

MEETING	Barmouth Harbour Consultative Committee
DATE	26 March 2019
TITLE	Update on Harbour Management Matters
AUTHOR	Senior Harbours Officer

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Committee's main function is to consider, discuss and advise on matters relating to the management, safety and development of the Harbour and to receive Member's observations on matters relating to Barmouth Harbour.
- 1.2 The purpose of this report is to provide a brief update for the attention of the Committee on harbour matters for the period October 2018 to March 2019, in order to receive feedback from the members on safety matters and the operational matters of the Harbour at Barmouth.

2. Barmouth Moorings and Boat Registration

- 2.1 As the season approaches mooring application forms have been sent out, with a limited number returned thus far. From enquiries at the harbour office, it is hoped that the number of vessels on moorings within the harbour for the forthcoming season will increase on last year's figure of 72 vessels.
- 2.2 The Service wish to remind Committee members that mooring application forms should be completed and returned to the Harbour Office at Barmouth as soon as possible, to allow for an effective administration process and suitable allocation of moorings.

3. Port Marine Safety Code

- 3.1.1 The Port Marine Safety Code ('PMSC') sets out a national standard for every aspect of port marine safety. Its aim is to enhance safety for everyone who uses or works in the port marine environment. It applies to all Statutory Harbour Authorities.

The Code represents good practice as recognised by a wide range of industry stakeholders and Gwynedd Council understands that a failure to adhere to good practice may be indicative of a harbour authority being in breach of certain legal duties. It is necessary for the Service to receive the comments and views of Consultative Committee Members on the suitability of the Port Marine Safety Code and to regularly receive observations on its contents, in order that it may be reviewed as relevant to the harbour activities, navigational aids, suitability of by-laws, safety matters and general day to day work at Barmouth Harbour.

- 3.1.2 Between the 19th and 21st September 2017, a thorough inspection was carried out by auditors from the Maritime and Coastguard Agency on the existing safety arrangements and systems of Gwynedd Municipal Harbours in order to ensure compliance with the Port marine Safety Code.
- 3.1.3 Following the review undertaken the Service received a report with suggested enhancements pursuant to the inspection which has been previously circulated to the Consultative Committee.

3.1.4 As a follow up to the initial visit, Capt Forkanul Quadar from the Maritime and Coastguard Agency visited the service on the 5th and 6th March, during which a visit to Barmouth Harbour was undertaken and a presentation made before the Porthmadog Harbour Consultative Committee. A further report from the Maritime and Coastguard Agency is now awaited by the Service following his visit.

4. **Staffing Matters**

4.1.1 As reported in the meeting, the employment period of the Barmouth Harbour Assistant (seasonal) ended on the 30th September 2018. The position of Seasonal Harbour Assistant for the forthcoming season is soon to be advertised and it is hoped to have the successful candidate in post by the beginning of May.

4.1.2 The Service is now in a position to confirm that two new full time Assistant Harbourmaster posts are to be created. One additional staff member is to be based at Porthmadog Harbour and the other is to be based at Aberdyfi. When appointed, the successful candidates will be required to work across all harbours as and when required, to assist with marine operations. It is also hoped to have the successful candidates in post by the beginning of May.

5. **Financial Matters**

5.1 A brief summary of the harbours budget and current financial situation up to the end of February 2019 is attached.

5.2 During this period it was necessary to commit financial resources for the following:-

- Maintenance of Navigation Aids and Beacons
- Maintenance of Council moorings
- Maintenance of harbour patrol vessel
- Maintenance of lands and benches.
- Maintenance of harbour Ladders and Railings

5.3 **Fees and Charges 2019/20.** The fees and charges for Barmouth Harbour together with the Powerboat and Personal Watercraft launching fees for 2019/20, are enclosed.

6.0 **Harbourmaster's Report.** The Harbourmaster at Barmouth will provide a summary of the Navigational and Operational matters undertaken and encountered during the period October 2018 to March 2019 which will include maintenance issues and events that occurred during the period. A copy of his report is attached.