Information panels:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NIO(EMS) presented a “proof” information panel, action placed on all to provide comment by 22 Feb 2018 for new revision prior to TECF. <p><u>Action</u></p> <p>c. Crab tiling survey:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Drone survey is complete, awaiting report. <p>d. Website:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A revised TECF website is currently under construction. <p>e. Social Media</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NIO(EMS) gave an overview of Twitter statistics and urged all to retweet and follow where available. 	All
9. TECF matters	<p>NIO presented her report (attached at Annex A).</p> <p>QHM raised the ongoing initiative by local MP Luke Pollard to designate Plymouth as a “National Marine Park” and the forthcoming workshop being held on 1 Mar 18. QHM highlighted the current governance in place for managing the Tamar Estuaries Marine Protected Area and possible conflicts of interest. As a means of avoiding unnecessary duplication of management structures, QHM recommends replacing the non-Statutory “European Marine Site” designation with “National Marine Park” post the UK exit from the European Union. The addition of education/research and/or marine commerce sub-committees providing representation to PPMLC may be a positive supplement to the current management arrangements.</p>	
10. SAC matters	DQHM presented NE report (attached at Annex B).	
11. QHM matters	<p>a. Water Safety & Incidents:</p> <p>Overview of FV Algrie grounding and £5000 fine and 4 month suspended sentence for captain.</p> <p>Overview of FV Solstice sinking with a loss of life: DQHM in discussions with insurers and MAIB re. reducing the height of the wreck to remove any hazard to surface shipping.</p> <p>b. Diving safety: QHM discussed PLNTM 019/18 highlighting areas where diving is prohibited areas following a number of incidents. Diving may be permitted for recognised diving organisation/operations subject to certain assurances being provided. Prior approval from QHM is required and can be obtained via the Port Safety Officer. The new arrangements have also been publicised in a recent article in the local newspapers.</p>	

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	<p>c. Dredging: Capt. Allan gave an overview of current dredging operations within the Cattewater. QHM will be completing a dredge campaign between 8-13 Mar 18, a PLNTM will be issued nearer the time.</p> <p>d. Dockyard Port of Plymouth Order: awaiting Parliamentary time. DQHM discussed the primary changes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Modernising content - Aligning rules and regulations with current COLREGS where applicable. - Introduction of a “moving haven” to safe guard large/sensitive movements. - Reduction of reporting length from 25m to 20m. <p>e. Water User Guide: QHM outlined the utility of the Water Users guide and requested updates for future editions. Action on all to promote distribution and request more copies if required. <u>Action</u></p> <p>f. Media Safety Campaign: QHM will be issuing a media statement highlight safety within the Port aiming to target the late May bank holiday. Action on all to provide any input for specific content. <u>Action</u></p>	<p>All</p> <p>All</p>								
12. Water events	The 2018 Water Events Diary (WED) can be found on the QHM website (www.ghm.mod.uk/plymouth/)									
12. Any other business	None									
13. Dates of next meetings	<p>Dates of the forthcoming PPMLC and TECF meetings were published as follows:</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;"><u>PPMLC</u></td> <td style="width: 50%;"><u>TECF</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1400 on 14 Jun 2018</td> <td>1015 on 8 Mar 2018</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1400 on 11 Oct 2018</td> <td>1015 on 12 Jul 2018</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1400 on 7 Feb 2019</td> <td>1015 on 8 Nov 2018</td> </tr> </table>	<u>PPMLC</u>	<u>TECF</u>	1400 on 14 Jun 2018	1015 on 8 Mar 2018	1400 on 11 Oct 2018	1015 on 12 Jul 2018	1400 on 7 Feb 2019	1015 on 8 Nov 2018	
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Distribution:
NBC, All Committee members

PPMLC Thurs 8 February 2018

8. TECF Matters: Report of TECF Matters by Natural Infrastructure Officer

a) National Marine Management and Marine Planning

No further meetings of the **National Steering Group** (NSG) for Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) have taken place.

In January 2018, DEFRA published [A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment](#), commonly referred to as the 25 Year Plan. There are a number of pledges directly relating to the marine environment, including:

- Reversing marine biodiversity loss & restoring it where possible
- Reducing plastic usage and preventing marine plastic litter
- Increasing the coverage of protected marine sites and better management of existing ones
- Reaching 'Good Environmental Status' in our seas whilst supporting sustainable marine industry
- Implementing a sustainable fisheries policy to replace the Common Fisheries Policy
- Protecting fish stocks to support maximum sustainable yield
- Tackling non-native, invasive species

There were also broader goals such as tackling climate change, pollution & clean waters, sustainability and flood risk. There is a useful ['Targets at a glance'](#) page online which summarises the main aims and objectives of the plan.

Marine Planning: The MMO will be running a series of workshops that will provide an opportunity to input towards the development of marine plans in the respective plan areas. The engagement will focus on:

- draft marine plan area visions
- draft options to address issues in each marine plan area
- the next steps in marine planning

The dates for the South West Marine Plan area are:

- Newquay: Tuesday 6 March 2018
- Plymouth: Wednesday 7 March 2018
- Weston-Super-Mare: Thursday 8 March 2018

You can register for the Plymouth workshop via Eventbrite [here](#).

