

Allerdale Borough Council

Harrington Harbour and Dock Board 21/06/19

Harbourmasters Report

The Reason for the Decision	The report provides an update on developments effecting Harrington Harbour, for consideration by the Board.
Summary of options considered	Not applicable
Recommendations	It is recommended that members note the content of the report.
Financial / Resource Implications	None
Legal / Governance Implications	None
Community Safety Implications	None
Health and Safety and Risk Management Implications	This report forms part of the risk management procedure
Equality Duty considered / Impact Assessment completed	Not applicable
Wards Affected	Harrington & Salterbeck
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
Lead Officer	Ged Doran Harbourmaster Tel: 07546107008 ged-doran@sky.com

Report Implications

Community Safety	N	Financial	N
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Legal	N	Partnership	N
Social Inclusion	N	Asset Management	Y
Equality Duty	N	Health and Safety	Y
Employment (internal)	N	Employment (external to the Council)	N

Background Papers

None

1.0 Introduction

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

2.0 West Quay

West Quay is an enclosed operational area for safety reasons and excludes members of the public. The pontoons within the Harbour are only for the use of mooring holders and visitors to the Harbour. Two commercial fishermen have moorings at the Harbour and they store their equipment on West Quay i.e., lobster pots, nets, ropes, trawl boards etc.

The container on West Quay houses all equipment required for moorings and pontoons are stacked in front of the container.

During construction of the enclosure, it was recommended that the enclosure should be extended out to the swing gate and that the grassed areas should be concreted. This would have created a larger organised space; the recommendations were not implemented due funding restrictions.

If funding became available, West Quay could be extended to create an improved functional and operational area.

3.0 Pontoons

A meeting took place at the Harbour two weeks ago between T Hurst, D Woods (contractor) and myself (Harbourmaster) to discuss the renewal of the pontoon decking. The pontoons are now over ten years old, and although I have not discovered any visible signs of rot, due to the age of the timber and concerns over Health and Safety, the decking should be renewed.

The pontoons take a battering in the Harbour over the months in which they are in-situ which is generally between April and September. Due to this maintenance is required, especially on the connector plates and slider pads. Ideally the pontoons should be kept in the Harbour all year round, this benefits harbour users who use the Harbour all year. Due to swells it is not safe however to do so.

4.0 Boat Insurance

Over the last Twelve months two boat owners have had removal notices issued to them for non-compliance of Clause 13, (Rules and regulations) which states, there is a requirement for all Licensees to have current Liability insurance with a minimum indemnity limit set by the HH&DB. Failure to comply with this requirement will result in the termination of the Licence and the vessel removed and the boat owner responsible for any expenses incurred.

At the writing of this report I have issued a verbal removal notice to a boat owner (by phone) as I did not have an address. The owner has moored on a wall mooring without the necessary documentation and permission, if I don't get a response I will request the hire of a crane to lift the boat out and impound until all dues are paid.

5.0 Dredging

It is essential to constantly monitor the navigable depths within the inner and outer Harbour and periodic meetings take place at the Harbour between myself and Trevor Hurst to discuss the build-up of mud, sand and shale, this year the inner Harbour roads were cleared of mud build up and the area between the Pier and Breakwater have been cleared of shale and sand, however there are still areas within the inner and outer Harbour which require dredging.

I have had discussions with potential Harbour users who would like to sail into Harrington; however they express fears of grounding. It is difficult to persuade an owner of a £50,000 yacht that they would be fine on spring tides.

I have Skipped a 40 foot 1.2m fin keeled Yacht (Solway Adventurer) from Maryport into Harrington without difficulty due to my local knowledge of the channel and inner Harbour

6.0 Boat Planters

Early last year due to vandalism, I had to make the difficult decision to remove two of the boat planters from the harbour. The planters were painted by children from the local Youth Club with assistance from Sheila Rumney, who has now sadly passed away.

I recently met up with Sheila Rumneys daughters who have now planted seeds in the remaining boat planters. This is a credit to them and those within the community of Harrington who volunteer to plant and maintain the flowers which brighten up the Harbour tops during the summer months. The volunteer's efforts and hard work should not go unnoticed or unmentioned.

7.0 Visit from Whitehaven Sailing Association

A request was made by Whitehaven Sailing and Boating association for several Yachts to visit the Harbour on the 20th of April, however due to the weather conditions the visit had to be cancelled, their visit has become somewhat of an annual event so hopefully it will be re organised for later in the summer.

Harrington used to be quite a destination for many yachtsmen especially from South West Scotland and the Isle of Man. Over recent years their visits have declined, and their destination is now Whitehaven or Maryport.

This will not change until Harrington is transformed into a Marina. From discussions with boat owners from neighbouring harbours, there would be a rush for a mooring if Harrington had a flap gate and pontoons.

8.0 Dog Faeces

To update new members I have re-entered this from my last report

The Harbour and surrounding grassed areas including the Boat hard standing where boat owner's work on their boats has become the victim of dog fouling.

On several occasions while walking around the Harbour especially around the Hard standing area I have got back into my van with dog faeces on my shoes. I rarely see dog owners carrying a bag or poop scoop which in some parts of the Country is an offence in itself. I believe this is something Allerdale should consider, unscrupulous and uncaring dog owners don't seem to think it is an offence not to clean up after their dogs when in fact there is an on the spot fine of £80.00 or up to £1000.00 if taken to court. They don't seem to consider other members of the public that walk the land around the Harbour nor the kids who come down to play.

I was talking to a boat owner and the owner of a young dog (name and address supplied) who said his young dog had died from Canine Parvovirus which he is adamant was picked up from dog faeces during his daily walks around the Harbour area.

**Ged Doran
Harbourmaster**