

Victoria Dock Berth Holders Update – 10TH March 2021

Update following online meeting of VDBHA committee with Barry Davies (Gwynedd Maritime Officer) and Dave O'Neill (CHT Harbour Master) on March 5th 2021

1. DOCK MASTER APPOINTMENT

Mr. Danny Patton has been appointed and it is hoped will be able to commence his duties around the 2nd week of April

2. DREDGING UPDATE

The mobilisation of the dredging team of Royal Smalls from Holland is not permitted to take place due to current travel restrictions into UK.

Realistically the earliest will be in April and due to visual impact on the Menai Strait and the use of the dock there will be no work during the summer months from May onwards. As CHT and Pwllheli do not want another winter without revenue from winter berthing it seems likely that the most appropriate time for dredging to take place will be September. The projected time scale for the dredging operation is 2-3 weeks.

3. EFFLUENT ISSUE

The Council have decided that the re-routing of the Cadnant away from the dock will be too costly.

The inflow at the North end has been traced to highway drainage source and not to foul water.

4. RWYC ROWING UPDATE

The RWYC Celtic longboat and RWYC Caledonian Yaw will be berthed in front of the gallery.

5. CAERNARFON BAR WRECK BUOY UPDATE

The necessary risk assessment is complete and costs and practicality are being considered for the placing of a fixed “Isolated Danger Mark” to be fixed to the wreck of the “Grampian Castle” on Caernarfon Bar.

6. MENAI MARINE UPDATE

The new owners, “Above the Brine”, are well aware of the objections and concerns regarding jet skiers using the dock facilities and are keen to work with respect to the health and environmental issues and noise and nuisance abatement requirements,

7. FEES UPDATE

Following many meetings over the past year the Council is to set a rate for fees to a below rate of inflation rate amounting to a 1% increase for 2021/2022.

Previously agreed by CHT for those who paid berthing fees in full in 2020/21 there will be a refund credit amounting to 10% of last year’s fees.

8. PARKING UPDATE

The Council has agreed to issue 6 month Gwynedd Council parking permits for North side berth holders from April to September 2021. These will be distributed by CHT in April.

Drop-Off and South Quayside Parking display permits will be printed and issued by CHT.

It was explained the Regulatory Authority will not allow permits for local car parks and that the issue of 6 month permits is not a precedent. This means that a long term solution to parking will have to be sought.

12. SPEED LIMITS

As it is likely to be a very busy summer ahead the presence of CHT will be increased to encourage people to abide by the new speed limit regulations

Gwynedd Council has printed large registration stickers for personal watercraft. All PWC launching from Anglesey or Gwynedd must display these stickers.

13. SECURITY

CHT apologised for the recent lack of web cam connection and said that they are on the case and they should be back in action by next week.

CHT is confident that the current level of safety and security of boats in Victoria Dock will not necessarily be improved by moving the South Side coded gate or increasing fencing. This is judged on the basis that any fencing still would not have proved sufficient to deter the individuals that broke into the Caernarfon slate quay compound setting alight and vandalising boats.

14. THE ANNUAL BERTH HOLDERS' SURVEY

The VDBHA annual survey is in preparation and will be issued on line for completion prior to the AGM.

15. FUTURE OF VDBHA

The Committee considered that the outcomes following discussions over the year with CHT and Gwynedd Maritime Officer reflect the collaboration and the importance of the VDBHA in continuing to represent the opinions of berth holders.