

Meeting	Barmouth Harbour Advisory Committee
Date:	24th March 2026
Author:	Senior Harbour Officer
Service:	Maritime Service, Economy and Community Department
Title:	Update on Service Management Matters

1 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Committee's role is to consider, discuss and advise on matters relating to harbour management, safety and development and receive members' comments on matters relating to Barmouth Harbour
- 1.2 The purpose of this report is to provide an update on management issues related to the harbour, inviting feedback or comments from committee members.

2. REPORTING ON SERVICE MANAGEMENT MATTERS

The summary below is presented in relation to the performance of the Service.

i) Performance Data

- 2.1 The data below is collated as part of the Maritime Service's performance management and monitoring arrangements.

Measure	2023/4	2024/5	2025/6
Mooring Agreements			
Porthmadog	106	109	106
Barmouth	71	78	81
Aberdyfi	73	79	83

- 2.2 The figures provided remain consistent with those shared at the October meeting, however during the winter period, the Harbour office has received several enquiries regarding new customer moorings at Barmouth Harbour. This is an encouraging indication that numbers are likely to raise again compared with previous seasons. The service would like to extend its sincere thanks to the harbour staff for their excellent customer service and professionalism in their roles. Their knowledge and dedication are instrumental in generating the highly positive feedback we continue to receive from local mariners and visiting vessels.

The Maritime Service would also like to remind everyone that the online service for mooring applications and power craft registration will reopen on the 1st of April. Registration fees have been adjusted in line with annual inflation, please see below for the latest fees and charges.

The Service also collects data on the customer satisfaction of Harbour users:

	2023/4	2024/5	2025/6
Customer Satisfaction			
Excellent	40%	60%	68%
Very Good	30%	24%	24%
Satisfactory	20%	16%	4%
Poor	10%	0%	2%
Very Poor	0%	0%	0%
Unknown	0%	0%	2%

The figures shown are comparable to those reported at the October committee meeting. Due to the low footfall over the winter period, we anticipate a decline in the volume of feedback submitted through the QR code questionnaire. Nevertheless, the feedback received through email correspondence and face-to-face discussions has been extremely positive and well received.

An example below of feedback received from customers:

“Thank you for all your help during the season. it’s been great to get to know you and will all miss you so much”.

“At first, we (harbour users), are always reluctant about new staff, but Lois is fantastic, she is a credit to the Harbour. Her mechanical knowledge is brilliant, and she is always happy to jump onboard to see if she can resolve any issues with the boat”.

“When will the pontoon be back?”

“What are we going to do about the harbour silting up. Are we getting a digger in, the ferries must be losing money?”

Both positive and constructive observations on the management of the Harbour are encouraged, as they help us enhance services we provide.

ii) Harbour Safety

2.3 The Port Marine Security Code (PMSC) sets out the national standard for all aspects of port maritime safety.

At the October committee meeting, members were advised that following the appointment of Mr Owen Morgan as the new Designated Person for Cyngor Gwynedd,

he would undertake audits of the harbours under the authority of the Maritime department, namely Aberdyfi, Barmouth, Porthmadog and Hafan Pwllheli.

In 2025 amendments to the PMSC introduced clearer guidance and strengthened requirements for stakeholders and organisations operating within harbour limits. These changes were designed to ensure that any overlapping marine safety management systems and plans complement one another effectively. As a result, a national compliance exercise was issued to all harbours to confirm adherence to individual codes and to ensure that appropriate measures were in place to address any necessary amendments.

The department is pleased to announce that Mr Morgan completed the audit in February. Following a positive report, the Service is now in a position to submit its Compliance Statement before the end of March and to publish its PMSC documentation on the Cyngor Gwynedd website.

Winter Storms

During the 2025/6 winter period, the area experienced increased storm activity, predominantly from a South-East direction. During this time, a vessel moored alongside the harbour wall was affected by the severe conditions. Oil spill booms were deployed, and the vessel emptied and refloated on the following tide. No environmental damage was reported, though the vessel was monitored following the incident. Additionally, in early October, another vessel broke free from its mooring during a storm, and was later located in Aberamffra Harbour after passing under the viaduct bridge. Concerns arose that the vessel may have made contact with the bridge, as the mast was found broken. Transport For Wales were informed of the situation, but no visible damage to the bridge was reported. The vessel owners recovered it promptly, and there were no environmental concerns.

