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| MEETING | Porthmadog Harbour Consultative Committee |
| DATE | 11th October 2022 |
| 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 2022 to September 2022, 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.
- 1.4 The Committee's of Abermaw, Aberdyfi and Pwllheli were established under section 102(4) of the Local Government Act of 1972. A copy of the constitution is appended.

2. Porthmadog Moorings and Boat Registration.

- 2.1 There have been 104 boats on annual moorings within the harbour of Porthmadog in 2022. This compares with 112 boats on moorings in 2021.
- 2.2 There has been a slight decrease in the number of customers over the past year at Porthmadog harbour. Whilst some owners have moved their craft to Hafan Marina and others passed away, it is also possible that part of the decrease in the number of vessels moored in the harbour is attributable to the prevailing economic situation and in particular, the current cost of living.
- 2.3 The vast majority of members of the public now register their powered craft on-line through the Gwynedd Council Website. This season, 2380 members of the public took the opportunity to register their powered craft on-line. As foreign holidays have seen a boom this year, particularly after a number of years of restricted travel, this may go some way to explaining why the figure reflects a decrease compared to the previous year.
- 2.4 In addition to the above figures, 136 powered craft were registered on paper by persons visiting the various maritime offices across Gwynedd. 82 vessels with an engine under 10 hp were also registered.

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 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.

3.2 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 supported by the assistant Mr Richard Hughes. During what has been a busy summer, harbour staff have also assisted and worked alongside staff on the beach at Morfa Bychan.

4.1 The Service is also able to call upon staff based at the harbours of Abermaw 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 Powercat 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
- The purchase of a new storage facility in the form of a shipping container to replace the existing one

5.3 Fees and Charges. 2023/24.

With regard to the prospective fees and charges for Porthmadog Harbour together with the Powerboat and Personal Watercraft launching fees for 2023/2024 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 2022 - September 2022 inclusive, including maintenance issues. A copy of his report is attached.