



# St Helier Boat Owners Association

## Minutes of a Committee Meeting held at St Helier Yacht Club on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2022 at 1730 hours

Present:	Will Simpson                      Nick Wood Christine Gill                      David Wood Kevin Hennelly                      Mike Capraro Peter Rose                              George Gaudin Phil Carter	
1. Apologies	None. Vic Walker absent.	
2. Minutes of the Last Meeting	The Minutes of the meeting held on 12 <sup>th</sup> May 2022 were approved and signed by the Chairman.	
3. Matters Arising.	<p><u>Boat Show Reception for Members.</u> It was agreed that this had been a success, and the cost worthwhile, in particular because it gave an opportunity for members and Committee to talk to those connected with Ports and including officials visiting from France.</p> <p><u>Elizabeth Marina.</u></p> <p><i>Lights.</i> There are still problems with the lights not being easily visible and boats gathering at the gates, waiting for the lights to change. PR observed that it took no time to stay on the berth and to walk along the pontoon, as one was waiting, to see the lights, but nevertheless the lack of visibility is a much reported problem among members. NW reported that PoJ were proposing to put lights on the top of the entrance huts at the top of the pedestrian ramps but this had not occurred so far. The committee recommends that this issue is resolved before the commencement of the 2023 season.</p> <p><i>Dogs.</i> PR said that are at least 4 dogs regularly on his pontoon in Elizabeth marina, two of them quite possibly owned by “Liveaboards”. Despite the rules regarding the control of dogs on the marina, there are still regular incidents of dogs fouling the pontoons and sometimes mooring ropes and power poles, yet dog owners are often not cleaning up afterwards. This problem is exacerbated by the current hosepipe ban, and by the fact that any visiting boats coming in with dogs aboard are berthed in Elizabeth.</p> <p>It seems clear that some dog owners are ignoring the rules, that the situation is not being policed at all, and that the result is very unpleasant – not to mention a health hazard - for all the other berth holders. After some discussion it was reluctantly agreed that the best solution would be to recommend to PoJ a total ban on dogs, as the current lenient position, with dogs supposedly kept on a lead, is not working.</p> <p><i>Car Parking.</i> Some berth holders (presumed to be liveaboards) were leaving cars parked from 5pm until 9am on the few 20-minute parking bays which was preventing all other evening visitors from using this facility. Once the Ports parking attendants complete their shift there is no one policing this. Similarly, one can arrive early in the morning, to load/unload onto your boat, and there is nowhere to park. Various suggestions were made: installing CCTV; getting the G4S security guards to take photos; an email address which people could use to inform Harbours. It was agreed to recommend these potential solutions to PoJ</p>	WS

	<p><u>Holding Pontoons.</u> There seem to be problems with local boats using No. 5 Berth, they are being told to go to La Collette, which is often full. There seems to be uncertainty about the rules for using No 5. WS would raise this with Marine Leisure.</p> <p><u>Visiting France.</u> The general view was that it has now become much easier to go to French ports, especially the smaller ones, than has been the case in the past 2 years. As long as one completes the appropriate form and sends it to the port authorities, entry is allowed without necessarily stamping passports. A more relaxed attitude seems to prevail. However, it was noted that these arrangements are largely informal, and the formal rules remain cumbersome. The committee reminds all boat owners to take all ship's documents and personal ID etc when visiting France as the possibility of being subjected to the full immigration procedure remains.</p> <p><u>Donation in memory of Myra Shacklady.</u> It was agreed to send a donation of £100 to Channel Island Air Search.</p>	WS
4. Chairman's Report	<p>The Chairman said there was little to report that was not covered by the rest of the Agenda.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• He noted that the new parking area on the Albert Pier was now complete.</li> <li>• Rob Larbalastier has moved on from working at Ports and his position in charge of the outlying and drying harbours taken over by Andy Vibert.</li> </ul>	WS/DW
5. Treasurer's Report	<p>DW reported that Memberships stand at 183 with 249 members. Bank balances currently are: Cash account £ 483.35; Savings £6,415.63. Expenses were in line with previous years, other than the £1440 spent on the Boat Show Reception. He noted that we have not yet made our usual donations to the Charities. Donations had now been made to each of CIAS and the RNLI (two years, £1120 each) and had been gratefully received and acknowledged.</p>	
6. AGM	<p>Two dates were proposed for the AGM, either 29<sup>th</sup> or 30<sup>th</sup> November. CG to arrange with St HYC.</p> <p>DW will produce draft accounts ahead of the next meeting.</p>	CG DW
7. The Future of St Helier Harbour	<p>There was not much information in the Harbour Master Plan as recently publicised about leisure boating. PC reported that he had been to a meeting which had mainly discussed LO-LO operations moving to Elizabeth Harbour. There did not seem to be any plans for La Folie. NW observed that PoJ will not be paying much attention to the leisure operations until LO-LO has moved. NW proposed that PoJ be invited to make a presentation at the AGM. WS to arrange an invitation.</p>	WS
8. Liveaboards	<p>There was much discussion about the problem of Liveaboards, of which there are estimated to be about 60, although the Marina Office cannot confirm this number. These berth-holders are generally perceived as using more than their fair share of marina resources including parking and fresh water and the trend seems to be increasing.</p> <p>Citing one specific case, PR reiterated that a boat in the marinas should be 'seaworthy', i.e. "able to safely perform what it is designed to do".</p>	

	It was agreed that it is a problem, but it would not be helpful to end up with a situation like Guernsey, where there is zero tolerance, and one cannot even spend a single night on one's boat in the marinas.	WS
9. Damage from Construction Site	There are continuing and increasing problems with boats in Elizabeth Marina being affected by rust and grit from grinding on the construction site. Although one can ask for a boat to be cleaned, it may happen again and each time the gel coat is damaged. There was discussion about to whom we should write. CG suggested the Health & Safety section of Building Standards and would send a link to WS.	CG
10. Any Other Business	PC commented that there were signs of subsidence in the parking area at La Collette. WS said he would raise it at his next meeting with Marine Leisure.	WS
11. Date of Next Meeting	The meeting closed at 1900 hours. The next meeting will be on Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> November 2022.	