

Port Edgar Marina – Berth Holders’ Association

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at 7 pm on Monday 7th August 2017 in Classroom 2 at Port Edgar

1. Attendance: Mike McGregor (Chairman)
Colin Scott (Hon Treasurer)
Craig Shirlaw (Hon Secretary)
Frank Pullen (Past Chairman)
Colin Henderson (Commercial Users Rep)
John Laurie (Membership Secretary)
Willie Mills (Webmaster)
Debra Mills (Communications)
Tony Read
Marion Read
2. Welcome: The Chairman welcomed Tony & Marion Read who were attending the meeting to observe with a view to joining the Committee.
3. Graham Sutherland: Graham felt that as he no longer has a boat and had missed recent meetings has formally resigned from the committee.
4. Apologies: Margaret McGregor.
5. Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the previous Committee Meeting held on Monday 6th February 2017 were approved.
6. Matters Arising:
 - a. Communication with Membership

There was a general discussion regarding membership numbers. At its peak we had 170 members. By this point last year we had 76 but currently we have 43. It was generally felt that a major factor causing the reduction in membership was

the marina no longer collecting membership forms and fees on our behalf when collecting berthing fees.

A discussion on membership fee amount concluded with no change made.

JL will send membership lists from previous 2 years to CS who has list of payees this year. These will be consolidated and provided to DM for use in a followup mailshot. As membership secretary JL will formally hold the list of members.

Action: JL, CS, DM

The membership application form will be added to the PEBHA web site.

Action: WM

A Paypal account will be created to facilitate membership payments via the internet.

Action: CS

FP thus far has not approached marina boat staff to provide membership form to owners of boats being launched but will do so for next season's launch.

Action: FP

b. BHA Membership Benefits:

No progress to report

c. Site Security:

Marina have now talked to WM re issues previously reported. They expressed surprise that site staff had not ventured further than lit area. WM reported that trees and foliage had been cleared at west end of site. It was suggested that this end of the marina is being tidied up in preparation for opening of the Queensferry Crossing in early September. CH reported that cameras are being installed in this part of the site.

d. Pumping Station Requirement:

Marina management have indicated that no facilities will be provided to allow boats to empty tanks of foul water.

e. Grounding in Marina:

As a result of our discussions the Marina have posted a bathymetric chart on the loop shed noticeboard. We are unable to provide the chart to our members. It is

recognised that the chart is unlikely to reflect accurate marina depths due to ever changing silt levels.

CH suggested members could use the capabilities of Navionics software to record accurate soundings using a simple Bluetooth transponder on their own boats. CH to investigate further.

Action: CH

7. Chairman's Report:

The Chairman circulated his report to the Meeting and is copied below:

PE BHA Chairman's Report – August 2018

Including issues discussed with Russell Aitken and Fraser Sturgeon

Issues from PE BHA AGM 22/3/17

Fuelling facilities for Petrol Engined power boats, and outboards:

PEM had no plans to provide a fuel facility in addition to the current diesel service. It was felt that the demand for petrol did not warrant this. They did however suggest that Berth D90, at the foot of the West ramp to the pontoons was vacant and might be used as a refuelling point, to prevent lugging jerry cans to the owner's usual berth.

Self Closing Gates at Pontoon Ramps

PEM were aware of the noise nuisance and regular failure of self closing devices. The original noise complainant has apparently now been offered a different berth. Closing devices are a continuing problem, although new ones have recently been installed. PEM suggest that one reason is the weight of the gates and their windage – a closing device strong enough to close the gates in windy conditions will slam on calm days. There is only a maximum 2mm of rubber cushion available to allow closure, and this cannot cope with all conditions. PEM would welcome suggestions for improvement.

Issues from BHA Committee 5/6/17:

Communication with Membership

Ongoing

BHA Membership Benefits

Ongoing

Site Security

Staff inspections beyond Lit area

PEM were unable to understand suggestions that the security staff failed to go past the Lit area at the west end of the Marina site. While the site did extend into unlit areas, there were check-in points in these dark areas which had to be visited as part of their rounds. There are 16 Deister points around the Marina, and the security staff use the security mobile to check-in at them. This is the same mobile as has the Marina out-of hours number. Failure to check in would be recorded.

