

**Queen's Harbour Master Plymouth**

Longroom House  
RM Barracks  
Stonehouse  
Plymouth PL1 3RT

QHM/532/3

18 March 2019

**NOTES OF THE TAMAR ESTUARIES CONSULTATIVE FORUM MEETING**

**HELD AT 1015 ON THU 14 MAR 2019**

**WARSPITE ROOM, COUNCIL HOUSE, PLYMOUTH**

<b><u>Present</u></b>	<b><u>Representing</u></b>
Mr C Necker	Queen's Harbour Master (Chairman)
Mr N Trathen	Deputy Queen's Harbour Master
Mrs K Curry	PCC and TECF Coordinator
Mr A Jones	QHM Port Conservancy Officer
Capt. T Charlesworth	Cattewater Harbour Commissioners
Mr R Allen	Cattewater Harbour Commissioners
Mr M Reynolds	ABP
Ms A Gall	Natural England
Ms A Willcocks	MMO
Ms S Wordley	MMO
Mr R Price	Environment Agency
Mr R English	South Devon AONB
Mr P Naylor	Wembury Marine Conservation Area Advisory Group
Ms F Crouch	Plymouth City Council
Ms R Smith	Plymouth City Council
Mr M Goble	PCC Piermaster
Ms P Buchan	Plymouth City Council
Mr G Wheeler	Plymouth City Council
Ms R Baker	Cornwall Council
Ms K Pritchard	Devon CC
Dr S Otway	DIO

<b>Item</b>	<b>Discussion and Decisions</b>	<b>Action</b>
1. Welcome and Introductions	Chairman welcomed everyone to the TECF Meeting and gave all present an opportunity to introduce themselves.	
2. Apologies for Absence	Apologies for absence had been received from: Cllr N Jury (WDBC), V Darwall (TV AONB), S Cadman (CIFCA), R Sekula (South Hams and West Devon Borough Council), Cllr P Saunders (DCC); S Gilbert (DMF)	
3. Agree Notes of the last meeting.	The notes of the last meeting held on 8 Nov 19 were accepted as a true record of the meeting.	
4. Matters Arising.	4.9b. <u>Wembury Reef Video</u> : There was an action placed on all TECF members to promote the Wembury Bay video. QHM highlighted the importance of using tools such as this as part of the ongoing education campaign to improve awareness of the features of the MPA.  <u>Complete</u>	
	8. <u>TECF officers report</u> : QHM outlined the importance of completing the annual survey, particularly as a method of demonstrating compliance against the Tamar Estuaries Management Plan. NIO currently missing 3 responses (emails have been sent), those involved are requested to respond before 30 Nov. A preliminary report was given by NIO and recorded at Para 8.  Update 14/03/19: all responses now received.  <u>Complete</u>	
	6. <u>Yonderberry Jetty Replacement Project</u>  Can the EA be given access to the sampling data obtained during the MMO Licence application?  Answer: Yes, via MMO. PCO to provide EA with DIO contact details.  <u>Complete</u>	
	7. <u>Finances for 2019/20</u>  QHM proposed that rather than hold contributions at the current level with likely large increase in a number of years, a small increase year on year would be more manageable. Discussion was held and this proposal was accepted by a majority.  A 2.5% increase was accepted. NIO to provide revised finance contribution list. Update 14/03/19: Covered under Agenda Item 7.  <u>Complete</u>	

	<p><u>9. Management Plan: Identification of issues for the next two years</u></p> <p>NIO and QHM briefed the outline delivery plan clarifying that the aim was not a complete rewrite of the existing plan, rather producing an addendum to capture any significant changes or new objectives/projects to extend the plan to 2021 following the Government Brexit outcome.</p> <p>NIO requested to include anything from the DEFRA 25yr plan Update:14/03/19: Covered under Agenda Item 9 and recorded at Para 9. <u>Complete</u></p>	
	<p><u>16. Devon Maritime Forum and Marine Plan Engagement</u></p> <p>TECF Members were asked to provide input into DMF and Marine Plan engagement. Subsequently it was decided that a presentation on DMF and its work would be beneficial. Ms Pritchard agreed, presentation given at TECF and recorded at Para 5. <u>Complete</u></p>	
	<p><u>19. Beach Rangers:</u> In response to a previous action, Mr Baker had agreed to give a presentation on the Beach Rangers project. <u>Complete</u></p>	
	<p><u>20.1 TECF Newsletter:</u> All TECF Members received a further request from NIO for TECF Newsletter content. <u>Action</u></p>	ALL
	<p><u>20.2</u> Members were requested to respond to DEFRA's national Glover Review (<a href="https://consult.defra.gov.uk/land-use/landscapes-review-call-for-evidence/">https://consult.defra.gov.uk/land-use/landscapes-review-call-for-evidence/</a>) <u>Complete</u></p>	
Presentations		
<p>5. Devon Maritime Forum and its Work</p>	<p>Ms Kirstie Pritchard gave a presentation on behalf of Mr Steve Gilbert who sent his apologies.</p> <p>The Devon Maritime Forum (DMF) strives to maintain a strategic voice on maritime issue throughout Devon and provides a partnership and networking opportunity.</p> <p>The DMF has approximately 750 members from 250 organisations with a steering group Inc. PCC, SWW, University of Plymouth, University of Exeter, Devon Wildlife Trust, Royal Haskoning.</p> <p>DMF provides three core services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Facilitate engagement (next event Sep 19)</li> <li>B. Collective representation</li> <li>C. Information and communication (Inc. monthly newsletter)</li> </ul>	