The service would like to thank all staff who attended these incidents outside of normal working hours, ensuring that correct procedures were followed in managing such situations.

Currently, several Notice to Mariners are in effect. In line with our statutory duties, we advise mariners to navigate with caution within the channel and when approaching the harbour. At present, the Outer buoy (Fairway buoy) is "Off Station", though it remains a charted position, and the harbour office advises all vessels to use this location as a reference to approach. Any Aids to Navigation currently "Off Station" will be repositioned at the earliest opportunity, subject to safe sea and weather conditions. Once repositioned, an updated Notice to Mariners will be issued, and the information recorded on the Trinity House Local Aids to Navigation LARs database. Further details will be provided in the Harbour Masters report.

iii) **Resources and Budget**

Latest table for the 2026/27 Fees

A summary of budgets for Barmouth harbour is included below.

Cynnwys T.A.W	2025/26	2026/27	Prices Including V.A.T
Trwydded angorfa blynyddol fesul medr, neu than o fedr + Tollau Harbwr - Pob Cwch gan gynnwys Ysgraff	48.86	50.81	Mooring licence per metre per annum, or part of metre + Harbour Dues - All Craft including Ferries
Tollau Harbwr y fedr - pob cwch	8.55	8.89	Harbour Dues per meter - all vessels
Trwydded Angorfeydd Trwyn y Gwaith	43.19	44.92	Penrhyn Point Mooring License
Ffi Trwydded Angorfa Stad Y Goron-pob angorfa (Eithrwyd TAW-dim yn daladwy hyd yma)	36.83	38.30	Crown Estate Mooring License-all moorings (VAT exempt-not currently charged)
Cwch ymwelwyr - Dyddiol neu than o ddiwrnod			Visiting Vessels - Daily or part of day
Cwch Ymweld-Dalwr Angorfa Harbyrau Gwynedd	15.00	16.00	Visiting Vessels-Gwynedd Harbour Mooring Holders
Cwch Ymweld-Pob Cwch Pleser arall	20.00	22.00	Visiting Vessels-All other pleasure vessels
Cychod oario teithwyr y fedr + Tollau Harbwr	42.77	44.48	Passenger carrying vessels per metre + Harbour Dues per meter
Pysgotol Siarter/Masnachol y flwyddyn + Tollau Harbwr y fedr	42.77	44.48	Fishing/Charter/Commercial per meter + Harbour Dues per meter
Cychod yn ymweld a'r harbwr y dydd neu than o'r dydd	91.77	95.44	Commercial vessels visiting per day or part of day
Ffioedd Compownd Harbwr (y flwyddyn) - Pysgotwyr llawn amser	498.72	518.67	Harbour compound (per annum) - Full time fishermen
Ffioedd Compownd Harbwr (y flwyddyn) - Defnyddwyr masnachol harbwr	537.36	558.85	Harbour Compound (per annum) - Harbour commercial users
Ffioedd Compownd Harbwr (y flwyddyn) - Defnyddwyr masnachol eraill	620.68	645.72	Harbour Compound (per annum) - Other commercial users.
Gordal-defnydd tir tu allan i'r ardal benodedig y M ² yr wythnos.	8.50	8.84	Surcharge - additional storage area outside of allocated plot - per M ² per week.
Ffi Parcio Ffordd y Compownd	70.00	72.80	Parking Fee Compound Road
Rhent llogi angorfa Abermaw (os ar gael)	422.90	439.82	Mooring Rental Abermaw (if available)
Diddymu cais angorfa. Gorddewisol	Rheol/Rule 1/18	1/18	Cancellation of mooring application. Discretionary

