

## Newport Harbour - Senior Harbour Master Report – 1 June to 31 August 2020

<b>Visitor Numbers</b>	June: 2	July: 89	August: 183
<b>Folly visitor numbers</b>			August: 563
<b>Permanent berths</b>	Newport Harbour	Regular users: 9	Live-aboard: 4
<b>Folly Paid</b>	Folly: 128	Pontoon: 73	Swing: 55
<b>Folly to pay or cancel</b>	Folly: 22	Pontoon: 9	Swing: 13

### Level of Risk

During this quarter the main risk is being able to operate the harbour within the current Covid-19 restrictions and guidelines; this has been balanced with the requirement to keep the harbour staff and users safe.

### Staff

- The harbour maintenance staff continued to be requested not to come into work up to the 27.07.2020, due to Coronavirus. The harbour checks, replying to phone messages, email and taking payment have all been carried out by SHM.
- The harbour maintenance staff were requested to return to work for 2 hours either side of high water between the 08.00 to 18.00 from the 27.07.2020; whilst this provides a seven day a week service it is a temporary arrangement in response to Covid-19. Restructure designed and agreed; to be implemented for Easter 2021.
- Folly staffing hours were 10.00 - 21.00 Monday to Friday, Sat 09.00-23.00 Hours and Sun 10.00-18.00 hours from the 27.07.2020.
- The SHM has contacted Folly Ventures to keep them informed of the harbours position and to get feedback regarding their operation

### Works

- At present due to reduced staffing, only operational works are being carried out, until the staffing returns to the normal levels before Covid 19 reductions.
- Maintenance dredging – powers to dredge in existing HRO,10-year licence to dispose of dredged material granted by the Marine Management Organisation. Dredge area agreed; specification and tender documents being prepared – works anticipated to take place late Spring 2021.
- Wall repairs – works tender and contractor awaiting appointment. Delay in Environment Agency granting works licence due to Covid-19 and inability to attend a site; virtual meeting to discuss and resolve the outstanding queries (cofferdam, over-pumping, flood warnings).

## **Events**

- 07.06.2020 an updated Coronavirus Statement was issued, following changes to Government guidance (see below) along with updated poster, which was put up around the harbour.
- On the 24.06.2020 and 24.08.2020. the harbour Committee was held by way of Microsoft teams
- 27.07.2020 an updated Coronavirus Statement was issued, following changes to harbour staffing along with updated poster, which was put up about the harbour sites.
- The Visitors fees for Newport harbours was reduced to £1.50 per metre, from Wednesday 05.08.2020
- The harbour has now got the option to receive card payments from the 25.08.2020, with the purchase of a mobile card payment machine, organised by LE

## **Land and Property**

- The Harbour skip remains locked when harbour staff are not on site, due to fly tipping.
- Work was carried out by Island Roads on the night of the 26 & 27.06.20 in Quay street, they requested the hillside barrier to be open and then the harbour North/south barrier to aid access.
- Meet with WSM regarding a survey and plan of the water mains around the Harbour on the 03.07.20
- Harbour South car park was resurfaced over two nights (26&27.08.2020), the harbour barrier between north and south carparks was opened during the work to facilitate access
- A water meter was identified at Blackhouse quay and what it supplies was raised with Southern Water on the 06.07.2020
- On the 09.07.20 met with IT to update the computer at the office
- On 14.07.2020, met with Mountjoy to check and service the fire alarm

## **Actions**

- Meeting on the 25.06.202 with Dave from Folly Venture regarding the requirement and their operating going forward with the easing of the Covid 19 restrictions.
- A teams meeting held with MCA and the IWC emergency planning regarding the level of oil response provider required, on the 24.08.2020

## **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 38 times in the three-month period.

### **Inspections of the channel**

Periodic visual inspections have been carried out of the channel most have been carried out from the land. The depth within the channel has not been reported below the depths advertised. These inspections were carried out 38 times in the three-month period.

### **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 38 times in the three-month period.

- Two Supper market trolleys removed from the harbour, one on the 07.06.2020 (by Malcom when he was taking a walk) the other on the 08.06. 20.
- Two pontoon joins on the visitor pontoon will need to be tightened or extra bolts to be fitted next month.
- Two pontoon joins on the visitor pontoon still require to be tightened or extra bolts to be fitted.
- The broken cleat on Newport harbour visitor pontoon was replaced on the 02.08.2020.

### **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 38 times in the three-month period.

- SSE came to conduct electricity checks on the visitor and Pontoon Quay supple on the 24.06.20

### **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 38 times in the three-month period.

- On the 06.08.2020, the fire extinguishers at the harbour buildings and pontoon where inspected by Wight fire

### **Slipways Inspection**

The slipways have been inspected and are in good repair this includes minoring the weed build up.