	<p>Additional services include project consultation.</p> <p>The forums current work focuses on “Blue Health and Blue Action” which aims to link to the DEFRA “Year of Green/Blue Action”.</p> <p><u>Future</u> The forum is actively looking for funding opportunities and looks to grow closer links with stakeholders (including TECF members) via the “Joint Sustainable Seas Strategy”.</p> <p>NIO to reinstate/ensure partnership.</p> <p><u>Action</u></p> <p><u>Question</u></p> <p>What is meant by “hard to reach Stakeholders”? Can you give an example?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Smaller business who perhaps don't have the time or funds to participate fully but are likely they have an important contribution to the forum's work</li> </ul>	<p>NIO</p>
<p>6. Marine Biological Association and Beach Rangers</p>	<p>Apologies were received from Mr Guy Baker; the MBA presentation will be re-scheduled.</p> <p><u>Action</u></p>	<p>NIO</p>
<p>Matters for Information and Action</p>		
<p>7. Finances for 2019/20 – confirmation of uplift</p>	<p>NIO presented the revised funding agreed at the last meeting.</p> <p>A number of comments were raised regarding uplifting the funding request and that some councils may be unable to meet this request fully.</p> <p>Additionally, Devon County Council raised that expenditure for the forthcoming year had already been agreed. To provide adequate notice in future years, an action was placed on NIO to release next years requests for the July meeting.</p> <p><u>Action</u></p> <p>It was stressed that the provision of evidence to document the work of TECF is seen as important to the statutory members. The results of the annual survey will be important to evidence the work done by the forum (see Para 8).</p>	<p>NIO</p>
<p>8. Annual survey 2016-2017</p>	<p>NIO(EMS) presented the preliminary findings from the annual survey. A report will follow.</p> <p>Particular attention was drawn to INNS, specifically Pacific Oysters.</p> <p>A large increase in coverage of Pacific Oysters at Cove Head has been observed (from “a few on the ropes” in 2002 to “covering the beach” in 2018).</p>	

	<p>NE advice is being readdressed to support management of such large accumulations. Suggestions are welcomed for potential solutions.</p> <p>Question from DIO: Can toxicology be obtained to ascertain whether they are suitable for human consumption?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Possibly, EA can provide water quality results however Food Standards Agency complete flesh analysis.</li> </ul> <p>Question from QHM: Can the area be contained rather than attempting removal?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Containment is difficult as they spawn during water temperature rise.</li> </ul> <p>Comment/suggestion from AONB: Studies and lessons learned from France show that large populations could introduce a public health concern due to damage to vessels and feet.</p> <p>Comment from CHC: There is an MBA led project looking to stop spread within the Cattewater.</p> <p>NE to provide further advice – What would NE like TECF to do to help?</p> <p><u>Action</u></p> <p>Question regarding Wrasse Potting? Is this seen as a growing/high risk through the annual survey?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Wrasse potting is an IFCA project. A limited number of commercial operators have licences and their impact is being monitored. Request for comment from IFCAs.</li> </ul> <p><u>Action</u></p>	<p>NE</p> <p>D&amp;S IFCA / Cornwall IFCA</p>
<p>9. Draft Management Plan Extension</p>	<p>NIO briefed the outline delivery plan which can be found at Annex <u>A</u></p> <p>QHM thanked NIO for her hard work in producing the revision and asked all member to provide feedback, specifically with evidence on the appendices.</p> <p><u>Action</u></p>	<p>ALL</p>
<p>10. National Marine Park, feedback from workshop</p>	<p>NIO presented an overview of the findings discussed at the NMP workshop held in February which is presented at Annex B.</p> <p>PCC highlighted that the prospectus is not formal consultation but an initial engagement opportunity. The workshops concluded that stakeholders felt that the initial timeline was unachievable and needed addressing. Nio agreed that more work was required to deliver some workable ideas and that formal consultation with relevant authorities was required.</p> <p><u>Action</u></p>	<p>NIO</p>

