

<b>MEETING</b>	<b>Pwllheli Harbour Consultative Committee</b>
<b>DATE</b>	<b>15 October 2019</b>
<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Update on Harbour Management Matters</b>
<b>AUTHOR</b>	<b>Pwllheli Harbour Manager</b>

## 1. Operational Items

### Navigation

- 1.1 A detailed inspection will be carried out on the Pwllheli navigational aids by Trinity House Lighthouse Authority inspectors on October 14<sup>th</sup> 2019, we do not anticipate any problems at Pwllheli but we await their final report.
- 1.2 The Pwllheli Fairway Buoy will be changed for the winter Fairway Buoy which is slightly smaller in diameter to the summer version, the slightly smaller Buoy is able to cope better with adverse weather and as a consequence does not put as much strain on the ground tackle.
- 1.3 There are no “Notice to Mariners” notice currently in operation in Pwllheli Harbour.
- 1.4 New Weather station

The Weather station at Hafan Pwllheli has been unreliable in recent years and we have been struggling to obtain a replacement, after much research we have found out that there is only one company Worldwide that manufacture this type of equipment! The company “Davis” have gone through a process of up-grading all their systems recently and once completed will offer a new system which we will then purchase. Customers will then be able to obtain “Live Weather” data again from Hafan Pwllheli Web site.

### 1.5 Web Cam

We are currently installing four web cams at the Hafan, these four cameras will be linked to the Hafan website and will enable people to have access to live images of the Hafan and Harbour on their browser.

### 1.6 Broadband upgrade

The Wi Fi engineers working on improving the reception at the marina, we are also In the process of having BT to install a fibre Optic Super-Fast Broadband line to the marina, we hope that this will further enhance the reception and provide an alternative whereby customers may be able to operate some elements of their business from their vessels in Hafan Pwllheli.

## 1.7 Vessel powerboat and Jet ski Registration

A potential issue has been identified whereby vessels are being launched at the Hafan slipway without displaying the appropriate PW or PC stickers by the Park and Launch companies. A number of application forms are distributed at the start of the every season to the Park and Launch companies. Unfortunately the details returned to the Harbour Authority does not reflect all of the vessels being launched.

## 1.8 Fuel Quay – Self Service Unit/Red Diesel/White Diesel

The unit was installed in the third week of June, and has to date proved reliable and trouble free, customers to the Hafan/Harbour have welcomed the facility and are now able to refuel their vessels 24/7. The European Court has also ruled that the UK can no longer supply Red Diesel or marked Diesel, Hafan Pwllheli will now have to revert to supplying white diesel only at its fuel quay in the near future.

## 1.9 Automatic front lobby door

A new automatic door front door was fitted in May, this has improved the appearance of the front of the building as well as improving the safety to customers during strong winds, the old door could slam quite violently during these times.

## 2.0 Maintenance

2.1 **North Quay** - The maintenance of the North Quay is becoming more and more difficult in recent years, the Harbour does not have the surplus finance/manpower or the expertise in house to carry out the work required. The North Quay is a focal point for the town and as such needs to be maintained to a good standard. An alternative solution requires exploring in the future.

2.2 A list of standard work that will or has been completed at the Hafan is included within this report. Feedback from Committee members is requested on any additional work that will need to be considered and included in the work programme.

2.3 During this period, it was also necessary to commit financial resources for the following: -

- Additional Wi Fi antennas to improve reception Wi Fi Reception
- Fibre Optic Super-Fast Broadband
- Automatic front door
- Panting pontoon bridge
- Painting front of Building
- Grounds maintenance
- Travel Hoist Hydraulic ram/pipes/tyres
- Self-service back office controller on the Fuel Quay
- Additional electric and petrol Salvage pumps
- Fuel Quay fendering

### **3.0 Staffing Matters**

- 3.1 There are currently no vacant posts at Pwllheli, The total number of staff is eleven including one night security person from 'Draig Security'.
- 3.2 The seasonal fuel quay attendant post has ended on the 30<sup>th</sup> September. We do not anticipate that there will be a requirement in 2020 for a seasonal fuel quay attendant but we will be looking at employing a General Assistant/s for the 2020 season.

### **4.0 Financial Matters**

- 4.1 A financial report up to the end of October 2019 has been provided in Appendix 1.
- 4.2 Please note that the public finance accounting system differs from the commercial sector accounting system in that debit (prefixed '-') amounts actually represent positive amounts on the balance sheet.

### **5.0 Fees and Charges 2020/21**

- 5.1 With regard to the prospective fees and charges for Hafan Pwllheli and the Outer Harbour for 2020, the fees will be raised for the Hafan and Harbour by 2%.
- 5.2 The 5% surcharge for customers paying for annual berth by Direct Debit in the Hafan will fall in line with the Outer Harbour whereby customers will not be charged for using this facility.

### **6.0 Annual Harbour/Hafan Statistics etc.**

- 6.1 Details of the Hafan and Harbour statistics for 2019 are included in Appendix 2.
- 6.2 We have seen an increase in the number of customers taking up annual berths in 2019, in 2018 there were 291 vessels on annual berths and this year we have seen 299 take up a berth. The number of vessels classed as visiting vessels will be on par with 2018. 2018 saw 1310 visiting vessels and 2019 we have welcomed 1076 by the end of September 2019.
- 6.3 Harbour moorings have also seen a slight increase up from 55 in 2018 to 58 in 2019, mooring fees stayed as 2018 with no increase in fees in 2019, in real terms taking inflation into account fees were reduced by 3.1%
- 6.4 **Boat Hoist/Storage ashore** – The Hafan boat hoist seems to be steady but we can foresee that this may well slow down this winter when the boat storage area becomes full. There are two factors which have increased this problem. Firstly we have a number of vessels stored ashore which have not moved for a number of years, although the Hafan receives a monthly rent for the storage of these vessels it does not help the situation when the demand exceeds the space available! Secondly the new Pwllheli Lifeboat Station which will be completed in 2020/1 has reduced

approximately space for 10-12 vessels from the storage area.

6.5 **Fuel sales** - are consistent with 2018, with only a very slight decrease in diesel sales and a slight increase in petrol sales in 2019.

6.6 **Hafan/Harbour Accounts** – From the 1 April 2019 the accounting system within Hafan Pwllheli was transferred and centralised to Gwynedd Council's Finance department in Caernarfon, although we have had some minor issues to begin with our customers now seem to be familiar with the new system and it is now fully operational and working well.

## 7.0 **Events**

7.1 The British Dragon Association made use of the Plas Heli dock and pontoons for the launching/berthing and recovery of the Dragon fleet, approximately 32 Dragons took part in the event which was managed on the water by SCYC at Abersoch.

7.2 The bi-annual "Jester Challenge" started at Pwllheli, this is a single handed challenge to any person who has a vessel up to thirty feet and starts at Pwllheli to Balitmore Sothern Ireland approx. 15 vessels started this year's challenge.

## 8.0 **Other items**

8.1 **New RNLi Boathouse** - Work has started on the new Boat House which will house the New Shannon Class lifeboat has started with completion due in late 2020.

## 9.0 **Plas Heli**

9.1 The work of improving access to the traeth Glandon Beach and Plas Heli car parks etc has commenced and it anticipated that the works will have been completed early October