- The slipways have been inspected and are in good repair. This has been helped by the environment officers, from July as it been added to their weekly inspections
- The Folly slipway was cleaned on the 07.08.20, by one of the harbour staff at low water before his set work hours at the Newport.

### **Harbour Launch, vehicle and other tools**

#### **Launch**

- The launch was last operated on 24.03.2020, it has not been used since then.
- It has been pumped out 9 times over the 3 months.
- It was tried to be started on the 27.07.2020 but did not, start, it started on the 11&12.08.2020 and run alongside the pontoon for an hour. Currently it will not start again even after the battery was charged – being investigated.

#### **Ford Ranger**

- Ford Ranger, was started on the 27.07.2020 when the harbour staff returned, working well.

#### **Other Tools**

- The Hand Crane has not been used during this time
- The owner was found to be sleeping on his vessel by harbour staff on the 14.08.2020, he was reminded this was not permitted without permission from the SHM. He has not requested for it.

## **INCIDENT AND EMERGENCIES**

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

- None Reports

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

- None Reports

### **Reportable Accidents**

- 10.08.2020, a visiting vessel hit another on the visitor pontoon when departing the pontoon, both owners where on board and their details were exchanged
- 26.08.2020, the back stay of a vessel on Folly swing mooring parted, and reported to Newport harbour, owner informed.
- On the night of 28.08.2020 crew of visitor boat where woken, by people on their boat deck by their dinghy (was chained on). the people on the boat apologetic and departed.
- Sunday 30 August The Skipper of vessel Flicker VII berthed overnight on the Folly Inn 'Walk Ashore' pontoon reported to the Duty Boatman that he would not be setting sail as planned as his wife was unwell and he had called for an ambulance. It took 40 minutes for the Paramedics to arrive. It was at this point it was reported that the lady, Caroline Nissen, was having a heart attack. It is understood she later passed away. However, it is not confirmed if she died whilst at the Folly or later in St Mary's hospital.

### **Defects Affecting Marine Safety**

- The Folly Slipway maker pole was reinstalled, and the temporary maker removed on the 07.08.20, by one of the harbour staff at low water before his set work hours at the Newport.

#### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

- Port Emergency plan – reviewed and now published online at <https://www.iow.gov.uk/azservices/documents/1353-Emergency-plan-June-2020-PDF-20.08.2020.pdf>
- Aggregate berth at Blackhouse Quay not currently being utilised with good being brought in via road
- A permanent vessel departed her berth on the 24.06.20 for dry slip, will return when the work is complete.
- Visitor boat Good year refused to pay the advertised rates on the 10.07.2020 due to the harbour facilities being closed, informed that the harbour was still not reopened, and no discount on the fee was in place. he stayed 2 more nights. Payment was found at County Hall in two cheques different signatures on both and £55.00 in cash posted to the harbour office. Would not recommend supplying a berth until fully open.
- On the 13.07.20, 4 people under the influence on the visitor pontoon, not from a boat. 2 went intentionally swimming. Informed this was not wise and to stop and depart, the police where informed. They left on their own accord; police notified.
- Richardson's testing a hovercraft in the river 22.07.20
- There was a reported disturbance on the pontoon of the night of the 31.07.20 – 01.08.20 with drinkers on the quay by the visitor pontoon, the broken glass was cleared by the harbour staff.
- The harbour office fire sender was changed on the 10.08.2020
- On the 12.08.2020, drinkers on the grass bank, by the harbour stores, where seen to be throwing glass bottles at each other and swearing and fighting. There was a general nuisance for all using the harbour. The police where informed, no action/response was witnessed. The Harbour staff cleared the broken glass on the 13.08.2020. they returned on the 2.08.2020 without the fighting and the throwing of glass bottles.
- Washable face masks where issued to harbour staff to replace the disposable ones on the 13.08.2020
- Youths on the harbour store (air raid shelter), harbour staff told them to get off. Which they did by jumping onto the lamp post and sliding down. they continued to jump on to the pontoon from the quay and riding up and down the visitor pontoon.
- On the 21.08.2020, youths riding bikes on the visitor Pontoon and in one of the permeant dinghies
- The Hotel informed about their fence being blow down and needing to be secured on the 25.08.20
- On the 28.08.2020, two youths asked to leave the harbour launch and the visitor pontoon as not liked to any vessel.
- On the 30.08.2020, shopping trolley removed from off the visitor quay, returned to shop.

**Jonathan Brand,  
Senior Harbour Master**