

Victoria Dock/Doc Fictoria Berth Holders Association

Executive Committee Meeting 06.07.23 at 13.00

Present: Eddie Williams (EW), Lisa Suzanne Sparkes (LS), Dave O'Neill (DO), Gerwyn Owen (GO), Iwan Rees Jones (IRJ).

Apologies: Daniel Farrimond, Matthew Smith and Keith Elford.

Agenda: No alterations.

1 Matters arising from last meeting:

1.1 Harbour Trust waste bins: LS asked about costings, IRJ is trying to identify cost.

1.2 Storm protection of Victoria Dock: EW has raised this matter with DO, and the Harbour Trust is aware of our concern, although no immediate action is proposed.

1.3 Security: Manon Roberts, the local Police Community Support Officer, reports that she is happy to meet with Exec officer. EW to invite her to next official meeting. (She was invited but there was no response.)

1.4 Communication with the locality: EW to make proposals for future meetings.

1.5 John Heyes sail past: This did not go ahead due to the problems with the gate. As an alternative the Queen of the Sea was hired and John's ashes spread into the Menai Strait.

1.6 Gwyl Fwyd: Better communication needed with organisers, stall-holders and Victoria Dock regarding parking. EW has sent a letter through LS.

1.7 Events for berth holders: Summer BBQ for VDBHA (in the event, this idea was not pursued).

1.8 Email addresses: IRJ has sent to LS a list of the email addresses of berth holders.

2 Minutes of meeting 06.07.23

2.1 Gate damage update: DO provided an update on the work which will involve divers, and require specialised equipment. EW expressed gratitude to Vic Dock staff on their rapid response enabling temporary repair to the damage. GO reported that Gwynedd Council are fully aware of the issues concerning Victoria Dock. The Council has a commitment to a longer term service plan including a defence mechanism system.

2.2 Toilet: GO said he would send new revised plans to LS. The revised plan has two toilet and shower blocks, a stand-alone shower and a stand-alone toilet. This is the final plan and will not be changed again. GO said that the plans would be sent out to tender in the following week.

2.3 Annual VDBHA Survey: DO and GO favoured a more standardised survey in terms of questions and format, which could be administered to other marinas (e.g. Pwllheli). EW pointed out that different marinas would have specific matters to raise (e.g. power boat racing outside Victoria Dock). DO agreed that there should still be a place for specific issues, but a large proportion should be standardized.

GO's view was that Cyngor Gwynedd would welcome the opportunity to contribute the survey so that it could be beneficial not only to berth holders but also to the Harbour Trust and the Council on shaping future development. He pointed out that survey results enable officers to fund/apply for funding for upgrade works. For example, the feedback received on the unisex toilets was picked up

by the senior management of the Council, which enabled the officers to allocate funding towards providing the female changing/toilet facility is the toilet block.

John Whittaker has been responsible for administering and analysing recent surveys for VDBHA. There was unresolved discussion on whether this arrangement would continue, or whether the Harbour Trust would assume responsibility. **LS** pointed out that the VDBHA and the CHT could administer separate surveys at different times of the year. It was agreed that there would be merit in the VDBHA and Council cooperating in the construction of the survey, and that it would be sent out in March, ready for the DBHA AGM as is presently the case.

2.4 Berth holder location: It needs to be ensured that this item features in the survey. The estimate is that 60% of current berth holders live more than 50 miles away from marina.

2.5 Internet: There have been connectivity problems in the marina, with an estimate that 10% of users experience problems. **IRJ** is in contact with the provider with a view to improving the situation.

2.6 Testing of the water: **IRJ** said that a marine biology company is being contacted and that the Council/Harbour Trust would bear the cost of testing. **GO** reported that the Council are in contact with Dwr Cymru, while **EW** queried whether the overflow facility into the Dock was being used more frequently than necessary.

3 AOB

3.1 Compensation for loss of facilities: **EW** asked for berth holders to be compensated for lack of Doc Fictoria facilities for the period that the gate was out of action, and suggested a week's free berthing for 2023-24. **GO** said the Council would be looking into the matter, while **DO** felt but that some form of compensation was reasonable.

3.2 John McDermott: John retired after 30 plus years of service to CHT at the end of April, 2023. **EW** proposed a vote of thanks on behalf of the VDBHA for John's work over the years as administrator of Doc Fictoria. This was carried.

4 Actions:

4.1 GO to send **LS** survey from Pwllheli.

4.2 GO to send **LS** new toilet block plans.

4.3 Costings: **LS** will request information regarding outgoings (survey, etc.) from Keith Elford, our Treasurer.

4.4 Events: **LS** is intending to organise a Christmas party, details to follow via email.

Next Meeting: To be arranged for September/October

The meeting ended at 14.00.

EW/LS