

MEETING	Barmouth Harbour Consultative Committee
DATE	19th March 2024
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 2023 to March 2024, in order to receive feedback from the members on safety matters and the operational matters of the Harbour.
- 1.3 The Harbour Committee's of Barmouth, Aberdyfi and Pwllheli were established under section 102(4) of the Local Government Act of 1972. The Porthmadog Harbour Committee is a statutory Harbour Committee, set up in accordance with Section 6(2) (a-j) of the Porthmadog Harbour Revision Order 1998.

2. Barmouth Moorings and Boat Registration.

- 2.1 Customers wishing to have a harbour mooring or register their watercraft for the forthcoming season are expected to complete the online process promptly through the Cyngor Gwynedd website, once the appropriate fees have been confirmed. Thereafter, mooring customers should liaise with the Harbourmaster to confirm the position of their harbour mooring.
- 2.2 Following a survey of the river conducted by the Harbourmaster and his Assistant, the visitors' moorings operated by the Harbour Authority will be suitably located in deep water prior to the busy summer period. The mooring work will be undertaken by a locally appointed mooring contractor.
- 2.3 The Service looks forward to what it hopes will be a busy summer period this year and that harbour customers and visitors alike will enjoy their time spent in the harbour environment.

3. Port Marine Safety Code.

- 3.1. 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 Cyngor Gwynedd understands that a failure to adhere to good practice may be indicative of a harbour authority being in breach of certain legal duties.

- 3.2 The Service regularly reviews the Port Marine Safety Code for the harbours under its jurisdiction in order to remain in full compliance with the current requirements of the Code. As part of the review process, it is necessary 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, particularly with relevance to the harbour activities, navigational aids, suitability of by-laws, safety matters and general day to day work at Barmouth Harbour.

4. Staffing Matters.

4.1 The Harbourmaster Mr Daniel Cartwright and his assistant Mr Kane Triggs have undertaken a programme of maintenance work at the harbour during the winter period, in addition to work undertaken to support staff based at Aberdyfi and Porthmadog harbours.

4.2 To assist the Harbour Officers with work on the local beaches between Barmouth and Aberdyfi, a new permanent position was advertised for a Beach Officer. Following an interview process, the successful candidate Ms Nicola Salt, will commence employment with Service on the 1st March 2024. As usual, seasonal Beach Wardens will also be appointed to work on the beach at Barmouth before the start of the busy summer period.

5. Financial Matters.

5.1 A brief summary of the harbour budget and current financial situation up to the end of the quarter will be provided by the Maritime Service Manager.

5.2 During the winter period it was necessary to commit financial resources for the following;

- Maintenance of navigational aids and beacons
- Maintenance of harbour tools and equipment
- Maintenance of Council moorings
- Maintenance and operation of the of Harbour Powercat patrol vessel
- Maintenance of lands and benches

5.3 Fees and Charges. 2024/25.

With regard to the prospective fees and charges for Barmouth Harbour together with the Powerboat and Personal Watercraft launching fees for 2024/2025 season, as on previous occasions, the Service intends to adjust the fees in line with the prevailing rate of inflation at the time. However, no decision has yet been made to confirm the level of fees to be applied next season.

6. Harbourmasters Report. The Harbourmaster at Barmouth will provide a summary of the Navigational and Operational matters undertaken and encountered during the period October 2023 - March 2024 inclusive, including maintenance issues. A copy of his report is attached.