

Queen's Harbour Master Plymouth
 Longroom House
 RM Barracks Stonehouse
 Stonehouse
 Plymouth
 PL1 3RT

QHM 532/7

15 June 2017

**NOTES OF THE PORT OF PLYMOUTH MARINE LIAISON COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON
 THURSDAY 8 JUNE 2017
 WOLFSON ROOM, MARINE BIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION, PLYMOUTH**

Present	Representing	User Group
Mr C Necker	Queen's Harbour Master	Harbour Authority
Mr N Trathen	Deputy Queen's Harbour Master	Harbour Authority
Mr A Jones	MOD (QHM)	Harbour Authority
Mrs K Curry	Natural Infrastructure Officer / TECF	Council
Capt. T Charlesworth	Cattewater Harbour Commissioners	Harbour Authority
Ms C Smith	Devon Wildlife Trust	Nature Conservation
Mr N Webb	Victoria Wharf	Marine Commerce
Mr G Reed	Bere Ferrers Parish Council	Parish Council
Lt Col N Wraith	1 Assault Group Royal Marines	Water Users
Mr G Baker	Marine Biological Association	Research
Mr J Roe	Recreational Sea Anglers	Water Users
Ms J Kitch	Plymouth City Council	Council
Ms B Siddons	Plymouth City Council	Council
Inspt. A Micallef	MDP Marine Unit	Crime Abatement
Mr C Bush	Mayflower Marina	Marine Commerce
Dr K Latham	Calstock Parish Council	Parish Council
Mr J Lowther	Plymouth University	Research
Mr K Banks	Millbrook Moorings Association	Moorings
Mr M Wood	RYA	Recreation
Mr B Grose	Port of Plymouth Canoeing Association	Recreation

Item	Discussion and Decisions	Action
1. Introduction	<p>QHM welcomed everyone and thanked the Marine Biological Association for hosting the meeting.</p> <p>QHM also advised of the sad death of Cllr Mike Benson who had represented Bere Ferrers and West Devon as a longstanding member on both PPMLC and TECF. He recorded a vote of thanks for his sterling support over many years.</p>	
2. Apologies	Apologies for absence were received from: Mr J Millidge (RNLI), Mrs A Gall (Natural England), Mr P Wiseman (Anthony Estate)	
3. Notes of the previous meeting	The notes of the previous meeting held on 9 February 2017 were accepted as a true record of the meeting.	
4. Matters arising	4.5. Inclusion of 'Diving' as a heading on the VISIT PLYMOUTH website with links to QHM, TECF and RNLI websites (to provide legislative, environmental and safety advice). NIO reported that this the information was now	

Item	Discussion and Decisions	Action
	<p>signposted on the website. <u>Complete</u></p> <p>4.11.d Tree and debris survey by QHM PCO is complete. Reminder for all to inform Longroom or Flag PCS of any hazards of concern identified within the Port. <u>Complete</u></p> <p><u>8c. Recreational Water Users Guide:</u> New version published and to be distributed. All members were requested to assist in the promotion of and distribution of the new guide to reach as many recreational users as possible. <u>Complete</u></p> <p><u>8b. Draft Biosecurity Plan:</u> workshop was held March '17. NE update covered in agenda item 9. <u>Complete</u></p> <p><u>10a. Greater use of social media linking to events on the water:</u> QHM unable to have dedicated social media access however will investigate usage of existing account (HMNB/PCC etc.). Update 8/6/17: progress has been made; two PLNTM have been published via the TECF Twitter page and various group Facebook accounts. DQ requested any organisation with relevant social media accounts (Twitter/Facebook) that would be prepared to post/share safety/water events information to forward contact details of their editor to him. A distribution list would then be formalised to ease the quick dissemination of information. <u>On-going</u></p> <p><u>5b. South West Marine Plan: Evidence Workshops:</u> workshops now complete, update provided in NIO report (Annex A), moved to normal business. <u>Complete</u></p> <p>MMO will explore the possibility of digital formats for the marine plans and inclusion on electronic charting. Update 8/6/17: No MMO representative. <u>Action Ongoing</u></p> <p><u>6. Review of bathing water quality:</u> NIO awaiting response from Environmental Health regarding improved notification system. <u>On-going</u></p> <p><u>7a. Postponement of Plymouth Water Safety Sub Committee</u> due to staffing changes but will be rescheduled ASAP – details to be distributed. <u>Post meeting note:</u> RNLI are reviewing the continuation of this committee and will be in contact with the various attendee's in due course. <u>Action</u></p> <p><u>7b. Discussion over the Samaritans signage on Tamar bridge.</u> RNLI and MDP to contact Tamar bridge to make case for improved safety. <u>Action</u></p>	<p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p>DQHM/ALL</p> <p>MMO</p> <p>NIO</p> <p></p> <p>RNLI</p> <p>RNLI</p>

