

ASSOCIATION OF DART RIVER USER CLUBS

MINUTES OF MEETING, 11.4.2019.

Held at Totnes Boating Association Clubhouse.

Present:

Chair Anne Davis.

Members and organisations represented: Marion Adams and Ian Adams TBA; Mike Brown, Dartmouth Yacht Club; Norman Doige, RDYC; Neil Hockaday and Bob Miller, Dart Sailability; Richard Balfry DLBOA.

In attendance: Harbourmaster Mark Cooper, Board Member John Ellwood.

Apologies: James Dodd.

Minutes of meeting 11.10.2018 approved and signed.

3. Matters Arising:

Dredging off RDYC. Norman Doige for the RDYC mentioned that the RDYC pontoons now dry at LWS. HM noted this and also pointed out that silting does occur mainly where moored boats are positioned due to the interruption to water flow allowing the silt to drop out.

Dittisham Summer Pontoon. After further discussions with the Dittisham community, and consideration of pontoon lengths, these will be installed again for Summer use.

Disabled access to river. Disabled access to the river is progressing; Dart Sailability is purchasing hoist equipment to be installed on the pump-out pontoon at Darthaven. This will be managed by HM, and used by Competent Users only. HM also encouraged all clubs on the river to consider their own Disabled Access.

4. Chair's Report.

AD has been meeting with groups on the river:-

At a meeting with the Principal of Dart Sailability Ian Wakeling (also the rep on ADRUC), developments in the organisation and its boats were discussed.

At a followup meeting with the manager of Noss Marina Andy Osman, progress on the development was reported to be on

schedule. On the river, pile work will commence on 1.10.19 to fulfil environmental obligations. The plan is to replace the South block of pontoons in the coming winter. The inner pontoon of the North block will connect to the shore via the new pontoons. Pontoon lighting should be in place for Spring 2020.

On shore, the berthholders' multistory car park will be developed on schedule. The Phillips building facade is to be preserved and redeveloped.

5. HM's update.

The HM made some further points about dredging. At Noss Marina dredging can go ahead because the spoil from this site, 12 - 15,000 cu M, is going to be used for landfill on the development site itself.

A possible dredging operation at Baltic Wharf is being studied, with the proposal that the finance for this should come from the Totnes Neighbourhood Development Plan.

Dredging in the area of the "Hole in the Wall" is being assessed by the Environmental Group with the aim of using the spoil to block the hole.

The HM has been carrying out a preliminary review of the South Marine Plan involving the whole South coast, as the DHNA is a statutory consultee for this document. Local Neighbourhood Planning groups should be encouraged to get involved with this in order to match plans to local policies.

There is a limit of 1 year for consultation.

Moorings charges this coming year have been increased by less than the RPI. Visitors' mooring fees are not being increased at all, in order to encourage visiting vessels.

The moorings policy is being taken forward to adjust mooring positions while maintaining the total number of moorings unchanged. Moorings suitable for various boat lengths are being reviewed. Some discounts will be offered for some mooring sites and times of year. It is proposed that mooring fees should be adjusted to account for the length of the berth or individual mooring capacity rather than the length of the boat occupying it. Comments would be welcomed from ADRUC members and their clubs.

The DHNA is focussing on stewardship of the environment. There are plans for an Oil Spill exercise. Neighbourhood Beach Cleanup groups are being encouraged. The DHNA has equipment available to borrow for this. All clubs on the river are encouraged to organise their own Beach Cleanup events.

6. Representation role of ADRUC; possible extension of role and change of name.

AD outlined the background to this item; ADRUC had previously been titled the Leisure Users Group. The DHNA has asked the committee to consider returning to this title, thereby including directly those leisure boat owners who do not belong to a club on the river. It was felt that if the DLBOA becomes an active organisation again this would provide a suitable voice for those owners and maintain the balance of a functional committee. Equally there are now many groups of amateur river users not directly represented, but the current organisation would become difficult to manage if it broadened its remit too far.

The committee therefore decided that ADRUC should maintain its present title and role but that the DLBOA should be supported in becoming more active and vocal.

7. The committee felt that we should invite a representative from the Community Users' Group to selected meetings, and offer to send a representative to their meetings as needed.

8. Mayflower 400 developments were outlined. See the website www.mayflower400uk.org.

9. Noss Marina Update. See Chair's Report.

10. AOB.

Ian Adams (TBA) informed the meeting that the TBA pontoon is being launched imminently. This is open and available for temporary mooring to any boater that wishes to visit their clubhouse.

The HM thanked Richard Balfry for taking on the role of DLBOA representative and for his plans to reactivate it.

Richard Balfry responded expressing his willingness to move

the DLBOA forward.

11. Date and venue of next meeting. A date in early November 2019 will be circulated. Venue: Dartmouth Yacht club

Anne Davis, April 2019