

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Report

Committee:	River Hamble Harbour Board
Date:	7 July 2023
Title:	Marine Director and Harbour Master's Report and Current Issues
Report From:	Director of Universal Services

Contact name: Jason Scott

Tel: 01489 576387

Email: Jason.Scott@hants.gov.uk

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 Board:
 - a. Agrees to place the Annual Forum into abeyance and
 - b. Supports the contents of the remainder of this report.

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. **Anti-social behaviour** - A joint, Police-led, inter-agency co-ordination meeting was held on 15 May to address this year's plans to manage anti-social behaviour at Hamble Quay and elsewhere. The importance of alignment of consistent advice given to those attempting to access Hamble Jetty was among the first of the matters agreed following last year's experiences. Police advice to the public is to report any incidents of anti-social behaviour either on-line or by calling 101. Effort this year will also include a focus on Hamble Halt railway station to take action against those attempting to avoid fare paying. Harbour Authority body-worn camera footage will continue to be given to Hampshire police at their request to take any necessary action against perpetrators of anti-social behaviour.

6. **2023 Annual Forum** – The Annual Forum took place on 23 March at Warsash Sailing Club. This event was originally created as an opportunity for those who wished to put questions in public to the Chairman of the representative Management Committee and the Harbour Authority Team. Taking place in late March each year, the Forum has also been the occasion of the annual draw for free tender spaces. Over the course of the past eight years and notwithstanding the impact of COVID 19, attendance levels have diminished. There were no attendees this year and one in 2022. It is of great importance to the Harbour Authority that River Users feel they have the opportunity to express views on matters important to them. In recent years, an open-door policy at the Harbour Office has allowed River Users to address concerns directly throughout the year. Evidence therefore suggests that this policy meets the requirement of River Users. Rather than continue with future Annual Fora, it is recommended that this event is placed into abeyance but we remain open to it being reinstated if it is required in the future. The Marine Director's Annual Report is at Annex A.

7. **New Members' Briefings** - New Members of the Management Committee have been offered bespoke briefings on the powers, duties and obligations of the Harbour Authority in respect of the Port Marine Safety Code and with regard to the environment. Essential matters to be covered are included at Appendix B.

Appendix 1 To Marine
Director Report

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Incidents and Events

- 8.01 01 Apr. Joint response with HM Coastguard and Hamble Lifeboat to assist a small yacht in difficulty in Southampton Water. Vessel assisted to Hamble. Jet-washing on pontoons.
- 8.02 02 Apr. Routine liaison with Border Force cutter. Busy launching traffic at Warsash Slipway.
- 8.03 03 Apr. Assistance given to a vessel using the maintenance piles at Warsash Slipway. Support to Southern Inshore Fisheries Conservation Authority (SIFCA). Commercial making-up of replacement mooring lines. Liaison with a mooring holder regarding a failed mooring chain.
- 8.04 04 Apr. Considerable small craft traffic off Swanwick. Tow given to a small yacht with engine failure from the mouth of the River to Warsash for defect rectification.
- 8.05 05 Apr. Pressure wash of mid-stream Visitors' Pontoon. Liaison with Hampshire Ambulance, HM Coastguard and Calshot Lifeboat to recover and treat a casualty at Warsash following a head injury sustained while racing in the Solent.
- 8.06 06 Apr. Continued pressure wash of mid-stream Visitors' Pontoon. Tow of a small yacht to her proper mooring.
- 8.07 07 Apr. Recovered a large piece of timber from the Main Channel between the Bridges.
- 8.08 08 Apr. Liaison with HM Coastguard and Hamble Lifeboat to search for a person of interest.
- 8.09 09 Apr. Support to a visiting yacht rally. Attempt to locate a large branch, reported in the Main Channel North of the bridges. Tow given to a small motor vessel to HM Jetty Warsash.
- 8.10 10 Apr. Liaison with the owner of a moored yacht reporting a hit and run collision. Recovery of an empty fuel canister from the Main Channel. Assistance given to a small yacht with engine failure.
- 8.11 11 Apr. Investigation into collision reported at 7.09. Liaison with a Sailing Club. Routine liaison with Hampshire Marine Police Unit.
- 8.12 12 Apr. Assistance given to a training yacht off Warsash. Re-secured a mid-stream moored yacht with loose lines. Liaison with owner. Enhanced mooring checks in advance of high forecast winds.
- 8.13 13 Apr. Fender re-positioning and mooring checks following high winds.
- 8.14 14 Apr. Further CCTV installation work at HM Jetty Warsash. Assistance given to a visiting yacht in coming alongside at Warsash.