Item	Discussion and Decisions	Action
	<p>7c. Further discussion regarding the location of public defibrillators. It would be useful to obtain a map of locations; Mr C Bush (Mayflower Marina) will contact the South West Ambulance Trust for information. <u>Action</u></p> <p>8b. <u>Plymouth and SW Devon Plan</u>: Consultation now closed, NIO covered in Agenda item 8. <u>Complete</u></p> <p>8f. <u>Slipway Audit</u>: comment from Mr K Banks regarding safety of EA owned Millbrook Lake slip. It has been deemed a safety hazard due to proximity to an outflow pipe however no signage is present. NE to investigate. Update 8/6/17: EA have been in contact with Mr Banks. <u>On-going</u></p> <p>10.1 <u>RNLI safety stickers</u>: The issue of abandoned vessels was discussed. Members were encouraged to report any wrecks in order that a NavWarn could be issued where appropriate and attempts to track down the owner made. RNLI produce reflective stickers which can be used on kayaks, dinghies and tenders to aid identification. The RNLI were requested to provide samples at the next meeting Update: 8/6/17: No RNLI representative present. <u>On-going</u></p> <p>10c. The upgrade to Port Control Station equipment is now complete. A VTS service was maintained throughout the works. <u>Complete</u></p>	<p>Mr C Bush</p> <p>EA</p> <p>RNLI</p>
5. Presentations	<p>a. <u>MBA Beach Rangers Programme</u>. Mr Guy Baker of the Marine Biological Association (MBA) gave a presentation which included a brief history of the MBA and detail on the MBA Beach Rangers Programme. The programme provides free events for families and schools introducing children to marine biology on the shoreline.</p> <p>The programme is actively seeking funding (approximately £350 per session); any ideas for funding opportunities should be sent to Mr Baker at: guba@mba.ac.uk. <u>Action</u></p> <p>Question raised by Mr J Roe regarding tagging of sharks and rays and the provision of assistance from sea anglers. Details were exchanged.</p> <p>b. <u>Canoeing and Paddlesports</u> Mr Bob Grose of the Port of Plymouth Canoeing Assoc. gave a presentation on activities within The Sound.</p> <p>Emphasis on marine safety is paramount within the Association and is specifically covered throughout training. Training can be provided by the association for those who require it, details here: http://www.pcca-canoe-club.org.uk/</p>	All

Item	Discussion and Decisions	Action
	<p>Discussion on the fast growing SUP and Sit-on sports was had; Mr Grose was asked to distribute Water User Guides to shops.</p> <p><u>Action</u></p> <p>c. <u>Commercial Shipping</u> Mr Nick Webb gave a presentation on the history and current work of the commercial docks within the Cattewater.</p> <p>The Chairman thanked each of the presenters for their interesting and detailed presentations. He highlighted that they provided excellent value in raising awareness and understanding between different groups of water users, and enhancing the collaborative working within the Dockyard Port of Plymouth.</p>	Mr Grose
6. Plymouth Water Safety Update	No representative from the RNLI was present.	
7. EMS Recreational Impacts Project	<p>Beth Siddons introduced herself to the group.</p> <p>The project aims to raise awareness and educate users on their interaction between terrestrial and marine environment.</p> <p>Specific outcomes: to improve infrastructure (access to water etc.), improved insight and monitor and revise.</p> <p>This item will remain a standing agenda item to deliver updates on this important project.</p>	
8. TECF matters	<p>NIO's report is attached at Annex A.</p> <p>The National Steering Group for Marine Protected Areas will remain as a standing item.</p> <p>The Slipway audit is complete and will be published on line in due course. A copy of the Executive Summary will be distributed to all members.</p> <p><u>Action</u></p> <p>Future Speakers: Mr Charles Bush – Mayflower Marina Insp. Micallef – MDP Marine Unit Lt Col Wraith – Royal Marines</p> <p>Question (from Mr J Roe): are there any plans to re-instate the ladder at Rusty Anchor?</p> <p><u>Action</u></p>	<p>NIO</p> <p>NIO</p>
9. SAC matters	No representative from Natural England was present, DQHM read out the NE report which is attached at Annex B.	
10. QHM matters	<p>a. <u>Water Safety & Incidents.</u> QHM report that there had been no major incidents since the last PPMLC however the on-going concerns are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Life jacket usage - Lone water users - Non-mariners afloat <p>These issues will be targeted in the Summer Safety press release in mid July.</p>	QHM

