

Newport Harbour - Senior Harbour Master Report – 1 December 2019 to 29 February 2020

Visitor Numbers	December: 16	January: 1	February: 0
Permeant berths	Newport Harbour	Regular users: 9	Live-aboards: 4
	Folly	Pontoon: 90	Swing: 55

Staff

- One of the harbour staff required their CVDA (Council Vehicle Drivers Authorisation) to be renewed, he passed his driving assessment on 06.01.20.
- The Folly Visitor Berthing Supervision and income collection contract was advertised on 03/01/2020 and this invited quotes for the service. The contract has been awarded and will commence on 01.04.2020.

Works

- The railings on the corner of the quay alongside the visitor pontoon were damaged on the 01.12.19, this was repaired on the 03.12.19

Events

- In December, a vessel was lifted out by the hand crane and broken up and disposed of by the owner. This was one of the vessels whose berth was not going to be renewed after 31.03.2020.
- The remaining 2 boats outside of the Bargeman's rest were relocated, one was moved over to the other side of the river and the other to Little London into its new berth on the 08.01.20.
- On 28.12.19 the Coastguard was called to help the ambulance service to get a berth holder off his boat due to ill health. The harbour was later informed that the berth holder had sadly passed away on 04.01.20, the contact details of next of kin was supplied. The vessel was moved by harbour staff to a berth at the Folly at the request of the family on 09.01.20. Payments were informed of the situation and the adjustment to the fees. It is understood the vessel will be put up for sale.
- The Harbour committee met on 18.12.2019.
- The Newport Harbour User Group met on 28.01.2020 and again on 25.02.2020, the second meeting was for a presentation by Christopher Ashman from Regeneration on the Newport Harbour Master Plan.

Property

- Mountjoy checked the emergency lighting in the harbour buildings on 06.01.20, they replaced items required.
- Replacement railings were installed outside the Bargeman's Rest – work commenced on 08.01.20, and was completed by the end of January.
- A replacement padlock was fitted to one of the gates at Black House quay on 13.01.20 after the original went missing, another padlock was fitted to the gates with security chains on 29.01.20.
- The remaining abandoned boats were transported to Bleak down on the 20.12.19. and 21.01.20, One required to be towed from its Folly Mooring and lifted shore by Richardsons and then was transported on the 13.01.20. A demolition company has been contracted to undertake the work to dismantle and dispose of the vessel and the other items, this is hoped to be complete by early March
- Two of the abandoned boats were sold and collected from Bleak Down on the 02.12.19 and 29.01.20 by their new owners.

Actions

- In January an additional Local Notice To Mariners (LNTM) was issued regarding the additions to the Safety Management System (SMS), this was added to the harbour website.
- On 11.12.19 many of the vessels on the Folly swing moorings were being pulled down due to the big tides and incorrect adjustment to their mooring lengths, the owners were informed.
- On 16.12.19, 02.01.20, 10.01.20, 20.02.20 and 24.02.20 the harbour staff at Folly pumped out and re-secured the boats required it, after the heavy winds and rains.
- On the 20.12.19 the septic tank was emptied at Black House Quay.

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 34 times in the three-month period.

On 23.01.20 the two fixed green lights at St. Cross, (Vesta jetty) did not seem to be working, Vesta were contacted, and the problem resolved.

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 34 times in the three-month period.

- On 01.01.20 a shopping trolley was removed from the river
- On 02.01.20 car tyres were removed from the river
- A large pallet was removed from a pavement on 21.02.20, before it could enter the harbour, left from the sandbag deliver by island roads
- On the 26.02.20 large road cone removed from the river

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 34 times in the three-month period.

- The north end of the Visitor Pontoon at the Folly was power washed on the 13,15 and 16.01.20
- Rock salt was put down on the entrance ramp to the Newport harbour visitor pontoon and other locations on 18.01.20
- Power washing has been carried out at the following Folly pontoons, East A on 23.01.20, West B on 27, 28 and 30.01.20, West C on 18 and 19.02.20. This was the last of the pontoons requiring to be power washed at Newport harbour.

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 34 times in the three-month period.

The visitors Electricity supply on the quay closest to the flyover remains not working, also one of the sockets at the end of the Visitor pontoon is not operational; these will be investigated in the spring when the weather is drier.