- 8.15 15 Apr. Responded at best speed to a call from a mid-stream moored yacht of a person in the water in difficulty off Lincegrove and Hacketts' Marshes. Patrol recovered a person who had slipped and fallen overboard from a yacht approaching Lands End. Thermal blanket used but casualty required no further action. Liaison with the Crown Estate mooring contractor.
- 8.16 16 Apr. Towed a yacht reporting engine failure to Hamble Jetty for defect rectification. Pumped out an inundated tender at Warsash.
- 8.17 17 Apr. Investigation commenced into a report of possible unconsented works at a riverside property.
- 8.18 18 Apr. Recovery of several branches from the Main Channel in the Upper River. Attended a collision of a yacht underway and two moored vessels. Initial investigation revealed the underway yacht had experienced engine failure. Failure caused by a lack of fuel although fuel gauge showed half-full. Liaison with affected vessels' owners.
- 8.19 19 Apr. Further liaison with owners affected by collision at 7.18. Cutting back of branches in the Upper River.
- 8.20 20 Apr. Assistance given to the helm of a dinghy, capsized on a strong ebb tide and driven onto a pontoon off Warsash. Helm recovered and dinghy righted. Commercial tow of a mid-stream mooring holder's vessel to her proper berth.
- 8.21 21 Apr. Attendance at Police Briefing Day, Netley Police HQ.
- 8.22 22 Apr. Training yacht moved on from a private mooring. Routine liaison with Hamble Lifeboat. Liaison with a sailing club reporting unauthorised mooring. Recovered a large branch from the Main Channel in the Upper River.
- 8.23 23 Apr. Targeted moorings check on behalf of the Moorings Officer.
- 8.24 24 Apr. Commercial tow of a yacht from the Visitors' Pontoon to a marina for lift-out. Commercial tow of another yacht from her mooring to a boatyard for lift-out.
- 8.25 25 Apr. Liaison with the owner of an aid to navigation regarding a failed light. Routine liaison with UK Border Force. Attendance at Hamble Quay to assist a vessel alongside the Quay on a falling tide. Assistance given to a member of the public regarding a lost set of car keys. Located and returned to owner. Verbal warning to the riders of two Personal Watercraft (Jetskis) for excessive speed and wash.
- 8.26 26 Apr. Patrol observed a mid-stream moored yacht lower than usual in the water. Yacht cockpit pumped out. Liaison with owner.
- 8.27 27 Apr. Removed a large branch trapped under the River Hamble Country Park Jetty and recovered to Warsash for disposal.
- 8.28 28 Apr. Light traffic. Tow of a yacht with engine failure to her mid-stream mooring.

- 8.29 29 Apr. Recovered a refuse bin from the Main Channel. Preparation for the visit of a large yacht at Warsash. Slowed and warned verbally two small motor vessels and a Personal Watercraft.
- 8.30 30 Apr. Preparation for the visit of a tall ship to Warsash.
- 8.31 31 Apr. Liaison with and assistance given to Hamble Lifeboat to recover two persons in difficulty in mud off Fairthorne Manor in the Upper River.
- 8.32 01 May. Responded to a report of a yacht low in the water. Liaison with owner. Assistance given to a vessel in using the Warsash sewage pump-out facility.
- 8.33 02 May. Liaison with a commercial towing company. Pressure washing of the Visitors' Pontoon. Commercial tow of a yacht from the Visitors' Pontoon to her proper mooring.
- 8.34 03 May. Assistance given to a moored yacht owner, experiencing difficulty in furling a sail. Assistance given to a stranded mid-stream mooring holder. Continued jet wash of Visitors' Pontoon.
- 8.35 04 May. Mid-river survey for the Environment Officer. Assisted a yacht alongside HM Jetty Warsash. Assisted a catamaran in freeing a line caught under her hull. Tide gauge cleaning.
- 8.36 05 May. Patrol craft maintenance. Tow of RIB with engine failure to a marina for lift out. Preparations for tree clearance work in the Upper River.
- 8.37 06 May. Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III. Dress Ship. Investigation into proximity of a land-based development to Mean High Water Springs. Light traffic.
- 8.38 07 May. Assistance given to a large yacht entering the River with intermittent engine failure. Assisted to HM Jetty Warsash. Stopped a small tenders for excessive speed and wash. Liaison with HM Coastguard and Hamble Lifeboat to assist a vessel reported to be aground just outside the River. Assistance given to a yacht fouled on a mooring pick-up line.
- 8.39 08 May. Move of a yacht to her proper mooring. First aid given to a member of the public. Liaison with HM Coastguard regarding the vessel aground at 7.38. Vessel now in Cowes. Vessel check on behalf of her owner.
- 8.40 09 May. Attempt made to clear part of a large tree from Botley. Higher than predicted tides prevented access at Low Water. Further attempt to be made. No 1 light replaced.
- 8.41 10 May. Recovered a railway sleeper from the 'L' run off Hacketts' Marsh. Liaison with a sailing club to support evening dinghy racing. Towed a RIB with engine failure from the mouth of the River to Warsash. Liaison with the Crown Estate mooring contractor regarding mooring line lengths. Recovery of a section of tree from the Main Channel to Warsash for disposal.

