

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Report

Committee:	River Hamble Harbour Management Committee
Date:	30 September 2022
Title:	Marine Director and Harbour Master's Report and Current Issues
Report From:	Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services

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Purpose of this Report

1. The purpose of this report is to record formally RHHA patrol operations and inform the Duty Holder of significant events and trends having a bearing on the Marine Safety Management System.

Recommendation

2. It is recommended that the River Hamble Harbour Management Committee:
 - a. notes that the Marine Director is seeking to amend the existing officer delegated spend limits from £25,000 to £40,000 but that this adjustment is subject to the agreement of the Director of CCBS.
 - b. notes that, subject to existing officer delegated spend limits being adjusted as per recommendation a above, the Marine Director intends to approve a spend of £40,000 towards expediting the remedial works to the Bridge at Warsash.
 - c. supports the contents of the remainder of this report to the Harbour Board.

Executive Summary

3. This report summarises the incidents and events which have taken place in the Harbour and addresses any issues currently under consideration by the Harbour Master.

Contextual Information

Patrols

4. The Harbour has been patrolled by the Duty Harbour Master at various times between 0700 and 2230 daily. Mooring and pontoon checks have been conducted daily throughout the period.

Issues

5. **Marine Safety Management System Audit** – The new RHHA Designated Person will have conducted an Audit by the time this paper is taken. To be updated verbally or in writing if time permits.
6. **Warsash HM Jetty – Engineering Works** – The Harbour Authority commissioned a routine engineering inspection of the Warsash Bridge in June to take advantage of access afforded by Southern Water's scaffolding. The survey showed the Jetty to be in sound overall condition. It also highlighted the need for some remedial works to replace a single longitudinal weather-facing wooden beam and corroded metal sleeving at the top of the ten supporting piles. The Tender process to meet Hampshire County Council's Contract Standing Orders has been commenced with the aim of commissioning these works early over the coming winter. The quotation process is ongoing at the time of writing this report. In the event that three quotations have not been received by the time of the Management Committee meeting, it will be important to ensure that a contingency is put in place to commission works in a timely manner. There is a reasonable possibility that these works may exceed the Harbour Master's limit of delegated authority to spend £25k to expedite completion of these works without returning to the Board. Regarding these works, it is recommended that the Management Committee recommends to the Board approval of a spend of up to £40k to negate the requirement to bring the matter before the Board in January. Secondly, in the light of increases in manufacturing and material costs, it is recommended that the Management Committee also agrees to recommend to the Board steps to achieve an increase in Harbour Master's delegated authority from £25k to £40k. This increased level of delegation will more accurately balance the need for a degree of control over larger expenditure and cater for the occasional requirement to undertake essential works expeditiously and obviate any need to convene an extraordinary meeting of the Board.

Appendix 1 To Marine
Director Report

Incidents and Events

7.01. 14 Jul. Assistance given to a visiting yacht having lost her propeller. Liaison with UK Border Force. Liaison with Hamble Lifeboat regarding anti-social behaviour. Stopped and warned verbally a jet ski rider for excessive speed and wash off Warsash. Same jet ski later issued an official written warning. Swimmers dispersed from Hamble Jetty. Meeting with Hampshire Constabulary beat Sergeant at Hamble Jetty regarding ASB at Hamble. Liaison with a member of the public to return a lost dog to its owner.

7.02. 15 Jul. Attended a visiting yacht at anchor off Swanwick contrary to Bye Law 16. Advised and moved on. Stopped and warned an outbound motor vessel off Warsash for excessive speed and wash. Visit of DfT enforcement officials. Assistance given in the recovery of a RIB passenger who had entered the water at Warsash.

7.03. 16 Jul. Inspected a moored yacht on behalf of her owner following a report of a berthing collision. Liaison with HM Coast Guard regarding a vessel in distress outside the mouth of the River. Stopped and warned a jet ski rider in the upper River for excessive speed and wash. Official warning given. Stopped a small motor vessel towing an inflatable ring with children in it.

7.04. 17 Jul. Recovered a deceased dog from the River at Bursledon. Assistance given to a dismasted small yacht. Attended a group of kayakers off Swanwick. One had capsized and two persons had entered the water. One, heavily under the influence of alcohol was incoherent and abusive. Eventually recovered the group to Swanwick slipway.

