

MEETING	Porthmadog Harbour Consultative Committee
DATE	5th October 2021
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 Porthmadog 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 March 2021 to October 2021, in order to receive feedback from the members on safety matters and the operational matters of the Harbour.
- 1.3 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. The order provides that fifteen (15) members serve on the Porthmadog Harbour Consultative Committee. A comprehensive list of the groups and organisations represented on the Harbour committee can be seen in the Harbour Order.

2. Porthmadog Moorings and Boat Registration.

- 2.1 There has been 112 boats on annual moorings within the harbour of Porthmadog in 2021. This compares with 64 boats on moorings in 2020.
- 2.2 On the whole when comparing all Gwynedd Council Harbours, there has been an increase in the number of customers over the past year in all harbours. The increase in the number of vessels moored in the harbours reflects the gradual release of the Coronavirus lockdown restrictions in Wales.
- 2.3 This season the Service provided the opportunity for members of the public to register powered craft on-line through the Gwynedd Council Website.
- 2.4 748 Personal Watercraft (Jetskis) were registered on-line.
- 2.5 516 Powerboats were registered on-line.
- 2.6 In addition to the above figures, 1131 Personal Watercraft and Powerboats were registered on paper by persons visiting the various maritime offices across Gwynedd, providing a total of 2395 as the number of vessels registered.

3. Port Marine Safety Code.

- 3.1.1 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 Gwynedd Council understands that a failure to adhere to good practice may be indicative of a harbour authority being in breach of certain legal duties.

3.1.2 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 Porthmadog Harbour.

4. Staffing Matters.

The staffing level at the harbour of Porthmadog has remained unchanged since the previous report to the Committee, with the Harbourmaster Mr Malcolm Humphreys ably supported by a full-time harbour assistant Mr Richard Hughes. The Service is also able to call upon staff based at the harbours of Barmouth and Aberdyfi to assist with any work in the harbour of Porthmadog if required.

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 Principal Maritime Officer.

5.2 During this period it was necessary to commit financial resources for the following;

- Maintenance of navigational aids and beacons
- Inspection and maintenance of Council moorings
- Maintenance and operation of the of Harbour patrol vessel
- Maintenance of the vessel 'Dwyfor'. Investment to maintain the boat in order to meet the Code of Practice requirements and maintain lifting apparatus. The vessel is permanently located at Porthmadog harbour to facilitate the movement of navigation aids in the Porthmadog Channel.
- Maintenance of lands and benches

5.3 Fees and Charges. 2022/23.

With regard to the prospective fees and charges for Porthmadog Harbour together with the Powerboat and Personal Watercraft launching fees for 2022/2023 season, it is the intention of the service to adjust the fees in line with the rate of inflation. At this time the Service is yet to receive confirmation of the rates to be applied.

6. Harbourmasters Report. The Harbourmaster at Porthmadog will provide a summary of the Navigational and Operational matters undertaken and encountered during the period March 2021 - October 2021 inclusive, including maintenance issues. A copy of his report is attached.