- 8.42 11 May. Moved on two training yachts using private moorings for berthing practice. Boat coding work. Responded to a report of diesel residue near Swanwick. A small amount witnessed and broken up with propellor wash.
- 8.43 12 May. Small motor vessel grounding on Hook Spit (between No 7 and No 9 Marks) on a rising tide. Vessel's propulsion had failed. Towed clear. Boat coding. Re-furled a loose foresail on a mid-stream moored yacht. Liaison with owner. Secured a loose halyard on a secone mid-stream moored yacht.
- 8.44 13 May. Stopped and warned verbally the rider of a Personal Watercraft for excessive speed and wash. Compliant. Assistance given to the owner of a small yacht who had broken the tiller on his outboard engine.
- 8.45 14 May. Responded to reports from the public and Hamble lifeboat of young people jumping from moored vessels and swimming from Hamble Jetty. Around 15 young people dispersed (compliant). Four French yachts (flying 'Q' (quarantine) flags) reported to be on private moorings off Swanwick. Attended to advise. Returned to Hamble Jetty to confirm no swimming but weather had caused most to depart.
- 8.46 15 May. Liaison with a motor vessel owner to advise of air draft and feasibility of passing under the A27 Bridge. Recovery and tow of a motor vessel with engine failure to a marina for defect rectification. Report taken from a yacht owner to report a minor collision (skipper error) with a moored vessel on a sailing club mooring. Liaison with the club. Liaison with Hampshire Marine Police Unit regarding persons of interest. Police-led joint action meeting on Summer action to address anti-social behaviour at Hamble and elsewhere.
- 8.47 16 May. Commercial tow of a small motor vessel from Hamble Jetty to the mid-stream Visitors' Pontoon to await lift-out. Liaison with the owner of the moored vessel damaged in the collision at 7.46. Branch recovered from the Main Channel off Crableck for disposal at Warsash. Attended Hamble Jetty to disperse swimmers but rain caused all to depart.
- 8.48 17 May. Liaison with Hamble River Taxi, reporting recovery from the water of the owner of a yacht alongside.
- 8.49 18 May. Safety signage inspection and refurbishment at Hamble Jetty. Liaison with Hamble Ferry. Dispersal of swimmers and other young people on Hamble Jetty (compliant).
- 8.50 19 May. Maintenance of top mark on Swanwick Port Hand marker. Heavy rain pm. Light traffic.
- 8.51 20 May. Support to Hamble River Raid event. Attended a yacht generating smoke. On attendance, engine exhaust smoke had been the cause. Attended a riverside property from which rocks were being deposited in the river in quantity. Order (compliant) given to stop the deposition, which appeared to be the residue of land-based works.