7.05. 18 Jul. Attended Hamble Jetty to disperse swimmers. Further attendance at River Hamble Country Park Jetty and A27 Bridge. Attended a boatyard reporting swimmers trespassing on its pontoons and moored vessels. Stopped and warned the driver of a speeding motor vessel off Crableck bend. Assistance given to a small broken-down motor vessel off Warsash.

7.06. 19 Jul. Litter collection at River Hamble Country Park Jetty. Stopped and warned a small motor vessel off Warsash for excessive speed and wash. Attended Hamble Jetty to disperse swimmers. Liaison with Pink Ferry regarding anti-social behaviour and swimmers in the vicinity of the Ferry. Recovered a shopping trolley from the River bed off the RHCP jetty. Dispersed swimmers from the A27 bridge and an adjacent boatyard. Towed a dinghy with a broken rudder to Warsash slipway for recovery. Towed a yacht with propulsion failure to her proper mooring.

7.07. 20 Jul. Attended a mid-stream mooring holder's pontoon with chain failure. Liaison with the owner and the Crown Estate mooring contractor to resolve. Attended Hamble Jetty to disperse non-compliant swimmers, one of whom kicked and damaged safety signage. Reported to police.

- 7.08. 21 Jul. Dispersed swimmers from the Fishermens' Jetty at Warsash. Dispersed swimmers off Bursledon and warned of the dangers of swimming in the Main Channel.
- 7.09. 22 Jul. Liaison with Hampshire Marine Police Unit regarding a vessel of interest. Swimmers dispersed from Hamble Jetty. One youth attempted to Board the Patrol vessel but was stopped and ran off. Stopped and warned the driver of a tender for excessive speed and wash off Hamble. Received a complaint from a moored yacht at Hamble Jetty about anti-social behaviour.
- 7.10. 23 Jul. Liaison with Hampshire Police at Hamble Jetty to disperse swimmers. Liaison with HM Coast Guard to assist a yacht off Crableck reported as having engine failure. Vessel towed to her proper mooring. Further attendance at Hamble jetty to disperse swimmers. Assistance given to a RIB which had become foul on mooring lines. Enforcement of fireworks exclusion zone off Bursledon.
- 7.11. 24 Jul. Dispersed a group of 6 male youths drinking alcohol, swimming from and playing football on Hamble Jetty. Assistance given to a broken-down motor vessel off Warsash. Dispersed jumpers from the A27 Bridge.
- 7.12. 25 Jul. Arrangements made to return a stolen tender to its owner. Dispersed trespassers from a Marina pontoon. Dispersed swimmers from Hamble Jetty. Safety signage repaired. Commercial fitting of new pile lines to a mid-stream mooring.
- 7.13. 26 Jul. Commercial tow of a small yacht from Warsash to a boatyard for lift-out. Liaison with Warsash College regarding sailing vessels in the vicinity of safety training operations. Stopped and warned the rider of a jet ski in the Upper River for excessive speed and wash.
- 7.14. 27 Jul. Channel maintenance at Botley. In response to a call from Hampshire Marine Police unit, attended a diesel spillage off Hamble. Source possibly a motor vessel under maintenance but inconclusive. Sheen broken up with propeller wash and dispersed quickly in the warm weather.
- 7.15. 28 Jul. Patrol assisted a small motor vessel with battery failure. Advice given to a dinghy instructor about unnecessary speed. Assistance given to a Bursledon boatyard in dispersal of swimmers.
- 7.16. 29 Jul. Attended Hamble Jetty to liaise with the Pink Ferry and disperse swimmers and those engaged in anti-social behaviour. Evidence captured on body-worn camera for police use. Liaison with Hampshire Police to prevent one individual from accessing the pontoon. Police assistance given to remove individual from the jetty. Assistance given to the rider of a jet-ski taking on water at the mouth of the River. On receipt of a call from a member of the public, attended the upper River to search for a speeding jet-ski. Not located..
- 7.17. 30 Jul. General patrol briefing on the use of new body-worn camera equipment and legal requirement for use. Attended Hamble Jetty to disperse swimmers. Body-worn camera observed by many and acted as a deterrent. Positive effect reported to the Police. Enhanced traffic levels all week for Cowes.
- 7.18. 31 Jul. Tow of a broken-down yacht to a sailing club pontoon. Tow of a second broken-down yacht to her marina berth.