Online, you can find:

- [Overview of the SW Plan to date](#)
- [Iteration 2 engagement surveys](#)

- [South West Full Vision document](#)

b) Plymouth and SW Devon Plan, Waterfront Vision and Local Greenspace Designations.

The Joint Local Plan is currently going through Examination in Public, with hearings planned until 22 March 2018. Information on the JLP examination, including dates on future hearings and updates on hearings completed, can be found [online](#).

c) Update on Biosecurity Plan

A final workshop was held in October for key stakeholders to refine The Tamar Estuaries Marine Biosecurity Plan ready for sign off. The revised draft was shared with TECF members and a final opportunity to provide amends or feedback was given at the November TECF meeting, with a deadline for comments of 2 January 2018. All comments have now been addressed and the final version of the Plan is pending final sign off from TECF. Once this is given, the Plan will be made available on the TECF website.

d) Developments

PLYMOUTH – To follow by email.

e) Forward Plan for PPMLC Briefing Sessions

It was agreed that it would be useful for PPMLC to receive a briefing from the various water users. A draft schedule is given below for discussion.

PPMLC	Proposed Speaker
1400 on 14 Jun 2018	Rob Price – Environment Agency Cornwall IFCA – Crab Tiling Survey (TBC)
1400 on 11 Oct 2018	Tbc

Beth Siddons
Natural Infrastructure Officer

Natural England Update

PPMLC Meeting 8th February 2018

Priority issues in the SAC and Tamar/Plymouth Focus Area

We have identified priority work areas based on our Condition Assessment of the SAC and Plymouth and the Tamar has been identified as one of 12 'Focus Areas' across Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly in which Natural England will focus effort. With partners we have recently been working on some of these issues including:

- Engagement and training for volunteers to manage and monitor the spread of Pacific oysters in the Yealm estuary, we ran training days last year on the Yealm and at Wembury and on 1st February this year we held another session on the Yealm. We have applied for funding to continue this work with volunteers in a joint project with South Devon AONB and Cornwall Wildlife Trust and are awaiting the outcome of the funding bid.
- Tamar biosecurity plan: last year this plan was developed with stakeholder input. A final opportunity to suggest amendments was provided at the November TECF meeting, with responses due by 2 January 2018. These amendments have now been incorporated and the final version is pending sign off from TECF. It is relevant to all water users in the Sound and estuaries and delivery of the plan will be monitored through TECF. Thank you to all who input so far.
- Natural England with other Statutory Nature Conservation Bodies has been holding an exhibition at the National Marine Aquarium about Marine Protected Areas, with a particular focus on Plymouth. Awareness raising about the marine environment is one of the key aims of our Tamar and Plymouth Focus Area. We recently produced a film about the reefs of Wembury <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=91RXaQ3NZug> and would appreciate your help to share it. We are working on a longer film about all the Marine Protected Areas around Plymouth.
- Working with the local authorities on the new local plans and in particular on developing mitigation lists for potential increases in disturbance from recreation within Plymouth Sound and Estuaries Special Area of Conservation and the Tamar Complex Special Protection Area.

Plymouth EMS and Tamar Estuary Sites MCZ Monitoring

Intertidal rocky shore monitoring 2016 – A draft report has been produced, the results will be shared when the report is published.

Intertidal habitat mapping – This 'biotope survey' of all the intertidal areas of the SAC was carried out by Ecospan Environmental Ltd in September. This will update our existing habitat maps and the data will be available through the MAGIC mapping website <http://www.magic.gov.uk/magicmap.aspx> . The report has not yet been produced.

Subtidal reef survey – This survey focused on the deeper (circalittoral) areas of reef within the SAC and was carried out by Natural England's monitoring team in July. Initial results show that the reefs are in favourable condition but angling debris was prevalent at some sites and the non-native

kelp Wakame was recorded on natural substrates showing that it has spread out of manmade environments. We hope to repeat the survey this summer.

Allis shad and smelt surveys – The Environment Agency carried out limited surveys of allis shad in the upper Tamar estuary last spring but there have been difficulties with access to the sites. We hope to be able to do some smelt monitoring this month and next. A report on the Allis shad work is available on request.

Environmental DNA migratory fish survey – As part of a national project we have recently collected water samples to analyse to try to detect small amounts of fish DNA at different points on the Tamar estuary. At the moment we are just trialling the method for these species but the idea is that we should be able to produce a list of species present in a water body from water samples.

Once published, reports can be accessed here <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/> but they will be available on request prior to that.

Coastal Access

The Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 aims to improve public access to, and enjoyment of, the coastline by creating a clear and consistent public rights along the coastline of open-air recreation on foot.

As we have the South West Coast Path in Devon and Cornwall, we are looking at where we can improve the existing route (bringing it more seaward where possible and practical). The Act includes provision of a 'coastal margin' of land between the route and mean low water (other than for excepted land such as houses and gardens), plus the ability to propose 'roll back' to parts of the trail subject to coastal erosion, making it easier to reposition the trail in future.

On the Cornish side of Plymouth Sound the route is unlikely to change from the existing South West Coast Path route, other than where the route need to be altered due to erosion. On the Devon side, a meeting with Plymouth City Council is planned for 13th February, letters will be sent to affected landowners from March onwards.

Angela Gall, Marine Lead Adviser

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