

Port Edgar Marina - Berth Holders Association

(Provisional)

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at 7 pm on Monday 11th November 2013 at Port Edgar.

1. Attendance: Frank Pullen (Chairman)

Murray Carmichael (Vice-Chairman)

Colin Scott (Hon Treasurer)

Brian Smellie (Hon Secretary)

Ken McLeod (Power Boat Rep)

Doug Ross (PEYC Liaison)

2. Apologies: Pete Sykes, Margaret McGregor, Karl Weibye, Colin Henderson & John Laurie

3. Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the previous meeting held on the 5th August 2013 were approved and signed by the Chairman subject to a correction in the spelling of Fraser Sturgeon's name.

4. Report on up-to-date situation on Port Edgar Marina:

It was reported that a 30 year Lease had been agreed between the City of Edinburgh Council and Port Edgar Marina Holdings. An initial capital spend of £1.2 million had been committed to and will involve upgrading some of the buildings and a capital dredge of the Marina to achieve a 2 metre depth below chart datum. Areas to the west of the current Marina Office including PEYC, the car park, boat and dinghy storage areas shall be leased on a short term basis from the Council. The new consortium will take over management of the Marina from 1st April 2014.

5. Closure of the Sailing School at Port Edgar.

The Sailing School closed at the end of October. A bid to take over the running of the Sailing School and its assets was submitted by the Scottish Sailing Trust, a community based initiative led by two senior members of PEYC. A significant capital sum had been raised from the local sailing community to support this bid but after consideration, Edinburgh Leisure turned down this proposal in favour of a bid from JP Watersports. (See website www.scottishsailingtrust.com for more information) It is understood that J P Watersports will continue with the programme of sailing instruction and that James Urquhart is to be retained as Sailing School Manager by the new operators. As yet no announcement has been made about providing RYA approved shore based courses at Port Edgar.

6. BHA Office Bearers for 2014/15

A discussion took place regarding the office bearers to be put forward for election at the Association's AGM on 24th March 2014. As several of the existing office bearers have served for a number of years, it was agreed that the Hon Secretary should e-mail members in good time before the AGM giving them an opportunity to put forward nominations for the main office bearers namely Chairman, Vice Chairman, Hon Secretary, Hon Treasurer and for further Committee members.

Action: BS

7. Matters Arising & Chairman's Report

a) Weather Station: The new Weather Station is working well but it was discovered during a recent period of adverse weather, that the wind speed processor is not able to deal with winds above 40 knots. The Manufacturers (Davis) have now kindly provided a replacement circuit board that will resolve this problem and the replacement component has now been fitted. It was suggested that not all BHA Members are aware of the existence of the Weather Station and the valuable information it is able to provide. It was agreed we should e-mail members before the beginning of next season and draw their attention to this valuable facility.

Action: FP, BS & JL

b) Dredging: "Thumper" is operational and the dredging of the Marina continues on an ongoing basis.

c) East Coast Sailing Week: The event was a great success and congratulations are due to the Organising Committee. The event also produced a small financial surplus.

d) Defibrillator: The defibrillator is located in the Marina Office and all Marina staff have been trained in its use in the event of an emergency. Signs are still awaited for various strategic locations around the Marina giving details of the defibrillator's location and how to access it outside office hours.

Action: FP

e) Cross Party Group: The Chairman had attended a recent Meeting of the Scottish Parliament's Cross Party Group on Recreational Boating and Marine Tourism. It was noted at the Meeting that the Community based bid for the Sailing School at Port Edgar had not succeeded. The Executive were asked to investigate this and report back.

Bob Baker, of the Forth Ports Authority, advised the Meeting that their priority was safety on the Forth and Commercial Shipping. They have no responsibility for developing recreational boating in the Forth Estuary. The BHA will keep abreast of developments with this Group.

Action: FP & MM

8. Hon. Treasurer's Report: The Hon. Treasurer circulated a financial report that showed a satisfactory financial situation for the Association and confirmed that the cash in the Bank was currently £1404. He also reported that £70 had been received in fees from organisations with a web link to the BHA website and in view of this we must make sure that the web links are operational.

Action: KW

9. Web Site: The new Website is still awaiting a final update of the wording and this situation has been dragging on for some months. In view of this it was agreed that FP, BS and KW should complete this task and get the new website updated and fully operational as soon as possible.

Action: KW, FP & BS

10. BHA Boat Jumble: It was agreed to continue with the Boat Jumble in aid of the RNLI for this coming year and to hold it on the last Sunday in February. FP agreed to make the necessary arrangements.

Action: FP

11. Any other Business

- Speakers for the AGM: Several suggestions were made including Russell Aitken of Port Edgar Marina Holdings, a representative from the RYA, a speaker from the New Forth Crossings Constructors and a representative from Helix. FP & BS agreed to progress this.

Action: FP & BS

- Forth Road Bridge 50th Anniversary: It was reported that a celebration to mark the 50th Anniversary of the opening of the Forth Road Bridge is due to take place from the 6th -13th September 2014. It is anticipated that sailing and power craft will be encouraged to participate and further information can be obtained from www.forthbridgesfestival.com .

- Electricity Metering: A question was raised about the £50 deposit for Electricity Meters currently held by the Marina. What will happen to this deposit when the new operators take over? It was agreed to clarify this with the Marina Management.

Action: FP

12. Dates of future Meetings: The following dates were agreed for BHA Committee Meetings for next year as follows:

3rd February 2014
24th March – AGM
26th May
4th August
10th November

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.