7.19. 01 Aug. Dispersal of swimmers at the A27 bridge. Dispersed swimmers at Hamble Jetty. Liaison with Pink Ferry – The Ferry had been untied and remained secured only by the padlock and chain arrangement. Dispersed swimmers jumping from the M27 motorway bridge. Liaison with Solent Coastguard regarding a yacht aground between No7 and No 9 marks at the mouth of the River. Yacht refloated at 0200 High Water.

7.20. 02 Aug. Attended a private mooring off Bursledon occupied by an unauthorised RIB with five persons on board. Two males (skipper and crew) were obstructive and claimed they were using the mooring with the license holder's permission. This was clearly untrue. Suspected false names given but vessel details held on file. Liaison with Hampshire Marine Police Unit ongoing regarding the vessel of interest.

7.21. 03 Aug. Liaison with a paddleboard centre regarding concerns about the behaviour of a member of the public.

7.22. 04 Aug. Observation of Bait Diggers at Crableck. Liaison with Southern Inshore Fisheries Conservation Authority. Replacement of board at RHCP Jetty. Investigated a report from a member of the public of a speeding motor vessel North of the M27 Bridge. Not located. Dispersed a group of swimmers and young persons from Hamble Jetty following reports of anti-social behaviour. Stopped and warned a vessel towing a young person off Bursledon. Attended Hamble Jetty to disperse swimmers again. Liaison with Hampshire Police regarding anti-social behaviour at Hamble.

7.23. 05 Aug. Liaison with a sailing club regarding mooring configuration. Dispersed swimmers from Hamble Jetty. Returned 30 minutes later to disperse the same group which had returned and were now jumping into the Ferry berth. The same group had been engaged in untying tenders. Joint attendance and enforcement with Hampshire Police. Dispersed 5 swimmers from Warsash College Jetty.

7.24. 06 Aug. Safety advice given to a paddleboarder off Swanwick. Investigated a report of a speeding jet-ski in the Upper River. Not located. Dispersed swimmers from the A27 bridge. Stopped and warned verbally a resident motor vessel for excessive speed and wash off Swanwick. Attended Warsash College Jetty where two males were attempting to break into a locked store. Police informed after both ran off towards the shore.

7.25. 07 Aug. Liaison with the Pink ferry and Hamble Lifeboat regarding anti-social behaviour. Stopped and warned verbally three visiting jet-skis off Warsash for excessive speed and wash. Dispersed swimmers from Hamble Jetty. Support to Gosport Lifeboat in recovering a RIB with a punctured tube. Boat coding work. Responded to a call from a member of the public reporting youths sinking QEII canoes secured to the RHCP Jetty. Padlock had been cropped but perpetrators had departed. Assistance given to QEII staff in recovering the canoes.

7.26. 08 Aug. Dispersed swimmers at Hamble Jetty. Assistance given to a paddleboarder who had lost her paddle. Dispersed swimmers from private moorings off Land's End. Attended the A27 bridge in response to a call from a member of the public reporting jumping. Cleared swimmers from the Main Channel off Bursledon. Attended a vessel near the Chinese Bridge in response to

a call from a member of the public of swimmers climbing onto the vessel. All departed prior to arrival on scene. Report of speeding RIB in Upper River. Details to be followed up.

7.27. 09 Aug. RIB at 7.26 traced to a sailing club. Owner interviewed and admitted speeding. Official written warning given. Dispersed swimmers from private pontoons off Land's End. Dispersed swimmers at Hamble Jetty. Dispersed swimmers from the Fishermens' Pontoon at Warsash. Harbour Authority stopped unconsented works at a River Boatyard. These works involved reconstruction of a Harbour Wall within a Special Area of Conservation. Liaison with the Yard owner to direct compliance with appropriate environmental legislation. Official warning given.

