

Allerdale Borough Council

Harrington Harbour and Dock Board - Friday 14 December 2018

Harbour Master's Update

The Reason for the Report	The report provides an update on developments effecting Harrington Harbour, for consideration by the Board.
Summary of options considered	Not applicable.
Recommendation	It is recommended that members note the content of the report.
Financial/ Resource Implications	None
Legal Implications	None
Community Safety Implications	None
Health & Safety & Risk Management Implications	The report forms part of the risk management procedure.
Equality Duty considered/Impact Assessment completed	Not applicable
Wards Affected	Harrington Ward
The contribution this decision would make to the Council's priorities	Not applicable
Is this a Key Decision	No
Portfolio Holder	The portfolio holder for asset management is Cllr Barbara Cannon
Lead Officer	Ged Doran Harbourmaster Tel: 07546107008 Ged.doran@allerdale.gov.uk ged-doran@sky.com

1.0 Introduction

The report is intended to keep the Harbour Board informed of current and future issues regarding Harrington Harbour.

2.0 Content

2.1 Aids to Navigation

A Trinity House AtoN (Aids to Navigation) inspection took place at the Harbour on the evening of the 30th of October (Navigation Lights) and the morning of the 31st of October for all other Navigational aids. Unfortunately at the time of the inspection works were being carried out on the old breakwater Starboard daylight Marker to renew two of its stabilising struts. Work was also ongoing to replace the South Pier Starboard Light which had been extinguished for several days.

I spoke with the Trinity House inspector while he was carrying out the inspections and he was quite happy not to issue a notice on the daylight marker on the old Breakwater because the works were to be completed that day, however because the Starboard light on the Pier AtoN number 3332 wasn't working he had to give notice to rectify. I was with the contractors when they removed the faulty light and it was quite obvious the solar panel was at fault because of its dilapidated condition, it was not charging the battery, new parts were ordered for the light and as soon as it was back on station I was asked to inform Trinity House. The light has now been renewed and Trinity House informed. The notice to inspect mentioned another unlit buoy AtoN number NI17494, which had been a seasonal racing buoy I used to deploy in the summer months for Whitehaven Yachting Association, however I haven't been asked to deploy it this year so I requested Trinity House remove it from Notices.

2.2 Handrails & Steps Leading to Pontoons

Some of the concrete steps leading down to the Pontoons are showing airline cracks, works were carried out earlier this year on the bottom 3 steps but again as an ongoing Health and safety issue further works will need to be carried out early next year to break off any concrete showing signs of cracking, they can then be drilled meshed and recapped. The handrail leading down the access steps to the pontoons will need to be refurbished next year i.e. rust chipped off and repainted. It is not apparent at the moment but after chipping the rust off it may be necessary to fit further fixing brackets to the Harbour wall.

2.3 Pontoons

I had intended lifting the pontoons out of the Harbour on the 10th of November but owing to the bad weather the work had to be cancelled. I reordered the crane for the morning of the 22nd of November when the tides would be right. The Weather forecast for the 22nd was forecast at 6 kn Easterlies which although cold it makes for a calmer Solway resulting in calmer conditions within the Harbour which is essential for removing the Pontoons. I have informed all Harbour users of my intention to lift the Pontoons out and have given my reasons for doing so, those reasons being less wear and tear over the winter months and for essential

maintenance works. The pontoons are now approximately eleven years old and for safety reasons the decking will need to be renewed before they are lifted back into the Harbour. I will seek costs for replacement UPVC decking and forward to Trevor Hurst.

2.4 Boat Planters

As mentioned in my last report and with a taint of sadness I appointed a contractor on the morning of the 16th of November to remove two of the little boats which have been used as flower planters over recent years. Originally I made and fit a mast and rigging to one of the fibreglass boats which had sadly been vandalised and the mast broken, the gunwales and foredeck had also been badly damaged to a point where repair was not an option. The other boat was a clinker built boat which lay on the Hard Standing but had sadly started to break up. I received a phone call from a very disgruntled lady on the evening of the 16th of November asking what right I had to remove the boats, my reply to her was because they have been vandalised to a point where they had become dangerous. I feel extremely sorry for those who have worked hard planting and tending the little boats which make the Harbour area very colourful during the summer months.

2.5 Removal of Unlicensed Boats

Unfortunately over the last two months it has been necessary to issue two boat owners with removal notices for non compliance of the Rules and Regulations, Clauses (1) (13) and (20). As stated in my last report all who request a mooring in Harrington Harbour are issued with an application form and a copy of those rules and regulations which is pretty much commonplace in most Harbours.

I am quite saddened that these boat owners had to be issued with the order to remove as they have been Harbour users for several years and as Harbour Master I'm passionate about having as many boats in the Harbour as possible, however it is my duty as Harbour Master to enforce the rules and instruct non compliant owners to remove their vessels.

2.6 Beached Whale

Further to my last report regarding the young Sowerbys Beaked Whale which was discovered washed up on the beach in September by a member of the public, I received an email from Dr Paul Jepson who I assisted in the Post Mortem of the young Whale, he said he didn't get anything else grown in culture on the samples he took away so the official cause of death was Live Stranding. Such a sad ending I think to a magnificent creature whose numbers are dwindling sharply. Incidentally, in Dr Jepson's email he told me he was about to travel to Wales to do another Post-mortem on yet another whale stranding.

2.7 Road Along West Quay

The Road along West Quay which runs along the Hard Standing and access to mooring ladders is again in a bad state of repair, with large pot holes which fill with water on wet days. Repairs were carried out several months ago with loose

shale but sadly it only lasted for a short time. Several members of the public who walk along West quay and several boat owners have complained at the condition of the road and asked if it was going to be repaired. I told all complainants I would report their concerns to the Harbour Board.

2.8 Incident with Vandals

I received a phone call from one of the mooring holders on the evening of the 18th of November to report a fire which had been started by several youths behind the West Quay enclosure. The youths had also climbed over the gates on West Quay to gain entry and started throwing fish boxes, a lifebelt, pieces of timber and lobster pots about.

I arrived at the Harbour at approximately 18:20 and remonstrated with the youths whereby two of them apologised and left immediately the other three left a little time later. I was unaware a member of the public had called the Police but unfortunately when they arrived all the youths had left. I inspected the West Quay area the next morning and fortunately no permanent damage had been caused.

**Ged Doran
Harbour Master**