

Pwyllgor Ymgynghorol Harbwr Pwllheli Harbour Consultative Committee

4 November 2008

Maritime Unit Report

1 - Navigation

- 1.1* On 11 August 2008, all the Navigational Aids in Pwllheli were inspected by an officer from Trinity House. The inspector reported that most of the navigational aids were in an acceptable condition which is very heartening compared to the critical report received by Trinity House following the inspection in 2007.

The special marker buoy for the sewerage discharge pipe of Hafan y Môr and also the Welsh Water special navigational aid opposite the beach at Marian y De needed maintenance.

- 1.2* It will be unavoidable that harbour staff will have to prepare and implement a maintenance programme in the harbour including a maintenance programme for navigational aids over the winter, since all the navigational aids located on the training branch require re-painting. It will have to be ensured once again that the depth boards and main slipways are included within the work programme.
- 1.3* The Coastal Defence Staff will undertake a hydrological survey of the marina basin and the navigation channel during October. Following a recent campaign, it appears that there is sufficient depth of water currently in the channel and the obstruction opposite the harbour office has reduced.

Although the entrance to the inner harbour has narrowed somewhat since the previous dredging campaign, it does not create an obstruction in this area. The Unit is assessing the efficiency of the temporary buoys regularly and they are re-located in their proper positions as required.

2 - Management of the Hafan/ Harbour

- 2.1* Prior to 1 April 2008, Hafan Pwllheli had been managed on behalf of the Council by the Yacht Haven Management Ltd company and since the opening of the Marina.
- 2.2* Subsequent to an independent assessment by an external company, it was recommended that the management of the Hafan Pwllheli should be internalised for the short-term and the Council would consider other options for the future.
- 2.3* Following the recommendation, the management of the Hafan has been internalised and the management transferred directly to Gwynedd Council since 1 April 2008. During the months to come, the Council will examine the possibilities of rectifying the management of Pwllheli Harbour to improve the effectiveness in future of the management of the harbour. It is foreseen that it will be possible to implement any changes in October 2009.

3 - Hafan Pwllheli Hoist

- 3.1* The Hafan hoist has been on the establishment from the start. The machine is essential for lifting and launching boats throughout the year for the Council's customers and the clients of local maritime clients. It would be impossible to operate the Hafan without the hoist.

- 3.2 It has become apparent over the last months that there is a need to consider purchasing a new hoist to ensure that the service offered by the Hafan continues seamlessly and without creating inconvenience for local businesses and the Council's clients.
- 3.3 The Maritime Unit has invited estimates for a new hoist from three responsible companies, namely two British companies and one Italian company.
The initial prices are as follows:-

Company 1 = £132,590
Company 2 = £108,000
Company 3 = £134,000

There is a need for a notice of a minimum of 40 weeks before the hoist can be received on site from any of the three companies and therefore it is unavoidable that the Maritime Unit must identify funding as soon as possible to purchase the new hoist for Hafan Pwllheli by 2009.

4 – Events

- 4.1 A large number of major events had been held in Pwllheli during 2008. Members of the Sailing Club have been very industrious throughout the season and we are all grateful to volunteers and officers for their commitment and who ensured that the events were successful and memorable.
- 4.2 One of the highlights of the summer was the competition event for the Optimist class. Approximately ninety power boats assisted with safety on the water and there was intensive use of the slipway during the event. Over 400 young competitors participated.
- 4.3 Once again Pwllheli beach and Hafan Pwllheli won the European Blue Flag Award in 2008 and Hafan Pwllheli won the Five Anchors Award. Glandon beach won the Green Coast award in 2008 and our application for the Rural Beach Award was also successful.

The Maritime Unit will be submitting an application to Keep Wales Tidy in November for the beach awards for 2008 although there is a possibility that some nearby beaches will lose their status as Award Beaches since it appears that the results of the bathing water quality of some places had not reached the required standard. All the results for bathing water quality will be confirmed by the Environment Agency before Christmas.

- 4.4 The Wakestock event was held in the harbour on the 4th, 5th and 6th of July 2008. The Food Festival was held on Glandon peninsula on 7th and 8th June and once again this year, the festival was very successful.

In 2009, it is understood that the Food Festival will be held during the Bank Holiday weekend in May (not confirmed) and the Wakestock festival will be held on the 10th, 11th and 12th of July.

5 – Harbour Statistics

- 5.1 It is noted in the appendix that **871** Personal water crafts had been registered with Gwynedd Council during 2008. This is much fewer compared with the numbers registered in 2006, which was **337** fewer. It is noted that the majority of Personal Water crafts had been registered through the maritime office at Pwllheli (**403**) with only **68** Personal Water Crafts registered in the harbour office.
- 5.2 As noted in the table, **147** power boats were registered in Pwllheli harbour and this year **65** power boats were registered at Abersoch beach. The registration fee for Power Boats and Personal Water

Crafts is **£15.00** by post, or **£20.00** on the beach or the harbour office. The launching fee is **£12.00** per day or **£130.00** for the season (postal application.)

- 5.3 It is noted from the table in the appendix that there were **148** boats on the outer harbour moorings this year which is substantially fewer than the numbers in 2007. This is a cause for concern particularly considering the large number of customers on the waiting list for the Hafan.

There are no vacant pontoon moorings in the Hafan and there are **412** boats on pontoon moorings. In the outer harbour, **30%** (44 vessels) of boats are power boats, with **70%** (104 vessels) being sailing boats. In the Hafan, **48%** (197 vessels) of the boats are power boats, with **52%** (214 vessels) sailing boats, which is the same number as in 2007.

- 5.4 Presently there are **377** boats on the waiting list for moorings in the Marina. In accordance with the Council's rules, every individual on the waiting list has paid a deposit of **£50.00** to ensure the application is genuine.

6 Analysis of Customer Questionnaire

- 6.1 The report on Customer opinion will be submitted to the Pwllheli Harbour Consultative Committee at its initial meeting in 2009.

7 Budgets

- 7.1 Attached, for Members' information, final budget report of the Pwllheli harbour and the Hafan for the **2007/08** financial year. Also appended are the expenditure budget and target incomes for all harbours and beaches for the **2008/09** year.

- 7.2 Much care will have to be taken to ensure that the service commits funding beyond the budget in the current financial year. All Harbour masters and the Harbours Maritime Officer are providing a detailed work programme for the autumn and winter in order to identify expenditure in Pwllheli harbour.

- 7.3 The income of the outer harbour for the **2008/09** financial year is **£118,250** and this had reached **£104,201** by the end of September, namely **£14,049** short of the target. The Hafan's target income this year is **£1,497,850**, and the income thus far has reached **£1,373,774** (end of August report) which is **£124,076** short of the target.

7.4 Inflation 2009/10

<i>Maritime</i>	Inflation	Additional Income
Hafan	4.95%	£74,290
Victoria Dock	5.39%	£5,180
Beaches	3.01%	£6,330
Harbours	3.96%	£11,180

It can be seen from the table above the inflation within the income targets of the Maritime Unit for the 2009/10 year. It will have to be ensured that all the income targets are achieved.