Item	Discussion and Decisions	Action								
	<p>Antisocial behaviour (specifically jet skis) is increasing. QHM outlined the actions being taken to resolve this issue. This includes: deterrent patrols by MDP MU at locations/times where this behaviour is reported/known to occur; active policing in response to reports of ongoing incidents; and close liaison with Devon and Cornwall Police, targeting the common launch locations and related anti-social behaviour ashore. QHM requested that incidences are reported immediately for investigation, current hot spots: Saltash, Mount Batten and Plymouth Hoe.</p> <p><u>Action</u></p> <p>b. <u>Dredging</u>. - DQHM reported that a dredge and dispose campaign had been completed within the Dockyard with disposal at the new Plymouth Deep licensed disposal site.</p>	All								
11. Water events	<p>The 2017 Water Events Diary (WED) can be found on the QHM website (www.qhm.mod.uk/plymouth/)</p> <p>Major events: 24 Jun – Armed Forces Weekend – Air Display closure between 1600-1815 with a relaxation mid display to allow temporary access to Cattewater. 7-12 Aug – Fastnet Finish 9-10 Aug – National Fireworks Championships 13 Aug – Breakwater Swim 7-8 Oct – ORCDA Powerboat events</p>									
12. Any other business	<p>a. Mr G Reed advised of theft from moored craft at Weir Quay Sailing Club and also damage to the public slip.</p> <p>b. Dr K Latham advised that 3 visitor's moorings are now available at Calstock, provided by the Parish council.</p>									
13. Dates of next meetings	<p>Dates of the forthcoming PPMLC and TECF meetings were published as follows:</p> <table border="0" data-bbox="427 1400 1125 1534"> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;"><u>PPMLC</u></td> <td style="vertical-align: top;"><u>TECF</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1400 on 12 October 2017</td> <td>1015 on 13 July 2017</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1400 on 8 February 2018</td> <td>1015 on 9 Nov 2017</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1400 on 14 June 2018</td> <td>1015 on 8 Mar 2018</td> </tr> </table>	<u>PPMLC</u>	<u>TECF</u>	1400 on 12 October 2017	1015 on 13 July 2017	1400 on 8 February 2018	1015 on 9 Nov 2017	1400 on 14 June 2018	1015 on 8 Mar 2018	
<u>PPMLC</u>	<u>TECF</u>									
1400 on 12 October 2017	1015 on 13 July 2017									
1400 on 8 February 2018	1015 on 9 Nov 2017									
1400 on 14 June 2018	1015 on 8 Mar 2018									

Distribution:

NBC, All Committee members

PPMLC Thurs 8 June 2017

8. TECF Matters: Report of TECF Matters by Natural Infrastructure Officer

a. National Marine Management and Marine Planning

The **National Steering Group** (NSG) for Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) met in February 2017, but minutes have still not been received.

All proceedings and papers of the NSG group would be available on the DEFRA website, and they asked that they remain a standing item on all relevant agendas [eg PPMLC and TECF].

Marine Planning: the MMO's consultation on their draft policies has now closed, and the workshop held in March provided an opportunity to further refine the draft policies.

The comments will now be reviewed over the remainder of the year, with the next iteration due in April 2018. The timetable remains unchanged.

Table 1: Marine Plan Delivery (MMO)

Activity	Estimated timing
Plan development – iteration 1 released for consultation	April 2017
Plan development – iteration 2 released	April 2018
Plan development – iteration 3	April 2019
Final draft plan consultation	Summer 2019
Adoption	2019

b. Plymouth and SW Devon Plan, Waterfront Vision and Local Greenspace Designations.

The Draft Joint Local Plan consultation has now closed. Over 2,500 comments were received and these are currently being reviewed.

This includes the proposal to designate a number of Local Greenspace Designations, which will then have the same protection as greenbelt.

The next stage is for final submission to the Planning Inspector and this is due at the end of July, with a view to adoption either later in 2017 or in early 2018.

c. European Marine Site Managing Recreational Impacts Programme

Beth Siddons has been successfully recruited to the post of Natural Infrastructure Officer (Recreational Impacts) on a three year employment contract which started at the beginning of April.

The project has a comprehensive programme of work attached to it and Beth will give a quick presentation on her priorities for the project period.

d. HRA Recreation Study

The Recreation Study has now been completed by the MBA and includes analysis of:

- Four seasons of slipway surveys at 20 locations.
- Workshops for anglers, sailors, divers and canoeists
- Analysis of the online survey which collected 650 responses.

The purpose of the work was to establish the 'Zone of Influence' of the EMS and the findings are similar to those of other sites.

The next stage will be to use the data to inform the Strategic Access and Management list of actions required and then to agree the 'Zone of Charging' for the planning obligations.

Other data will need to be incorporated into this, including the RYA yachting data.

The reports are available on the TECF website.

e. Tamar Estuary Biosecurity Plan Development Project

The first outline Plan has now been drafted and was scrutinised at the workshop held at the beginning of March which was well attended. The Plan will set out an estuary wide approach to managing non-invasive marine species but one of the key areas that needs to be confirmed is the reporting procedures and which organisation keeps hold of the central data. This will be further discussed at TECF before the Plan is released and implemented.

f. Slipway Audit

The Slipway Audit will be completed by the end of June and will be available online.

g. Developments

PLYMOUTH

Drakes Island: The application is approved subject to final signoff of the legal agreements.

