

**Minutes of a meeting of the Barmouth Harbour Consultative Committee  
held on 9 October, 2007 in the Council Chamber, Area Office, Barmouth**

**PRESENT**

Councillors W. M. Meredith, Robert J. Hughes a Trefor Roberts (Cyngor Gwynedd), Cllr R. Aeron Williams (Barmouth Town Council), Cllr. Stuart Eves (Arthog Community Council), Mr K. J. Robert (RNLI), Mrs. Wendy Ponsford (Barmouth Harbour and Estuary Users Association)

Observers: Dr. J. Jones Morris (Porthmadog Harbour Consultative Committee), Councillor D. Richardson (Aberdyfi Harbour Consultative Committee).

**Officers**

Mr. Barry Davies - Principal Maritime and Country Parks Officer  
Mr. Mark Williams - Harbour Assistant  
Mr. Elwyn Jones - Meirionnydd Area Secretary  
Mrs. Mererid Watt - Translator

**Apologies:** Councillor M. L. Vaughan (Gwynedd Council), Mr. Glyn Jones (Harbour Master), Mr. Huw Davies (Group Engineer).

1. **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

**Resolved:** To elect Councillor Trevor Roberts as Chairman of the Consultative Committee for 2007/08.

2. **ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**

**Resolved:** To elect Mr. K. J. Probert as Vice-Chairman of the Consultative Committee for 2007/08.

3. **MINUTES**

**Submitted:** Minutes of a meeting of the Barmouth Harbour Consultative Committee that was held on 27 January, 2007.

**Resolved:** To receive and approve the minutes as a correct record.

4. **MARITIME OFFICER'S REPORT**

**Submitted:** The report of the Maritime Officer, Mr. Barry Davies, on activities in Barmouth harbour with specific reference to the following:-

- (i) Navigation
- (ii) Harbour Developments
- (iii) Ferry Service
- (iv) Events
- (v) Harbour Statistics
- (vi) Analysis of Customer Questionnaire

- (vii) Budgets
- (viii) Maritime Staffing Structure .

**Reported:** (a) By the Maritime and Countryside Parks Officer

- (i) In the context of **harbour developments**, that he would continue with his efforts over the winter months to ensure an estimate for a second-hand pontoon that would be tied with ropes to the quay. He also reported that he was aware of the concerns regarding the condition of the main slipway and the allegation of a recent accident at this location. The result of the inspection of its condition was that it continued to be fit for purpose and approximately £500.00 would be spent on minor improvements to the slipway in the near future. He also referred to the dredging work undertaken in the harbour and the concerns highlighted that a shelf of sand near the harbour wall caused problems for boats to moor. He could not anticipate if similar dredging would occur in the future, and he promised to convey the concerns of the Committee and their wish for dredging to continue in the future to the Group Engineer.
  - (ii) In the context of the **ferry service**, that he was aware of local concerns regarding the number of boats licensed for this purpose and he suggested that it would be beneficial for him to submit a report on this issue to the next Consultative Committee meeting with a view to drafting a policy regarding this.
  - (iii) In the context of **events**, that he would try to ensure that the licensing unit in future was aware of the Maritime Unit's objection to events on the quay having an alcohol licence and bar, unless the application had been discussed and agreed with the Local Member and Barmouth Town Council.
  - (iv) In the context of the **analysis of customer questionnaire**, that the results were generally good and it was hoped that they could act on the most important elements that had been highlighted.
  - (v) In the context of the **budget**, that there was an over expenditure of **£6,244.00** in Barmouth Harbour for 2006/07. It was anticipated that the total harbour income would be substantially short of the target for the current year and the Maritime and Country Parks Officer suggested that it would be appropriate for him to send a revised budget directly to each member of the Consultative Committee for information.
  - (vi) On two issues that were not referred to in his written report. Firstly, he stated that he had corresponded with Welsh Water to encourage them to deal with the outfall pipe and the navigation aid opposite the Coastguard centre and in light of the fact that there had been no progress he would contact the company again. Secondly, he mentioned that relevant representations had been made to the Planning and Transportation Department regarding the possibility of surrendering a percentage of the finance for parking on Barmouth promenade for the use of the maritime service. Naturally, no favourable response had been received however, it was proposed to continue with the discussion in the future.
- (b) by a member of the Advisory Committee his concern regarding the high cost of ensuring a Street Closing Order for events on the Promenade that were often organised for good causes in the community. He felt that the high costs could militate against the continuation of such events

and that representations should be made to the Head of Administration and Public Protection regarding this.

**Resolved:- (A) To receive and note the contents of the Principal Maritime and Country Parks Officer's report.**

**(B) to request that the Principal Maritime and Country Parks Officer:-**

**(i) perseveres with his efforts to ensure an estimate for a pontoon that can be used in the harbour**

**(ii) conveys the wish of the Consultative Committee to the Group Engineer that the dredging work in the harbour continues and that due attention is given to the linked deficiencies and the sand shelf near the harbour wall in any further future work**

**(iii) submits a further report on ferry boats to the next Consultative Committee.**

**(C) To request that the Meirionnydd Area Secretary conveys to the Head of Administration and Public Protection the Consultative Committee's concern regarding the cost of ensuring a Street Closure Order for events on the Promenade.**

#### **5. MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE REQUEST OF THE MEMBERS OF THE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE**

The following issues, that had not been referred to in the Maritime and Country Parks Officer's report nor during previous discussions at this meeting, were considered with the officer's response to them:-

- (1) Foot wash provision needed to be reinstated – this work had been completed.
- (2) Notice on top of ferry steps to stop fishing from them – it was necessary for harbour staff to keep this under review.
- (3) Block work on harbour in a very bad state – he would discuss this problem with the Group Engineer.
- (4) The hole at the Diesel area was getting worse and harbour ladders need to be secured – this work would be undertaken as part of the harbour staff's work programme between now and Christmas.
- (5) All benches to be placed back in the harbour by summer – a request for this would be forwarded to the Municipal Group Engineer
- (6) Toilets required urgent attention – these comments would be submitted for the attention of the Municipal Group Engineer
- (7) Car parking and trailers on the quay – what was expected during and outside the season in this context was explained.

**Resolved (a) To receive and note the comments made together with the response of the Maritime and Country Parks Officer on these.**

**(b) To request that the Meirionnydd Area Secretary conveys to the Head of Highways and Municipal Services the view of the Consultative Committee that any toilets that may have to be demolished due to their existing condition, should be re-built within the harbour area in order to continue with the same level of provision that currently exists.**

**6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was reported that the next meeting of this Committee would take place on Tuesday, 26 February, 2008.

**Resolved To receive and note the above**

CHAIRMAN