Ffi Cofrestru Blynyddol	2025/26	2026/27	Annual Registration Fee
Cofrestru Blynyddol	£75.00	£80.00	Annual Registration
Ffi Lansio Blynyddol - Cynnwys Ffi Cofrestru Blynyddol			Yearly Launching Fee - Inclusive of Annual Registration Fee
Trwydded Lansio Blynyddol (1 Ebrill - 31 Mawrth)	£190.00	£196.50	Annual Launching Permits (1 April - 31 March)
Ffi Lansio Dyddiol			Daily Launching Fees
Lansio dyddiol - Llithrfeydd/Traethau Cyffredinno	£23.00	£24.00	Daily launch - General Slipways/Beaches
Lansio dyddiol - Traeth Morfa Bychan (yn ogystal â £4 ychwanegol ar gyfer parcio)	£27.00	£28.15	Daily launch - Morfa Bychan Beach (plus an additional £4 required for Parking)
Ffi Trosglwyddo / Ailddodiad			Transfer / Replacement Fee
Ceisiadau drwy'r post yn unig i Morwrol@gwynedd.llyw.cymru	£75.00	£80.00	Postal application only to Morwrol@gwynedd.llyw.cymru
Cychod llai na 10 HP a Cychod Hwyllo			Vessels under 10 HP and Sail Boats
Cofrestru Blynyddol - Ceisiadau Mewn Person yn Unig. Yn Swyddfeydd yr Harbyrau neu ar y Prif Draethau gyda'r cwch ar gael er ei archwilio. Dim ffi lansio yn daladwy.	£42.00	£45.00	Annual Registration - In Person Application Only. At the Harbour Offices or at the main Resort Beaches, with the vessel available for inspection. No launching fees charged for small vessel.

BARMOUTH HARBOUR	Financial Performance for the Period 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026 - November 2025 Review		
	BUDGET / TARGETS FOR THE PERIOD 1/4/25 TO 31/3/26	INCOME & EXPENDITURE FORECASTED 1/4/25 TO 31/3/26	OVER (UNDER)
Employees	79,927	84,603	4,676
Buildings	12,410	11,009	(1,401)
Transport	890	2,048	1,158
Supplies & Services	12,000	16,547	4,547
One - Off Expenditure - Financed from Reserves	0	0	0
Total Expenditure	105,227	114,207	8,980
Income	(47,590)	(50,596)	(3,006)
Contribution from Reserves Towards One Off Costs	0	0	0
Total Net	57,637	63,611	5,974

iv) Other Key Issues

During the period covered by this report, I would like to update the committee on the following:

Staff

It is with regret that I report our Assistant Harbour Master, Lois, has left the department to further her maritime experience abroad. We wish her every success in her future endeavours. Lois was a well-respected member of the harbour team, always willing to assist and share her knowledge with mariners. Prior to her departure, several local residents visited the office to wish her well, commenting they were sad to see her leave.

Following the vacancy, the service advertised the post in early January and are pleased to announce that after a successful interview process, Oliver Simmons has been appointed as the new Assistant Harbour Master. He looks forward to meeting with local residents and developing strong working relationships both on and off the water.

Fairway Bouy

As previously noted, the Fairway Buoy is currently "Off Station", due to a severe storm over the winter period. The buoy washed ashore just South of the Llanaber pedestrian railway bridge, where flood defences have been established using large boulders.

Unfortunately, the buoy's construction (steel, fibreglass, and foam infill) was damaged over several tides due its inaccessibility and the impact of the sea and boulders. The Service now faces significant investment in replacement mooring equipment. Fortunately, a spare fairway buoy is available in Barmouth Harbour, however, a smaller, more manageable buoy is being considered to simplify ongoing maintenance and inspection for both the Service and contractor. The fairway buoy will be returned back on station when conditions permit.

Viaduct Gardens

Work on the main sea wall has progressed well, construction will soon begin on the upper section of the wall. Additionally, the next phase of foundations for the set back wall along the pavement has commenced. The project is scheduled for completion in November 2026, though efforts are underway with Griffiths and Gwynedd to explore whether this can be achieved sooner.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The Committee is asked to note and accept the contents of the report.