<p>11. Advanced moorings project update</p>	<p>PCO updated members on the Eco/Advanced Mooring project in Cawsand Bay.</p> <p>PCO highlighted the change in nomenclature from Eco-Friendly Moorings (EFM) to Advanced Mooring Systems (AMS) to reflect that the mooring solution is not only for environmental purposes but are a viable mooring solution in their own right.</p> <p>The Cawsand project is now in its 3<sup>rd</sup> stage:</p> <p>1<sup>st</sup> stage – test the mooring risers with additional buoyancy (part funded by TECF and presented at last meeting by Mr Parry – CSI/NMA).</p> <p>2<sup>nd</sup> stage – test installation of helical screw solution – NE project.</p> <p>3<sup>rd</sup> stage – combine stage 1 &amp; 2 (NMA lead, funded by MCS and Princess yachts, supported by TECF and NE) – currently being tested with two moorings now installed and addressing initial issues including contractual issues with the installer.</p> <p>A further three moorings are due to be installed once issues have been resolved. It is hoped that this can be achieved before the seagrass growing season (spring) to enable a meaningful survey.</p>	
<p>12. TECF officers report</p>	<p>NIO presented her report which is given in Annex C.</p> <p><u>3a. Marine Litter:</u> A “sea bin” will be installed in QAB marina and monitored by Plymouth University. It is hoped that if it is effective more can be installed. NIO(EMS) asked for assistance in identifying locations; QHM suggested PPMLC members should be consulted for information. <u>Action</u></p> <p><u>3.f. Newsletter:</u> The reinvigorated TECF newsletter will be published three times a year. Content should be sent to <a href="mailto:coastal@plymouth.gov.uk">coastal@plymouth.gov.uk</a>. <u>Action</u></p> <p>NIO(EMS) to provide guidance and possible themes. <u>Action</u></p> <p><u>7 Water users leaflet:</u> Any changes, additions or updates to the water user leaflet are requested before 31 Mar 19. <u>Action</u></p> <p><u>8. Developments:</u> Bostons Boat Yard Development: Concern raised by Cattewater Harbour Master regarding a quay wall close to the development. The wall is likely to fall down in due course and will be less disruptive to sort now rather than later. MMO to investigate and advise. <u>Action</u></p>	<p>NIO(EMS)</p> <p>NIO (EMS)</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>MMO</p>
<p>13. Nature conservation Officers Report</p>	<p>Mrs Gall presented Natural England’s update which is given in Annex D</p>	

14. Environment Agency Update	Mr Price presented Environmental Agency update which is given in Annex E.	
15. MMO Update	<p>i) Marine Planning</p> <p>Ms Willcocks gave an update on the current progress of the South West Marine Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 2020 strategic plan adoption,</li> <li>- Policies to be in place by spring, request to all members to respond to consultation process by 29 Mar 19 <u>Action</u></li> <li>- The MMO are working to improve the functionality of the MIS system.</li> </ul> <p>ii) Marine applications;</p> <p>No specific update at this time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CHC mentioned a small dredge campaign w/c 18/03/19.</li> <li>- DIO outlined the granting of the 10yr dredge and dispose licence for the Naval base. Also, Thanckes Jetty replacement is underway with construction due to complete Jan 2020, demolition of old jetty commences Feb 2020, in service Sept 2020.</li> </ul>	ALL
16. Matters brought forward from PPMLC	Nil	
17. Water Events	<p>The 2019 Water Events Diary (WED) can be found on the QHM website (<a href="http://www.royalnavy.mod.uk/qhm/plymouth/leisure-users/events-diary">www.royalnavy.mod.uk/qhm/plymouth/leisure-users/events-diary</a>)</p> <p>Pertinent events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Armed Forces Day – 29 Jun (Inc. sound closure)</li> <li>- Drakes Island Swim – 7 Jul</li> <li>- Breakwater swim – 4 Aug</li> <li>- Fastnet finish – 5-7 Aug</li> <li>- National Firework competition -14/15 Aug</li> </ul> <p>DQHM request information on any events planned for 2019. <u>Action</u></p>	All
18. Items for future meetings	Nil	
19. Any other business	<p><u>1. Wembury Advisory Group:</u></p> <p>Wembury MCA Advisory Group are keen to re-establish its's engagement and add to current e-mail circulation, including where people had slipped off inadvertently when data protection rules changed. The e-mail below can be used for people to request to be added to the distribution:</p>	

	<a href="mailto:mewstone.enterprises@gmail.com">mewstone.enterprises@gmail.com</a> <u>Action</u> <u>2. TV AONB:</u> The draft statutory management plan revision is now complete and has been submitted for approval. <u>3. National Firework Championships:</u> Cllr Buchan advised that guidance had been given to participants regarding removal of plastic from materials used.		ALL
21. Dates of Next Meetings	Dates of the forthcoming PPMLC and TECF meetings were published as follows:		
	<u>PPMLC</u> 1400 on 13 Jun 19 1400 on 10 Oct 19	<u>TECF</u> <b>1015 on 18 Jul 19 – <u>please note change of date of next meeting</u></b> <b>1015 on 14 Nov 19</b>	

Distribution: NBC, All Committee members



## **Annex A**



Draft Management  
Plan Two Year Exten:

## **Annex B**



National Marine  
Park: Feedback

## **Annex C**



NIO report

## **Annex D**



NE Update

## **Annex E**



EA Update