



YMDDIRIEDOLAETH HARBWR CAERNARFON HARBOUR TRUST.



MARINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES.

Meeting held 10am, Thursday, 12th February, 2026.
Board Room, Cei Llechi.

IN ATTENDANCE –

Ian Park (CM) Chairman

Jo Ormond (JO) – Portdinerwic Marina Commercial Manager

Kevin Roberts (KR) – Portdinerwic Marina General Manager

Mike Thomas (MT) – Anglesey Council Maritime Officer

Rowland Sharp (RS) – Natural Resources Wales

Trevor Jones (TJ) – The Menai Strait Fishery Order Management Association

Lee ? – RNLI

Chris Seddon – Ty Calch

Noel Bristow (NB) – Portdinerwic Sailing Club

APOLOGIES –

John Jones - River Seiont Residents Representative

David O’Neill - Harbour Master, Caernarfon Harbour Trust

OFFICERS –

Jennifer Jones – Caernarfon Harbour Trust Administrator (JEJ)

1. Welcome and Comments from the Chair.

CM – I intend resigning from the MAC as Chair and Committee member. I have sat my three-year term and feel that the next Chair should be in a position where they can give more time to the committee and be someone who is better connected to the locality.

It is also proving difficult to receive items for the agenda from the Committee members.

I would also like to see the appointment of a Vice Chairman, in the interest of continuity. I wish to propose this to CHT for their consideration. **Committee are in agreement.**



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2. Issues Concerning Safety.

NB – Open water swimming especially outside the Garddfon and in Rowen Bay. Is it possible for these areas to be marked off in some way?

IP – There are possibly four open water swimming clubs that use the Straits on a regular basis. Is the Trust permission need to put down temporary markers?

MT – Organizers are not notifying us of any swimming events taking place.

NB – There are small local clubs that do swim in Rowen Bay and in front of the Garddfon pub. Would CHT consider putting a notice on their current speed limit to warn of open water swimmers in these areas? What can CHT do to improve safety for swimmers? **These question to be passed to the Harbour Master.**

RNLI – We can give safety messages to open water swimming clubs. We always recommend they join organised events, wear suitable clothing and use tow floats, in order to be seen.

JO – Have swimmers been entering / exiting the waters via the outer basin at Portdinerwic Marina?

IP – Yes.

JO – There are clear No Swim signs in this area.

3. Issues Concerning Buoyage and Pilotage.

Nothing to report.

4. Issues Concerning Moorings and Marinas.

IP – It would be useful for visitors to know what moorings are available to them at Y Felinheli and how to pay for their stay.

JEJ – Five yellow buoys will be placed throughout the swinging moorings at Y Felinheli this coming season. These will be clearly marked to include maximum tonnage.

IP – Would it be possible to put this information on CHT website? To include location map, vessel specification and ways to pay?



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JEJ – Yes. This information could be included within our Information tab. **JEJ to put this to the Trust.**

5. Issues Concerning Environment.

TJ – Invasive species from visiting yacht and yachts at anchor paying out and dragging too much chain, resulting in degradation of the sea bed (substrate).

RS - The introduction of invasive species is mainly from vessels that have not been properly maintained for many years. Usually seen when boats are newly purchased and the owners don't know the impact of poor hull maintenance. Most boat owners keep their hulls clean to reduce drag, thus saving on fuel and increasing boat speed.

This is particularly pertinent as CHT are going to be introducing a scrubbing off grid in their new plans. I think it is important that vessels using these grids are carefully monitored and questions are being asked of the owners, such as – where the vessel has come from / when was the hull last scrubbed / etc. It may be worth CHT introducing a booking system so that these activities can be monitored.

MT – Prohibited vehicles on beaches during cockle season. Especially Traeth Melynog.

CS – Cockle gangs have been parking off the Golf Club along the Foryd and launching their boats. Also using quad bikes and other vehicles, making access and causing a public nuisance. The people are also very aggressive.

RS – The quadbikes are also damaging the seagrass at Traeth Melynog. The vessels these Cockle Gangs operate are not coded and it is not likely that their harvested tonnage is being accurately reported, if at all.

MH – It is becoming a criminal activity as many of the vehicles are not insured and permits have not been sourced. North Wales Police have powers to seize Jet Skis under Anti-Social Behavior, but I don't know what could be done for the Cockle Gangs.

6. Government and Communication.

IP - List of representatives who should be attending the MAC. Can CHT request representation from Victoria Dock Berth Holders Association and Royal Welsh Yacht Club.



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The Chair of the MAC should be able to attend CHT meetings without the need to submit an application in writing to the Chairman of CHT. **Clarification is requested on this point.**

IP – I have noticed that CHT should be holding an annual meeting of Stakeholders. Similarly to Padstow. It would be good to see more commercial inclusion from local businesses that would benefit from any improvements to the Harbour. Resulting in more visitors. Stakeholders are not only marine users, but businesses such as boat yards, engineers, sail makers, etc.

MT – We do maintain linkages with neighbouring statutory authorities and we meet twice a year. I have also made reference to the MAC and strategic improvements. This forms part of our compliance statement, therefore would need to discuss with HM.

IP – It would be good to see a future development plan for CHT and to see how it fits in or compares to our neighbouring authorities.

NB – CHT five-year plan is in its infancy I believe.

TJ – There should be a strategic plan which covers the entire length of the Menai Straits.

MT - Linkages need to be formed with neighbouring authorities.

RS – The difficulties always lie in getting stakeholders in agreement.

TJ – Padstow is a very busy harbour in comparison to CHT.

MT – How does CHT deal with recreational divers? As this is something that was picked up on our PMSC audit. This question will be passed onto the Harbour Master.

CS – We only have a couple of Dive Clubs using our slip at Ty Calch, and they are always very well organised. I have not seen any individual recreational divers in the area.

7. Action Points

- CHT to consider the appointment of a Vice Chairman, in the interest of continuity.
- CHT to look into the safety of open water swimmers.
- CHT to create a new section for visiting vessels under the information tab.
- CHT to give clarification to the Chair of MAC as to attendance at CHT meetings.



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END OF MEETING.

8. Date of next Meeting.

Wednesday 7th October, 2026.

10am, Old Harbour Office Boardroom or via Zoom invitation.