Meeting	Barmouth Harbour Advisory Committee
Date:	24 th March 2026
Author:	Harbour Master Kane Triggs
Service:	Maritime Service, Economy and Community Department
Title:	Update on Operational Matters

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.3 The Committee's role is to consider, discuss and advise on matters relating to the management, protection and development of the Harbour and to receive members' comments on matters relating to Barmouth Harbour.
- 1.4 The purpose of this report is to provide an update on operational issues related to the harbour, inviting feedback or comments from committee members.

2. **REPORTING ON OPERATIONAL ISSUES**

- 2.1 The summary below is presented from the perspective of the performance of the Service.

a) **Navigation Matters**

Due to ongoing maintenance, as well as adverse weather and sea conditions, there are currently five Notice to Mariners in effect concerning the approaches into the Barmouth Harbour.

Mariners are strongly advised to contact the Harbour Office and refer to the latest Local Notice to Mariners for the latest navigation Barmouth Harbour.

The following Aids to Navigation are currently "Off Station" or "Light is extinguished":

Outer Buoy (Fairway Buoy)
No1 Starboard hand mark
No3 Starboard hand mark
No4 Port hand mark
No6 Starboard hand mark

Full details are available on the Cyngor Gwynedd website.

The Service would like to remind all mariners that the Outer Buoy remains a charted position :

52°42.796N 004°04.906W

Mariners are requested to use this position to ensure safe navigation whilst the Outer Buoy is "Off Station".

Additionally, mariners are reminded to keep VHF's tuned to Channel 12 during their stay at Barmouth Harbour and contact the harbour office prior to arrival or departure to obtain the latest navigational and weather information.

b) **Specific issues have arisen**

- 2.2 Mariners are still experiencing the impact of wind-blown sand in the channel nearest the harbour wall. This is causing difficulties for vessels leaving and returning to the harbour at low tides. All vessels are advised to contact the Harbour office prior to making their approach to the harbour wall.
- 2.3 Refurbishment of the harbour pontoon is progressing well, which is scheduled to be reinstalled in April 2026. We thank the Town Council for their continued support on this project.
- 2.4 There is currently no update following the proposal for a Mobile Seafood Trailer on the harbour.
- 2.5 A recent inspection using both the Powercat and drone has shown that the sandbanks within the harbour have moved significantly again this year. Discussions between the Harbour Master, the mooring contractor and harbour users are ongoing to determine the safest and most suitable location for vessels.

c) Maintenance

- 2.6 The harbour patrol vessel, GP3, was transported to Porthmadog for a Work Boat Code 3 inspection and full engine service. Minor maintenance work was also completed, and the vessel is now back in Barmouth, ready for the upcoming season.
- 2.7 Work is ongoing to ensure that all Aids to Navigation are ready for deployment as conditions allow. The service is investing in new equipment, including chain, blocks, lights, to fulfil its statutory duty as the Local Lighthouse Authority and maintain safe navigation into the harbour.
- 2.8 Reactive work has included the removal and burial of carcasses along the foreshore. The Service request that any reports of carcasses on the foreshore be accompanied by accurate location information such as, What3Words or National Grid Reference.
- 2.9 The Service has invested in a new 4x4 vehicle to support the Maritime staff, enabling officers to carry out their duties safely and effectively across the harbour and beach areas.

2.10 Staff have completed training with the All-Terrain Vehicle. The All-Terrain Vehicle is scheduled for a service after the Easter period, to ensure its reliability and safe operation..

d) Events

Please find below the schedule of events in Barmouth this year.

Barmouth Fest	8/9 May
Barmouth 10Km Race	13 June
Barmouth Carnival	13 June
Water Fest	20 June
Colwyn Bay Jet Ski Rideout	20 June
Food Festival	5 July
Seafront Cinema	7/8 Aug
Sea2Sky	5 Sept
Hurly Burlly	12 Sept
Barmouth Walking Festival	
Moto X	
Fireworks and Bonfire night	6/7 Nov
Tractor Parade	TBC

3.2 The Service wishes all event organisers a successful year and hopes that the weather is favourable for all the upcoming dates.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 The Committee is asked to accept the contents of the report.