Plymouth Hoe: PCC is proposing to repair parts of the Hoe and will be removing a large concrete block from the foreshore – on-going.

Mount Batten Ferry Pontoon: This is due to be replaced with a new brow and pontoon to cater for the Mount Batten ferry and will be completed by October.

Discharge Consent for Sewage Works: SWW have requested changes to their discharge consent whilst they undertake improvement works to the Central STW.

Wave Pontoon at King Point Marina: A MMO license has been granted, and a condition discharge is being considered by PCC to replace the wave protection structure.

Cremyll landing jetty: Improvements are due to take place here.

Devils Point: there are proposals to repair the footpath following the landslip that took place a couple of years ago.

h. Forward Plan for PPMLC Briefing Sessions

It was agreed that it would be useful for PPMLC to receive a briefing from the various water users. A draft schedule is given below for discussion.

PPMLC

PPMLC	Proposed Speaker
1400 on Thu 12 Oct 2017	Tbc
1400 on Thu 8 Feb 2018	Tbc
1400 on Thu 14 June 2018	Tbc

Mrs Kaja Curry
Natural Infrastructure Officer & TECF Coordinator
Tamar Estuaries Consultative Forum
Kaja.curry@plymouth.gov.uk
@TamarEstuaries
February 2017

Natural England Update

PPMLC Meeting 8th June 2017

Priority issues in the SAC

Our condition assessment carried out last year highlighted some priority issues to tackle within the Special Area of Conservation which may need management action. These are issues that are causing parts of the site to be classed as in 'unfavourable' condition. With partners we have begun working on some of these issues including:

- Engagement and training for volunteers to manage and monitor the spread of Pacific oysters in the Yealm estuary.
- Tamar biosecurity plan: C2W consultants, working with the Marine Biological Association and Plymouth Marine Laboratory have produced a draft biosecurity plan for the Tamar funded by Natural England. A workshop was held in March which was attended by stakeholder representatives from marine industries and other key stakeholders from the Tamar Estuaries Consultative Forum (TECF) to develop the draft biosecurity plan. The draft plan has been updated following input from the workshop participants, and submitted to TECF. Actions likely to be adopted include:
 - Encouraging stakeholders to develop and share biosecurity plans for their own sites
 - Provision of training in Non Native Species (NNS) awareness and identification for local stakeholders
 - Promoting public awareness of NNS and the Check-Clean-Dry campaign, for instance by placing new signs in places frequented by the relevant stakeholders
 - The development of an information network for stakeholders, including e-mail alerts of significant local sightings of NNS
 - The development of rapid-response control and eradication procedures for newly-detected NNS, if feasible.
- Funding has been found for this year to continue the programme of eradication of Giant Hogweed in Tamar Valley to avoid it spreading along corridors into other publically accessible areas where it can cause injury. This is joint work with the Tamar Valley AoNB and the Environment Agency

Natural England's Conservation Advice on Marine Protected Areas

Our conservation advice for the three marine protected areas here are now on our new Designated Sites System and can be accessed here:

[Tamar Estuaries Complex Special Protection Area \(SPA\)](#)

[Plymouth Sound and Estuaries Special Area of Conservation \(SAC\)](#)

[Tamar Estuaries Marine Conservation Zone \(MCZ\)](#)

Plymouth EMS and Tamar Estuary Sites MCZ Monitoring

Intertidal rocky shore monitoring 2016 – This is currently being reported on and will be shared when available.

Intertidal habitat mapping – This 'biotope survey' of all the intertidal areas of the SAC is planned for this summer. Once a contractor is appointed we will make contact with all landowners to ask for access permission. The report will look at change over time in areas where we have previous mapping data from a survey in 2010.

Subtidal reef survey – This will focus on the deeper (circalittoral) areas of reef within the SAC and is being carried out by Natural England's monitoring team in July.

Allis shad and smelt surveys – The Environment Agency are carrying out spawning surveys on our behalf at the top of the Tamar estuary to improve our knowledge of how these two migratory fish species use the site. Further surveys in the lower estuary are planned for later in the year.

MPA exhibition – Natural England and JNCC will have an exhibition on Marine Protected Areas at the National Marine Aquarium over the summer holidays, it will have a focus on local sites around Plymouth. Please come and see us if you get a chance.

Angela Gall

Marine Lead Adviser

Devon, Cornwall & Isles of Scilly Team, Natural England, Polwhele, Truro. TR4 9AD

Landline: 0208 026 8159. Mobile: 07500 761201 Email:

angela.gall@naturalengland.org.uk