- Under investigation. Assistance given to a vessel under tow to a marina for lift-out. Attended Hamble Jetty to disperse a group of young swimmers (non-compliant). Body-worn camera footage retained for Police action following Police advice given at joint-agency action meeting 15 May. Attended a large motor vessel aground off Swanwick on the Fareham bank (skipper error). Vessel refloated on flood tide.
- 8.52 21 May. Attended Hamble Jetty in the morning to disperse 20 young persons. Compliant. Attended Hamble Jetty again in the afternoon to disperse a further large group. Mostly compliant but body-worn camera footage of one non-compliant individual will be passed to Hedge End Police for identification. Stood by a yacht reporting an intermittent engine problem while returning to her mooring. Pumped out a semi-submerged tender at Hamble Jetty following its sinking by youths.
- 8.53 22 May. Routine liaison with Hamble Lifeboat. Recovered and disposed of a dead seabird off Bursledon. Reported to DEFRA. Assisted wall repair contractors in recovery of a steel pontoon. Advice given to swimmers at River Hamble Country Park jetty in strong ebb tide. Attended Hamble Jetty to disperse a group of young persons. Police also in attendance following a call from a member of the public. Tide and weather caused the group to depart. Attended Hamble jetty at 2000 once more to disperse a smaller group of 6 young persons. Compliant.
- 8.54 23 May. Maintenance of aids to navigation. Attended Hamble Jetty to disperse youths. Body-worn camera evidence taken for Police action.
- 8.55 24 May. Assistance given to the owner of a yacht with engine failure. Returned a tender, recovered earlier, to her owners. Attended Hamble Jetty to disperse a group of young people. Routine liaison with Hamble Lifeboat.
- 8.56 25 May. Check on possible breach of environmental legislation. Patrol craft maintenance. Attended Hamble Jetty to disperse a group of around 50 swimmers. Some compliant. Tender sunk. Liaison with owner. Later raised. Reported to Police.
- 8.57 26 May. Boat coding work. Attended Hamble Jetty to disperse swimmers. Liaison with Hampshire Marine Police unit regarding a person reported missing.
- 8.58 27 May. Slowed and warned a group of jet ski riders off Warsash. Assistance given to a kayaker sinking (no bung). Responded to a call from a Hamble Sailing Club complaining at anti-social behaviour and criminal damage at Hamble Jetty. Youths dispersed. Attempted to re-float sunken tender.. Assistance given to a yacht with engine failure. Returned to Hamble Jetty to further disperse swimmers.
- 8.59 28 May. Dispersed swimmers from Hamble Jetty. Police present. Attended a grounded yacht off Hook Spit. Towed clear.
- 8.60 29 May. Attended Hamble Jetty to pump out two tenders sunk during the previous afternoon. Liaison with owners. Assistance given by

Hamble Lifeboat crew. Assistance given to a paddleboarder in the Upper River. Assistance given to the owner of a motorboat in coming alongside his berth. Attended Hamble Jetty to disperse swimmers. Compliant. Towed a small motor vessel with engine failure to HM Jetty Warsash. Towed a small yacht with engine failure to her marina berth. General advice on speed and wash given.

- 8.61 30 May. Liaison with Hampshire Marine Police Unit regarding an incident of interest. Assistance given to a yacht with engine failure. Towed to her proper berth. Attended Hamble jetty to disperse swimmers. Compliant.
- 8.62 31 May. Search for a tender reported as stolen from a marina. Attended Hamble jetty to disperse a group of swimmers. Pumped out a tender sunk by swimmers. Attended later to pump out the same tender following a repeat incident. Police informed. Towed a yacht with engine failure from the mouth of the River to her proper berth. Recovered a tender set adrift by a group of young people from the Main Channel off Swanwick. Returned tender to the boat park. Liaison with Hampshire Police.
- 8.63 01 Jun. Commercial pile line work. Tracing of a large motor yacht recorded speeding in the mouth of the River.
- 8.64 02 Jun. Commercial pile line work. Liaison with the Pink Ferry reporting a potential navigational obstruction inshore off Warsash. Under investigation.
- 8.65 03 Jun. Assistance given to a small motor vessel in the Upper River with engine failure. Towed to Swanwick for recovery. Towing assistance given to a yacht reporting her propellor fouled on a rope in the Solent. Towed to her marina berth. Monitoring of returning offshore powerboats following their race around the Isle of Wight. Recovered a large log from the Main Channel off Crableck.
- 8.66 04 Jun. Responded to a report of a PWC speeding in the Upper River. PWC located and directed out of the River. Assistance given to three kayaks in a strong ebb tide. Tow of a small yacht with an overheating engine. Maintenance of Swanwick Port Channel Marker.
- 8.67 05 Jun. Support to the Crown Estate – HM tour of River with Crown Estate Head of Marine.
- 8.68 06 Jun. Commercial tow of a yacht to a sailing club. Boat coding work. Delivery of first new patrol craft.
- 8.69 07 Jun. Commissioning trials, first of new patrol craft. Cleaning of tide gauges at Bursledon. Maintenance of aids to navigation.