7.28. 10 Aug. Liaison with the Pink Ferry regarding anti-social behaviour affecting passengers. 101 call placed with Hampshire Police. Attended Hamble Jetty to disperse youths. Compliant. Assistance given to a broken-down motor vessel – moved to Warsash for defect rectification. Assistance given to the skipper of a yacht fouled on a mooring picking-up line. Stopped and warned verbally the skipper of a small motor vessel for excessive speed and wash off Swanwick.

7.29. 11 Aug. Support to a sailing club regatta. Further liaison with the Pink Ferry in relation to management of anti-social behaviour at Hamble Jetty. Meeting with Hampshire Police at Hamble Jetty. Stopped and warned the rider of a jet-ski for speeding off Swanwick.

7.30. 12 Aug. Attended Hamble Jetty to disperse swimmers. 15 youths were on the jetty. All were reluctant to leave and two became increasingly belligerent, verbally threatening Patrol. Police called as members of the public, including children and parents, were visibly distressed by the level of abuse and foul language used by the group. Youths eventually dispersed from the Jetty but remained on the quay shouting abuse at Patrol. Attended Hamble Jetty again early in the afternoon in response to a report from a member of the public of criminal damage (the sinking of a tender). Hampshire Marine Police Unit also attended. Three youths (one male and two female) interviewed by Police. Unco-operative initially but names taken for follow-up action. Sunken vessel refloated and recovered to Warsash. Around 40 youths present. Hampshire Marine Police Unit remained on scene to disperse the group but were unsuccessful. Additional assets called and request for a dispersal order made. Group eventually dispersed.

7.31. 13 Aug. Dispersed swimmers from Hamble Jetty – compliant. Assistance given to three persons on kayaks near the A27 Bridge. Further assistance given to a capsized kayaker off Hamble.

7.32. 14 Aug. Assistance given to two kayakers off Swanwick. Attended Hamble Jetty to disperse swimmers – compliant. Liaison with Pink Ferry and Hampshire Police regarding a report of youths climbing on and damaging the Pink Ferry. Two Hampshire Police vehicles in attendance. One arrest made following a refusal to give details for follow-up action. Later de-arrested. Swimmers dispersed from pontoons off Land's End. Further attendance at Hamble Jetty to

disperse swimmers – compliant. Assistance given to a broken-down motor vessel off Warsash.

7.33. 15 Aug. Routine liaison with UK Border Force. Liaison with the owners of two vessels regarding a berthing collision. Recovered an empty fuel container from the Main Channel in the Upper River. Dispersed youths from Hamble Jetty. Dispersed swimmers from the Main Channel off Swanwick. Further attendance at Hamble Jetty to disperse a group of around 10 older youths shouting and swearing at Patrol. Dispersed.

7.34. 16 Aug. Rain. Hamble Jetty clear. Recovered a plastic sheet from the Main Channel of the RHCP Jetty. Assistance given to the owner of a yacht with propulsion failure in coming alongside Warsash scrubbing piles. Liaison with Hampshire Police and UK Border Force regarding a vessel of interest.

7.35. 17 Aug. Assistance given to the helm of a capsized dinghy. Tired and recovered to Hamble. Assistance given to the skipper of a yacht in picking up his mooring single-handed.

7.36. 18 Aug. Search for a vessel of interest. Tow of tender, sunk at 7.30, to return her to her proper owner.

7.37. 19 Aug. Liaison with two mooring holders regarding a light collision. Stopped and warned the ride of a jet-ski for excessive speed and wash off Swanwick. Attended Hamble Jetty in response to a call from a member of the public reporting youths throwing stones at passing vessels. Youths dispersed and patrol cleared up broken beer bottles left by the group from the Jetty.

7.38. 20 Aug. Liaison with Hamble Life Boat regarding anti-social behaviour management. Responded to a call from a member of the public reporting a swan fouled in fishing line. Unable to restrain but Swan Rescue team in attendance to resolve. Assistance given to the owner of a yacht with propulsion failure off Warsash. Liaison with the owner of a mid-stream moored yacht regarding a berthing collision. Assistance given to a paddleboarder off the RHCP Jetty.

7.39. 21 Aug. Liaison with new crew at Hamble Life Boat. Assistance given to a single-handed sailor with propulsion failure. Liaison with the owners of two mid-stream moored vessels over a berthing collision. Intercepted a vessel behaving erratically at the mouth of the River.