Inspections of lifebelts, fire extinguishers

Inspections were carried out, all lifebelts, fire extinguishers and safety ladders were found to be in position and in good order. These inspections were carried out 34 times in the three-month period.

- The alarm in the extinguisher box under the office stairs was going off on 08.12.19, it was reset. The extinguisher was checked and undamaged.
- On the 14.02.20 one of Newport harbour visitor pontoon lifebelts was recovered by harbour staff and washed, inspected and return to station. (believed to be thrown in by kids)

Slipways Inspection

The slipways have been inspected and are in good repair.

- The Folly Slipway was cleaned on 11.12.19 and 30.01.20.
- The Newport Harbour public slipway and Seaclose where cleaned on 10.01.20.

Harbour Launch, vehicle and other tools

launch

- The launch was pumped out regularly over the 3 months, especially during the heavy rain
- The two harbours Spinlock Deckvests had their annual inspection, service and clean, only requiring replacement cylinders as they were corroded. They were returned on 21.02.2020, additional Deckvests where supplied for the harbour staff to use when this was being undertaken.

Ford Ranger has been working well.

Other Tools

- The Hand Crane was used to lift 5 boats in the 3 months. Entered in the log on the 24.02.2020, the harbour staff have raised concerns that they should not be operating the hand crane as they are in their late 50's and requesting confirmation in writing from the council. They were referred to the SMS and reminded that they can decline from lifting any boat they feel is not acceptable. SHM (line manager) was informed and he would raise it when he spoke to them in March.
- The power washer was taken on the 19.02.20 to be serviced and repaired, before they start on Ryde Harbour

INCIDENT AND EMERGENCIES

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

- One of the Folly Ventures water taxis sunk alongside East A Pontoon on 09.12.19, this was recovered by them
- A small permeant boat on a folly pontoon sank on 15.01.20, the owner was informed, and the boat recovered by Folly Venture
- The owner was contacted on 01.02.2020 and a message left after his vessel had sunk on its Folly swing mooring (W28), he was contacted again on 02.02.20. He was informed that the harbour staff would tow the vessel on 03.02.20 to the foreshore in

front of MMA dinghy park to allow it to dry out and be pumped out, it re-floated on 04.02.20. Following this it was towed and lifted out with the hand crane on 05.02.20 and was removed by the owner on 09.02.20.

- On 09.02.20 the vessel on swing mooring (W49) was blown ashore onto the eastern shore between the Folly and Island Harbour due to the mooring gear failing. The vessel was secured in this location and the owner was informed by harbour staff. On 11.02.20. The harbour staff towed the vessel to Newport Harbour on the high water. The hull was inspected by the staff before this was undertaken. When it was moored at Newport the staff monitored it for leaks over the following days. The vessel remains at Newport Harbour until repairs are made to its swing mooring or another mooring can be allocated.
- In the strong winds of the night of 15/16.02.20, two vessels at the Folly pontoons broke lines and one small yacht on a swing mooring was dismasted, these were made safe by Folly Venture, and the owners contacted.

Dangerous Occurrences / Near Misses.

- On 02.12.19, a Medina High School pupil fell partially into the river from the pontoon, this was due to him messing around on the pontoon. He got out and was unhurt and departed.
- On 19.12.19 a member of the public reported that someone had fallen into the river about a week ago at the high tide, when it had flooded over the top of the quay edge by the northern end of the road bridge, there were no reports and not witnessed by harbour staff at the time of the incident.

Reportable Accidents

- None recorded

Defects Affecting Marine Safety

- None recorded

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- School children remain a problem, jumping on to pontoons from the quay and walking along the visitor pontoon though the three months.
- On the 19.12.19 a meeting was held with Vestas regarding possible changes to their marine operations at their site and possible requirement to dredge. A further meeting took place on site to discuss this and work is being undertaken to develop a proposal for review by IWC.
- A Meeting and tour of Newport harbour site was held on the 31.01.20 with one of the members of the Armed Forces Day event committee, to discuss their intended event, including the limitations due their event proximity to the Isle of Wight Festival.
- Informed by Richardsons that they would be operating a small hovercraft in the river on the morning of 04.02.20

Jonathan Brand

Senior Harbour Master