

**Minutes of a Meeting of the NEW QUAY Harbour Users Consultative Committee held remotely via video-conference on Thursday, 16 March 2023**

**Representing Ceredigion County Council:** Councillor Keith Henson (Chairman)  
Councillors Matthew Vaux and Carl Worrall

**Representing New Quay Town Council:** xxxxxxxxx

**Representing the Harbour Users:** xxxxxxxxx

**Officers in Attendance:** Gerwyn Jones, Owen Morgan, Katy Spain and Nia Jones  
(minutes)

**Other Harbour Users:** Martin Beazer, Jonathan Evans, Tim Harrison, Melanie Heath, Tim Jeremy, Rees-Tim Jones, Mike Masters, Crawford McLeary, Carl Rich, Chris Seal, Martin Seal, Brett Stones and Katy Willett.

(6.25pm – 7.15pm)

1. **Apologies**  
None received
2. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 20 October 2022**  
It was agreed to confirm as a true record the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on the 120 October 2022.
3. **Matters Arising**  
none
3. **Harbour Services Update**  
Owen Morgan, Harbour Manager for Ceredigion provided an update with reference to the 4<sup>th</sup> Edition of the 'Calm Waters' Newsletter circulated earlier that day.
4. **Issues Raised by Harbour Users**  
The following were questions raised prior to the meeting:

	<b>Question</b>	<b>Answer</b>
1	Possible Beach / Harbour Litter and lack of bins	New Quay New Season New Approach Press Release can be found at: <a href="#">Ceredigion County Council</a>  Further engagement work with key stakeholders ongoing which will be supported by high profile/visibility awareness raising materials.
2	Extra space for sailing dinghies	Look to designate some space working

		with stakeholders.
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Supplementary questions were posed during the meeting:

3	Item 2 need to be addressed before Easter as they are already on the beach	We need to find space for everyone. The new ramp will provide some space, but we also need to find a space for the rowing club.
4	Suggest that a working group is established to take these matters forward	Agreed
5	<p>We need to address the situation regarding bins.</p> <p>More regular clearing would be good. Families on the beach might want somewhere close-by to dispose of rubbish rather than carrying it up the sandy slip. The majority will clear up after themselves, but some won't. We need to encourage people to put things in bins, so it needs to be near.</p>	<p>We will attach the press-release to the minutes which sets out what we're trying to do in New Quay over summer. We're doing the best we can from available resources, but this will require a partnership approach as these are not matters for the County Council alone. Stakeholders have a responsibility themselves to deal with their waste legally and responsibly. If people have taken food/drink and other items to the beach then it is a reasonable expectation that they use a the nearest bin that is available to them or take their litter home.. Bins on the beach has been a problem for a number of years and we need to look at different ways of doing things. The Street Scene Manager is monitoring the situation as we build up to Easter. It's important that we maintain a positive profile for New Quay as a great place to visit and to live. As part of the review, we will be looking at different types of bins, and vehicles, and potentially more regular emptying of bins such as 3 times a week during the Summer period. Hopefully we can have a</p>

		positive outcome that everybody wants.
6	The brambles next to beach café need to be cleared or this may become a prime area for concealing rubbish.	This has been raised with the service responsible for the land and will be followed up, Cllr Keith Henson noted that he is glad to see that some businesses are using paper as opposed to boxes which reduces the amount of rubbish.
7	<p>There is an increase in the number of visiting yachts, but there is nowhere for them to tie-up. Dropping anchors could risk snagging existing moorings and pots. Providing moorings further out could also be an opportunity to increase income.</p> <p>We're not talking about dry moorings, but deeper moorings. There would be an initial outlay, but there is potential here to increase income.</p>	<p>Some of the available moorings are not suitable, especially further out. However, if one becomes available we will consider it for visiting moorings.</p> <p>We could look into this, but we would also need to consider the maintenance costs.</p>
8	Are we going to see a more fair and transparent mooring waiting list? It doesn't have to include names and addresses, just details of the boats, as this is not working at present.	<p>GDPR means that we cannot provide sensitive information, therefore it would be heavily redacted. There is a section within the policy which outlines the process for selection.</p> <p><b>Post Meeting Note</b> The redacted mooring waiting list for each harbour as at March 2023 is attached. The number of each entry reflects when the transaction was made. The allocation of moorings is as set out and in accordance with the Ceredigion Harbour Management Policy.</p> <p>Should anyone have a concern or issue with the way the Policy is being applied we would very much welcome the opportunity to investigate those.</p>

9	In relation to dredging and chains, would it be possible to create a channel from the quay to encourage the flow of water, and delay the development of sandbanks. This will help us in getting a blue flag.	This year we will be concentrating on chains, however we would look into this.
10	Where will the Thursday New Quay surgery be held?	At the Harbour office
11	Is there a process in place for looking at the maintenance of the end of the harbour?	It's an old structure which would require considerable planning. We will check if there is a work schedule planned.
12	What is the turnaround for moorings?	One was processed in the last 2 weeks, and 3 in the last year
13	There was a council mooring 6 – 7 years ago, but it wasn't maintained and a boat ended on Traeth Gwyn. This needs to be maintained	If it's a deep-water mooring then we would need to look into this.
14	Some moorings sre paper thin. Why can't officer walk on beach to check them or check from a boat,	We do walk on beach. This was done during the spring low tide. It's not a large estuary therefore there isn't a need for a boat and there would be considerable health and safety as well as cost implications
15	Some moorings never get used. The boats sit on the mooring all year and are lifted out at the end of the Season, whilst there are lots of people on the waiting list for a mooring. This is unacceptable. Could you put something into the rules that says if the mooring is not used for 3 years, you lose the mooring. If applicants had to apply each year, this would not be viable for those of us who spend money putting down chains etc.	There are a few across all harbours that don't use their moorings. However, if someone did wish to leave, they should do so, and not transfer the moorings to others. As part of the consultation, stakeholders can put forward such proposals, however harbours will always have a mixed use with differing priorities. The waiting list is there, and it is transparent in terms of policy. Demand is high in New Quay, but how can we fairly and equitably move people on in a fair and transparent way?

16	Disregarding commercial moorings, are individuals allowed to own multiple moorings?	Yes
17	From an environmental perspective, it's expensive for boat owners to switch from diesel to electric, however if the Council made it worth their while, it may be an incentive for change.	While supportive in thinking behind the suggestion this is not deemed to be a matter the Council can engage in at this time.
18	Some of the seats on the top of the harbour are not maintained, and left to those that donated them to do so	We would need to look into which ones are owned by the Council and which are owned by others such as the Town Council or individuals.

Members of the Harbour Users Group noted that the lifting of yachts will take place on Monday 24 April, which is outside of the Easter holidays and the 1<sup>st</sup> convenient Spring Tide. The Harbour Master noted that he had processed the application.

The Chairman of the meeting thanked everyone for the comments, noting that there are a number of things for the service to follow-up on.

**5. Any other matter which the Chairman decide is for the urgent attention of the Committee**

No items were raised.