7.40. 22 Aug. Attendance at Hamble Jetty to repair vandalised Harbour Authority safety signage.

7.41. 23 Aug. Liaison with the owners of two mid-stream moored vessels over a berthing collision. Liaison with Hampshire Marine Police Unit regarding a vessel of interest. Liaison with a boatyard regarding an abandoned RIB.

7.42. 24 Aug. Further liaison with Hampshire Marine Police Unit regarding the RIB at 7.41. Attended Hamble Jetty to disperse youths following a report of anti-social behaviour. Compliant.

7.43. 25 Aug. Routine Patrol Craft maintenance. Pump out of inundated RIB at Warsash. Pontoon check on behalf of the Crown Estate.

7.44. 26 Aug. Commercial tow of a yacht to her proper mooring. Commercial tow of a yacht from her marina berth to a yard for lift-out. Recovery

of a broken-down motor boat from the mouth of the River to Warsash for recovery. Re-secured a loose mooring line on a mid-stream moored yacht.

7.45. 27 Aug. Liaison with a River user reporting the theft of his tender. Assistance given to the skipper of a broken-down motor vessel. Assistance given to a broken-down visiting yacht off Warsash.

7.46. 28 Aug. Enforcement of non-payment of Harbour Dues. Stopped and warned a visiting motor vessel for excessive speed and wash off Warsash. Verbal warning given to the rider of a jet-ski off Hamble for excessive speed and wash.

7.47. 29 Aug. Assistance given to Southampton Patrol in recovery to Warsash of a broken-down yacht. Stopped and warned the rider of a jet-ski for excessive speed and wash at Swanwick. Commercial tow of a yacht from Warsash to her proper mooring.

7.48. 30 Aug. Preparations for Warsash, Bursledon and Swanwick Regatta (boat movements). Day into night audit of Aids to Navigation. Recovery of several branches from the Main Channel near the RHCP Jetty.

7.49. 31 Aug. Attendance at Hamble Jetty to disperse swimmers. Liaison with the driver of the Pink Ferry. Attended a boatyard following a report of a hit and run collision. Vessel allegedly responsible located off Swanwick. Skipper denied any collision and refused to give name or address. Body-worn camera evidence taken of engagement. On being challenged, skipper appeared to be under the influence of alcohol and dismissive of patrol. Vessel escorted from the River. Subsequent investigation revealed the vessel to be a non-payer of Harbour Dues. Witnesses later confirmed the collision. Subject of ongoing joint investigation with Hampshire Marine Police Unit.

7.50. 01 Sep. Liaison with a mid-stream mooring holder regarding missing fenders on his vessel. Attended Hamble Jetty to disperse swimmers – compliant. Recovered one youth pinned by tide at Hamble Jetty despite warnings. Boat movement in support of the Warsash, Bursledon and Swanwick Regatta.

7.51. 02 Sep. Further preparations for the Regatta. Support given to two paddleboarders off Swanwick. Attendance at Botley to inspect a report of a fallen tree in the narrow Main Channel. Partially cleared. Recovered a large branch from the Main Channel between the bridges. Guidance given to a club safety vessel regarding legitimate use of speed off Warsash. Assistance given to Hamble Life Boat in searching for a person reported as having fallen overboard off Hamble. Individual had self-recovered – no injuries.

**REQUIRED CORPORATE AND LEGAL INFORMATION:
Links to the Strategic Plan**

Hampshire maintains strong and sustainable economic growth and prosperity:	yes
People in Hampshire live safe, healthy and independent lives:	yes
People in Hampshire enjoy a rich and diverse environment:	yes
People in Hampshire enjoy being part of strong, inclusive communities:	yes

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

Document

Location

None

EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT:

1. Equality Duty

The County Council has a duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ('the Act') to have due regard in the exercise of its functions to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by or under the Act with regard to the protected characteristics as set out in section 4 of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation);
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (see above) and persons who do not share it.

Due regard in this context involves having due regard in particular to:

- The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;
- Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

2. Equalities Impact Assessment:

An EIA is not required as no negative impacts are anticipated.