

Minutes of VDBHA Exec Meeting

Venue: TableTable, Victoria Dock

19th May 2023 @ 16.30

Present: Eddie Williams (EW, Chair), Iwan Rees-Jones (IRJ, Dock Master), Lisa Suzanne Sparkes (LS, Secretary).

Apologies: Keith Elford (Treasurer)

EW went through a number of points arising from the 2023 survey organised by John Whitaker. The responses had been presented at the AGM in April and the survey results had been put on line by John Whitaker. Items which generated further significant discussion in the Exec Meeting included:

Toilet Block: IRJ outlined the CHT plans for the toilet block: the boiler room will be smaller, and there will be one disabled toilet, two standard toilets and a shower room, together with two sinks, two vanity units and two hairdryer points. To address concerns expressed, male and female sections will be kept separate.

Effluent: The council proposed to take no action concerning the outflow from the River Cadnant or the outflow into the north east corner of the dock which the council say is from a non-foul source.

Action: EW offered to raise this issue with the relevant council officers.

IRJ reported that the Harbour Trust is considering the installation of waste bins on the four main corners of the dock, which will work through electric pumps. Waste disposal will be the responsibility of CHT.

Action: IRJ will check the costings.

Storm protection: Gwynedd Council have no current plan to storm guard Victoria Dock. Many berth holders consider the present provision insufficient.

Action: EW to raise berth holders' disquiet with CHT and Gwynedd Council.

Security: IRJ reported that all three cameras on the dock have been upgraded, recording 24/7 and storing for 30 days. The Webcams will stay but do not record.

Fob keys will be introduced, with details to be supplied in due course.

EW reported that he had spoken to Manon Roberts, community support police officer following an incident where three apparently inebriated men had been swimming in the dock in the small hours.

Action: EW to invite Manon Roberts to next Exec meeting.

Communication in the locality: Bearing in mind that Victoria Dock is an attractive site and close to the centre of Caernarfon, EW said that there might be merit in improving communication between local inhabitants and the berth holders to mitigate the "us-and-them" attitude.

Action: EW and LS to make some proposals to this effect.

John Heys sail past: This was planned for 10th June with IRJ providing further information in due course. (Post-meeting note – this sail past has now been overtaken by events, namely the dock gate failure)

Power-boat event: EW pointed out that the survey had revealed 31% dissatisfaction at the disruption caused by this event, together with many negative comments, especially as it occurred in

peak holiday time (an August weekend). One of their number had driven through a buoy and broken it in 2022, and this had been posted on social media. IRJ pointed out that no use of the dock's car park would be authorised for 2023, but that berth holders should expect delays due to launching of the power boats. LS said this was a positive event as local people enjoyed it, and it brought money into the local area. IRJ said that the event organisers have been given them the option to continue to use the Sailing Club or have a Port-a -Loo delivered.

Action: EW said he would contact CHT to see if any compensation due to loss of facilities would be forthcoming.

New Gangway: IRJ said this is being redesigned to match the North side gangway.

Gwyl Fwyd. Better communication between the Council and Gwyl stewards is needed to ensure berthholders are not prevented from parking in their car park.

Action: EW to draft a note to be sent via Lisa to Gerwyn who has access to the appropriate council officers. (EW pointed out that correspondence should normally be sent through the secretary, to facilitate checking communication.)

Events for Berth Holders: LS mentioned that she was considering organising a summer barbeque in the Sailing Club or Anglesey Arms, and also a Christmas event. EW pointed out that the VDBHA might be able to support this, but it would need to be approved by the committee.

Action: LS to investigate the possibilities and report back.

Email addresses: IRJ to send LS an updated list of members' email addresses. EW pointed out that due to incompatibility problems he still had to use his personal email address.

Next meeting Probably during week commencing 17th July.

END OF MEETING 17:05.