Vandalism to old Naval Buildings outside PEM site

This is a concern for PEM, as vandalism has also been carried out to the old naval chapel and morgue on the PEM site. Strictly, as landlords Edinburgh Council are responsible for the PEM security there, while the old naval buildings now belong to the Scottish Government. While PEM have complained already, they appreciated the possibility of the BHA also complaining to the council and government, along with the local councillors and MSPs.

Date of Open Days

BHA still to decide on 2018 Boat Jumble. The Open Days at the marina have been confirmed as 12/13 May 2018

Flare disposal

Bosun's Locker will arrange to dispose of old flares for purchasers of new ones. This will be at a cost of £1.80 per flare, the sum the flare wholesalers charge the Bosun's.

Previously discussed

Silting & grounding

As set out in the BHA Website

Pumping Station

PEM have no plans to provide a pumping-out station for waste/sewage tanks.

Subsequent to the June Committee

Gate Security

At the request of the police, PEM admin had asked owners to check boats in case a missing person had accessed the pontoons and was sleeping on one. No one had been found but it did raise the issue of ensuring the pontoon gates were only accessed by passcode, particularly as the planned additional tourist activity on site would potentially mean more people wanting on to pontoons.

Croma Vigilant Security

This company provide the gate and security staff for PEM. I raised concerns a few weeks ago when the crew of a large Danish ketch found that the power on their pontoon had outed. It was after 20.30, but calls to the published out of hours numbers went unanswered. Luckily the gate was staffed and had Fraser & Russels' contact numbers, but since the security person knew that a marina engineer was working on his own boat I was able to get him to attend to the matter. I did raise concerns about lack of reponse, but PEM stated they were frequently required to come back in reponse to out of hours calls.

Power Outages on Pontoons

If there is an outage, PEM is willing to permit the trip switch on the local electricity/water pod, or on the pontoon box, to be reset by berth holders. They do not want owners to handle more serious outages.

New electricity pods are currently being replaced on an as required basis.

8. Boat Jumble: Following the Chairman's report and subsequent discussion it was decided there would not be a BHA boat jumble in 2018 but it would be considered in future.
9. Hon. Treasurer's Report: The Hon. Treasurer circulated Receipts and Payments for the Association for the period January 1st 2017 to 7th August 2017. This is copied below. Proceeds from the Boat Jumble of £164 have been paid over to RNLI Queensferry.

Port Edgar Marina BHA

Receipts & Payments

1 January - 7 August 2017

	£	£	Jan-Jul 2016 £
Receipts			
Subscriptions		129.00	228.00
Donations		9.00	7.00
Bank interest		0.38	0.36
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		138.38	235.36
Payments			
RYA membership	125.00		125.00
Notice Board	42.00		
Website costs			39.99
Printing	56.00		
AGM catering	40.00		40.00
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		263.00	204.99
Surplus / (Defecit)		(124.62)	30.37
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Opening bank balance		1,630.81	1,630.02
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Closing bank balance		1,506.19	1,660.39

Notes

Members

We have 43 members so far. By this point last year we had 76.

Jumble sale

In addition to the above figures we collected £164 at the Jumble Sale and this has been paid over to RNLI Queensferry. (Last year we raised £70)

10. Webcam: CH has kindly provided and installed a replacement webcam. The previous camera had stopped functioning and was irreparable. The wider angle now displayed was positively appreciated.

11. Website Update: WM reported that there had been little change in the website. A request for improved presentation of weather information was made and WM agreed to investigate.

Action: WM

12. AOCB:

a) Pontoon E: FP reported that the black rubbing protection on “new” pontoon fingers is to be replaced soon. The current bands are marking fenders and boat hulls.

b) Pontoons: Broken planks on fingers are sometimes not repaired for several days after they have been reported to the Marina. This is an obvious safety issue and needs to be escalated to marina management.

c) **Action: All**

Dates of future Meetings:

The following date has been agreed for future BHA Committee Meetings:

6th November

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