

Draft Minutes of MS Teams Meeting GCC VDBHA - Monday 6th Sept 2021 - 10am

Attendees: Sioned Williams (Gwynedd Council Head of Economy and Community), Llyr Beaumont Jones (Gwynedd Council Assistant Head of Economy and Community), Barry Davies (Gwynedd Council Maritime Officer), Chris Jones (VDBHA Chair), Eddie Williams (VDBHA Vice Chair) and John Whittaker (VDBHA Secretary).

The meeting commenced with background concerning the communication issues over the past year. It was evident from all parties that there was a desire to improve matters and engage more fully in information regarding the issues affecting berth holders. The importance and existence and representation of the VDBHA was emphasised and endorsed by GCC officers.

GCC acknowledged the importance and need for investment in the continued improvement of the facilities at the dock for the visitors and the community.

Dock Dredging

To be completed as per Barry Davies's information from Royal Smalls by the end of October. Victoria Dock would be dredged first followed by Hafan Pwllheli. BD said that that Victoria Dock was prioritised due to the importance of berthing requirements for Winter. LIBJ added that whilst in all likelihood that the dredging would indeed be completed by the end of October that this would be subject to the relevant Covid 19 travel restrictions in place at the time.

Parking permits for berth holders

BD said that there is a call from many of the Gwynedd harbours and marinas for localised base parking permits. BD explained why the concessionary permits had to be for 6 months only. BD informed the meeting that his budget requirement would have been required to contribute £10,000 to pay for annual North Side berth Holder permits which was unaffordable on present budget. Therefore at present no further concessionary car parking permits are being considered and it is unlikely that further parking permits will be issued from 1st October 2021. The North side 20 minute drop off permit exemption will continue although it is emphasised that this remains within the prohibitive parking zone.

SW said that berths are not regarded as being local with relevance to parking concessions.

After discussion regarding options, financial and political implications and that not all berth holders require permits, the GCC representatives confirmed that the VDBHA committee would be informed before the end of September of their decision on parking permits for April 2022. The only issue would be determining the cost, working out the administrative details and ensuring that any outcome was fair to all berth holders, irrespective of their berth position in the marina.

It is likely that the result will be a statement proposing the selection of one of the following three options on the CHT annual berth application form :-

- No Permit required
- Permit Required (Gwynedd resident) with cost indicated
- Permit Required (Non- resident) with cost indicated

Berthing Fees

It was evident that berthing fees are set in relation to set revenue targets both for the Maritime Officer and CHT, with specific deductions for essential maintenance such as dock gate, Wi-Fi, security and dredging -over and above the contract services.

BD informed the meeting that the Victoria Dock had received significant investment over the past few years and that berth holders would continue to enjoy the competitively priced marina facilities.

He said that the fees had only been put up in line with inflation.

VDBHA Survey and Purpose

The VDBHA annual survey was viewed by GCC as being an important factor in this process of representation and highlighting of opinions and issues of berth holders- and GCC- would very much hope that this continues in the future.

Toilet Facilities

Toilet facilities remain on the GCC list of but it is very likely that such improvements to the facility will be delayed until such funding becomes available.

Line of Management responsibility

UJ said that the current Service Level Agreement (SLA) with CHT requires revision. SW said that a copy of the SLA between GCC and CHT showing the obligations and responsibilities would be made available to the VDBHA officers before the end of September 2021.

Day to day Dock matters should be referred directly to the CHT dock master or harbour master.

It was agreed that VDBHA representatives would in future meet with senior officers at least twice a year to consider longer term development plans for the Doc, and continue to hold more regular liaison meetings with the Maritime Officer and CHT over day to day issues.

The meeting closed at 11.10 am.

DRAFT