

MEETING	Aberdyfi Harbour Consultative Committee
DATE	21st March 2023
TITLE	Harbourmasters Report
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H1 **Navigational Issues**

- 1.1 Harbour staff have continued to monitor the course of the navigable channel over the winter period. The dynamic nature of the river continues to change the physical aspects of the harbour area, and in consequence, potential mooring locations.
 - 1.1.1 At the time of writing a large area to the east of the Trinity House buoy store is drying out on a low water spring tide. Further channel inspections and surveys will be carried out by the harbour staff to coincide with low astronomical tides during March.
- 1.2 There is currently one 'Local Notice to Mariners in operation at Aberdyfi Harbour.
 - 1.2.1 Aberdyfi harbour Local Notice to Mariners Number 01/23

The Starboard Aid to Navigation No 5 Fl.G.4s.at position 52° 32.198'N 004° 04.053'W is currently not on station. It is essential that Mariners navigate with caution in this area.
 - 1.2.2 Work to refurbish the Aid to Navigation No 5 has been completed and it is hoped that the buoy will be deployed at the earliest opportunity, subject to the availability of a mooring contractor, in association with favourable weather and tidal conditions.
- 1.3 An inspector from Trinity House attended the Service on 24th January 2023 to conduct an audit of the records of the availability of the local aids to navigation, under the management of Gwynedd Council. Following the inspection, a report was received to state that everything was found in good order and there were no matters arising which require further comment.
- 1.4 The Service would like to emphasize the importance of contact with the harbour office at Aberdyfi to obtain current information on navigational safety.

H2 **Operational Issues**

- 2.1 Monthly meetings concerning the Aberdyfi Wharf Development Project (AWDP) continue to be held, chaired by staff from the Consultancy department of Gwynedd Council. The meetings provide an update on the progress of the scheme, together with an opportunity for local stakeholders to raise any concerns they may have as the project progresses.
 - 2.1.1 Harbour staff continue to work with all local stakeholders, the Consultancy department of Gwynedd Council and the on-site contractor, to ensure safe working practices are maintained around the harbour whilst the work is being conducted.
- 2.2 The structural condition of the harbourmasters' office building continues to be a cause for concern, with recent movement in the building structure potentially linked to the on-going wharf development programme. The Property department of the Council are aware of the matter and have undertaken a recent inspection of the building.

H3 **Maintenance**

- 3.1 Pre-season maintenance has and will continue to be carried out on the harbour Powercat patrol vessel in preparation for the forthcoming season. The engines have

recently received a service and the vessel has also been subject to construction, stability and equipment inspection checks in conformity with Maritime and Coastguard Agency vessel operating requirements.

- 3.2 Following the completion of the project to renew the footbridge over the Cambrian Coast railway line, harbour staff have undertaken maintenance on fencing sited on the island to assist pedestrians walking towards the foreshore.
- 3.3 The Service has approved renewal of the entrance gates to Penhelig gardens, with a local contractor appointed to undertake the work and install the new gates. It is hoped the work will be completed before the Easter period. Three new benches have also been purchased for placement in the gardens.
- 3.4 The harbour staff would like to take the opportunity to thank the Outward Bound Trust, Aberdyfi, for their continued assistance with maintenance matters both ashore and afloat this winter.

H4 **Other Matters**

- 4.1 A second lockable storage container has been purchased and sited adjacent to the existing one at the harbour compound storage facility. The new storage container will assist in facilitating the storage of beach equipment for the beaches at Aberdyfi and Tywyn, including the portable cabin utilised by Tywyn beach staff during the summer.
- 4.2 An increase in the level of sand on the beach has hindered the physical use of the slipway located adjacent to the premises of the Dyfi Yacht Club. With the main beach level at its current height, further discussions are required with local stakeholders to establish what can be achieved to try and alleviate the problem.
- 4.3 Carcasses on the foreshore have led to several days of reactive work being carried out by the service. The service requests that any sightings be reported to them at the earliest opportunity. The service would also like to remind the public that although a swift response is sometimes required, this is not always possible due to staffing and other work commitments.

H5 **Events**

- 5.1 Authorisation has been granted to the Dyfi Yacht Club for their forthcoming sailing and training schedule presented to the harbour office in early February.
- 5.2 The Service would like to remind all event organisers of the need to seek permission from the Service in conformity with the harbour bylaws, prior to advertising or organising any events proposed to take place within the harbour's jurisdiction.