- 8.70 08 Jun. Response to report of person in distress in the water near the M27 Bridge. Liaison with HM Coastguard and Hamble Lifeboat. Stood down by HM Coastguard.
- 8.71 09 Jun. Response to a report from Calshot Coastwatch – vessel aground on Hamble Spit, outside the River. 5 persons on board, all safe in prevailing conditions. Unable to pull free. Vessel re-floated safely on incoming tide and towed to a marina for lift out and examination. Berthing assistance given to a large local yacht with engine failure. Boat coding work.
- 8.72 10 Jun. Attended Hamble Jetty to disperse swimmers. Compliant.
- 8.73 11 Jun. Commercial fitting on mooring lines for a mid-stream mooring holder. Liaison with HM Coastguard and Calshot Lifeboat to recover a large motor vessel with failed stern gland, taking on water. Vessel recovered to a boatyard for emergency lift-out. Stopped and warned the driver of a small motor vessel for excessive speed and wash off the River Hamble Country Park Jetty. Attended Bursledon to investigate report of young persons climbing aboard and jumping from vessels, throwing stones at houses and releasing yachts' lines. Activity had ceased by time of arrival. Person reporting had not at that time reported the matter to the police. Advised to do so.
- 8.74 12 Jun. Liaison with the Pink Ferry. Further reports of anti-social behaviour received from a member of the public at Lands End. Advised to report to the police. Patrol at the mouth of the River. On arrival, youths had dispersed. Arrival and launch of second replacement patrol craft. Commissioning work. 8.75 13 Jun. Dispersed swimmers from Warsash Fishermens' Pontoon. Drone filming work all day in preparation for website re-design.
- 8.75 13 Jun. Commissioning of new patrol craft. Attendance at the Chinese Bridge to give first aid assistance to a member of the public
- 8.76 14 Jun. Routine Liaison with Hampshire Marine Police Unit. Attended Lands End to disperse swimmers and trespassers on private moorings and vessels. Attended Hamble Jetty to disperse a swimmers and a group climbing on the Pink Ferry.
- 8.77 15 Jun. Delivery of final new patrol craft. Attended Port Hamble to investigate report of a minor fuel spillage from a refuelling vessel. On arrival, the small amount of <0.5 litres had broken up. Assistance given to two persons in a tender with engine failure.
- 8.78 16 Jun. Attended a sluice North of the Pink Ferry in response to an incident involving a dog. Liaison with Countryside Service. Recovered a tender adrift off Crableck to HM Jetty Warsash. Preparation for the visit of Right Hon. Suella Braverman KC MP. Liaison with the owner of a yacht moored off Bursledon regarding trespass and anti-social

behaviour. Attended Hamble Jetty to disperse swimmers. Further attendance at Bursledon to disperse swimmers from pontoons and moored vessels. Stopped and warning a tender for excessive speed and wash.

- 8.79 17 Jun. Unveiling of a memorial lifebelt on the Pink Ferry Pontoon at Warsash by the Right Hon. Suella Braverman KC MP, MP for Fareham. Attended Hamble Jetty to disperse swimmers and children climbing in tenders. Responded to a report of a speeding jetski in the Upper River. Located and written warning issued to the rider, from Itchen. Dispersed swimmers and trespassers (non-compliant) from pontoons and vessels at Bursledon. Liaison with Hampshire Police
- 8.80 18 Jun. Moved on a training yacht using a private mooring for a lunch stop. Responded to a report from a member of the public reporting a patch of diesel mid-stream off Hamble. Broken up with propeller wash.
- 8.81 19 Jun. Responded to two calls from members of the public reporting loose logs on the foreshore at Swanwick at risk of becoming hazards to navigation. Liaison with the property owner regarding removal. Commercial tow of a vessel to a marina for lift-out.
- 8.82 20 Jun. Liaison with a marina regarding a light defect. Recovered a branch from the Main Channel in the Upper River. Mooring assistance given to a mid-stream mooring holder. Assistance given to a mid-stream mooring holder reporting a collision. Recovered an abandoned and semi-submerged tender from Swanwick to Warsash. Attempts made to trace the owner.
- 8.83 21 Jun. Responded to a report from a property owner at Lands End of a loose pontoon float. Attended Hamble Jetty to disperse swimmers – compliant. Attended Hamble Jetty again later to disperse swimmers again. Attended Lands End to disperse swimmers from moorings.
- 8.84 22 Jun. Attended Hamble Jetty to disperse swimmers and clear others from the Pink Ferry, moored alongside. Towed a small motor vessel with engine failure to a boatyard for defect rectification. Attended Lands End to disperse swimmers from a moored yacht.

**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.