

# PAPER C

## Newport Harbour - Senior Harbour Master Report – 1 March to 31 May 2019

<b>Visitor Numbers</b>	March: 15	April: 85	May: 180
<b>Permeant berths</b>	Newport Harbour	Regular users: 15	Live-aboard: 5
	Folly	Pontoon: 91	Swing: 67

### Staff

- Harbour Master remains signed off sick; retires on 08.08.19.
- Business case for replacement to be prepared; this needs to ensure that the harbour is staffed around high tides to meet the requirements of the PMSC.

### Works

- As harbour master is off collection of the berthing fees for 2019/20 has been undertaken by the harbour staff. The option to take debit/credit payment over the phone through the One Card desk has greatly assisted this process and level of payments received.
- The Navigational Risk Assessment review is being conducted by Marico who have conducted consultation with identified stakeholders. The stakeholder meetings included representatives from Cowes Harbour Commission, water taxi/berthing operators, commercial shipping operators, commercial quays operators, commercial operators, leisure users, houseboats and harbour staff.
- The work by Island Roads to replace the harbour access bridge from Quay street started, the contractor kept the temporary closure of the pedestrian walkways to a minimum. A small work platform was used to access the underside of the bridge, when not in use it was locked/moored adjacent to the quay.
- Work to modify and recommission the mid-harbour road barrier (by the slipway) has ordered; this will allow it to be operational without impeding the pedestrian walkway. This gives an option to keep the entrances from Quay Street and Fairlee Road open to vehicles, while it eliminates the option to pass through the harbour (rat run).
- Harbour staff operated the crane 7 times to lift in or out customer vessels

### Events

- The annual boat lift (back in) was carried out on 06.04.19; this service will no longer be provided as it is not cost effective and present several health and safety issues.
- The annual Riverfest event took place on 18.05.19

### Property

- The harbour shower and toilet block have been refurbished

- The harbours toilets have been locked from 10.04.19, this is due to misuse and the handwashing equipment being unserviceable and too costly to replace.
- The locks for the access gates on to Blackhouse Quay were changed. The vehicle gate was fitted with a security keyed padlock and the pedestrian gate a coded lock. Authorised berth holders and the lessee of the adjoining property were supplied with the key and/or code dependent on their requirements.

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### **Actions**

- The harbour is investigating the options and powers it has regarding the removal of five unauthorised boats within the harbour's jurisdiction,
- The attitude of the people on board these vessels has been aggressive towards the harbour and council staff; accordingly, the staff have been advised not to go to Blackhouse quay by themselves. The incidents have been recorded and the police informed.

### **Inspection results**

#### **Inspections of navigation aids**

Periodic inspections have been carried out of the channel and navigation aids, some of which were conducted from land. All navigation aids are in place, their colour, and characteristics are as required by IALA recommendations. The inspections were undertaken 22 times in the three-month period.

- One of the information speed limit buoys was removed and a temporary marker fitted, this is so replacement mooring rings and a shank for this buoy and the second one can be manufactured, when these are available the buoy will be returned to station.
- The Harbour north light was found to be out; blub replaced by harbour staff
- The Marker buoys for the Fairlee outfall pipe and the wreck buoy at Binfield were both replaced due to their condition.

Trinity House conducted an audit of Newport harbour's Local Aids to Navigation, in line with the Merchant Shipping Act, 1995, Section 198. It advised that everything was found in good order and there were no matters arising which require further comment/action.

#### **Inspections of the channel**

Periodic visual inspections have been carried out of the channel some of which were carried out from the land. The depth within the channel has not been reported below the depths advertised. These inspections were carried out 22 times in the three-month period.

- In this period a survey of the depth of the river within Newport harbour jurisdiction was conducted, the results were shared with the UKHO and Navionics. Furthermore, a comparison of the survey was made with one conducted in 2012

### **Inspections of quays, steps, pontoons, gangway, piles and cleats**

Periodic inspections have been carried out and found to be in position and in good order. The inspections were carried out 22 times in the three-month period.

- During these inspections two damaged boards on the visitor pontoon were noted, these were made safe by the harbour staff.

### **Inspections of lights, electric distribution points and water standpipes**

Periodic inspections have been carried out on the lights, electric point and water standpipes. The inspections were carried out 22 times in the three-month period.

- A water leak was discovered on the water supply, this was repaired by the harbour staff

### **Inspections of lifebelts, fire extinguishers**

Inspections were carried out and all lifebelts, fire extinguishers and safety ladders were found to be in position and in good order. These inspections were carried out 22 times in the three-month period.

- During these inspections one of the extinguishers on the visitor pontoon was discovered discharged, also one of the extinguishers outside of the harbour office had its indicator showing red. Both were reported and exchanged for replacement equipment.
- During these inspections a life ring was recovered away from its location/box on the quay, the life ring and safety line was inspected (undamaged) and returned to its location.

### **Slipways Inspection**

The slipways have been inspected and are in good repair.

The Folly Slipway was cleaned five times, the Sea close Slipway was cleaned once over the three-month period.

### **Harbour Launch, Land Rover and other tools**

The launch has been checked regularly throughout the three-month period.

- The launch failed to start due to the starter motor becoming jammed, it was removed by a marine engineer, where it was reconditioned & refitted, following this the launch has been operating well.
- The harbour Launch has been found to have its lines untied over the night (the Launch is locked and chained at midships to the pontoon when not in use)

The harbour Land Rover has been working well

### **Other harbour tools**

- The harbour petrol power washer stopped working and required the carburetor to be serviced and the wash head replaced.

## **Incident and Emergencies**

### **Collisions, Fire or Explosion, Vessels Grounding, Loss of Vessel Stability, Pollution**

- None recorded

### **Dangerous Occurrences / Near Misses.**

- The school children that make their way to and from school along the quay are becoming more concerning in their actions. Jumping from the quay wall on to the visitor pontoon has been witnessed and harbour staff have advised against this; at HW it about a metre across and about metre down, but this increased greatly when the tide height drops.
- Groups of school children have started to move back and forward across the pontoon. On one occasion a boy missed his footing and fell in the water up to his waist, his friends helped him out. The area of pontoon was inspected by harbour staff and was not to be found slippery.
- As a result of a large football event taking place at Seaclose Park a large number of vehicles were parked on the quay. Future events of this nature require the harbour staff to be informed.

### **Reportable Accidents**

- None recorded

### **Defects Affecting Marine Safety**

- None recorded

### **Additional Information**

- Senior Harbour Master attended:
  - MCA Course on Oil Pollution, Contingency Planning and Response
  - The Maritime Enforcement Conference
  - The Solent & Southern Harbour Master Association summer meeting.

Jonathan Brand, Senior harbour Master