

MEETING	Aberdyfi Harbour Consultative Committee
DATE	12th March 2024
TITLE	Update on Harbour Management Matters
AUTHOR	Senior Harbours Officer

1. Introduction.

- 1.1 The Committee's main function is to consider, discuss and advise on matters relating to the management, safety and development of the Harbour and to receive Member's observations on matters relating to Aberdyfi Harbour.
- 1.2 The purpose of this report is to provide a brief update for the attention of the Committee on harbour matters for the period October 2023 to March 2024, in order to receive feedback from the members on safety matters and the operational matters of the Harbour.
- 1.3 The Harbour Committee's of Abermaw, Aberdyfi and Pwllheli were established under section 102(4) of the Local Government Act of 1972. The Porthmadog Harbour Committee is a statutory Harbour Committee, set up in accordance with Section 6(2) (a-j) of the Porthmadog Harbour Revision Order 1998.

2. Aberdyfi Moorings and Boat Registration.

- 2.1 Before the Easter period, the Harbourmaster and his assistant will undertake a survey of the river to determine the most suitable locations for the placement of the harbour moorings.
- 2.2 Customers wishing to have a harbour mooring or register their watercraft for the forthcoming season are expected to complete the online process promptly through the Cyngor Gwynedd website, once the appropriate fees have been confirmed. Thereafter, mooring customers should liaise with the Harbourmaster to confirm the position of their harbour mooring.
- 2.3 The Service looks forward to what it hopes will be a busy summer period this year and that harbour customers and visitors alike will enjoy the facilities provided by the new quayside.

3. Port Marine Safety Code.

- 3.1 The Port Marine Safety Code ('PMSC') sets out a national standard for every aspect of port marine safety. Its aim is to enhance safety for everyone who uses or works in the port marine environment. It applies to all Statutory Harbour Authorities.

The Code represents good practice as recognised by a wide range of industry stakeholders and Cyngor Gwynedd understands that a failure to adhere to good practice may be indicative of a harbour authority being in breach of certain legal duties.

- 3.2 The Service regularly reviews the Port Marine Safety Code for the harbours under its jurisdiction in order to remain in full compliance with the current requirements of the Code. As part of the review process, it is necessary to receive the comments and views of Consultative Committee Members on the suitability of the Port Marine Safety Code and to regularly receive observations on its contents, particularly with relevance to the harbour activities, navigational aids, suitability of by-laws, safety matters and general day to day work at Aberdyfi Harbour.

4. Staffing Matters.

- 4.1 The Assistant Harbourmaster Mr Oliver Simmons left employment with Cyngor Gwynedd last November, to commence a career with a private company involved in maritime survey work. The Service wish to thank Mr Simmons for his dedicated work at the harbour of Aberdyfi and wish him well in his new venture.
- 4.2 As this document is written, applications are to be invited shortly for the vacant position of Assistant Harbourmaster, with an appointment made following an interview process before the start of the busy season. In the interim, the Service can call upon staff based at the harbours of Abermaw and Porthmadog to assist with any work in the harbour of Aberdyfi if required.
- 4.3 To assist the Harbourmaster and his assistant with their work, a new permanent position has been advertised for a Beach Officer based at Barmouth harbour, to work along the beaches of the coastline between Barmouth and Aberdyfi. It is hoped to have the newly appointed officer in post before the start of the Easter period. As usual, seasonal beach staff will also be appointed to work on the beaches of Aberdyfi and Tywyn in time for the start of the busy summer period.

5. Financial Matters.

- 5.1 A brief summary of the harbour budget and current financial situation up to the end of the quarter will be provided by the Service Manager.
- 5.2 During the winter period it was necessary to commit financial resources for the following;
- Maintenance of navigational aids and beacons
 - Maintenance of harbour tools and equipment
 - Maintenance of Council moorings
 - Maintenance and operation of the of Harbour Powercat patrol vessel
 - Maintenance of lands and benches

5.3 Fees and Charges. 2024/25.

With regard to the prospective fees and charges for Aberdyfi Harbour together with the Powerboat and Personal Watercraft launching fees for 2024/2025 season, as on previous occasions, the Service intends to adjust the fees in line with the prevailing rate of inflation at the time. However, no decision has yet been made to confirm the level of fees to be applied next season.

6. **Harbourmasters Report.** The Harbourmaster at Aberdyfi will provide a summary of the Navigational and Operational matters undertaken and encountered during the period October 2023 - March 2024 inclusive, including maintenance issues. A copy of his report is attached.