

# HARBOUR USERS GROUP MINUTES Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2025 14:00 Flushing Sailing Club



**FALMOUTH  
HARBOUR**

UK's Atlantic gateway.

## Attendees:

David Owens, Chair of HUG	DO
Ned Bailey, Commercial Fisher	NB
Tom Blakemore, Penryn Harbour Master	TB
Ben Borne, Assistant Harbour Master Falmouth	BB
Adam Harris, RNLI	AH
Peter Harvey, Flushing Sailing Club	PH
David Nicoll, RNLI and Vice chair of HUG	DN
Ifor Pedley, Falmouth Harbour Master	IP
Tristan Rowe, Head of Commercial Operations, Falmouth Harbour	TRW
Dan Tregaskes, Pendennis Shipyard	DT
Andy Wright, Falmouth Harbour Commissioner	AWT
Abbie Smith, Head of Marine KLM	AS
Simeon Lowe, KML	SL

## 1. Welcome and Introduction

- All introduced themselves.
- Thank you to Peter Harvey, David Owens and Flushing Sailing Club for hosting.

## 2. Apologies

Tony Arden, Senior Environment Officer, Environment Agency	TA
David Barnicoat, FDEC Port Users Group (PUG)	DB
Trevor Brookes, Resident Naval Officer – Falmouth	TB
Toby Floyer, Cornwall Ferries Limited	TFL
Richard Gates, Falmouth Town Council	RG
Michelle Hares, Falmouth Gig Club	MH
Tom Karsenburg, Graypen Shipping	TK
Nick Martin, Falmouth Pilots LLP	NM
Charlie Ross, Pendennis Shipyard	CR
Gaye Slater, Port of Falmouth Sailing Association (PoFSA)	GS
Chris Turner, Harbour Master, St Mawes Pier & Harbour	CT
Luke Wills, Port Manager & Harbour Master, FDEC	LW

### Absent Without Apologies

John Andrew, St Mawes Sailing Club	JA
Simon Cadman, Cornwall IFCA	SC
Shane Carr, Commodore RCYC	SCR
Rob Churcher, Tamlyn Shipping	RC
Chris Davis, RYA	CD
Jonathan Fielding, Falmouth Boat Co	JF
Tom Furse, HM Coastguard	TF
Meg Hayward-Smith, Natural England	MHS
Claire Lewis, Wild Swimming Coach and Chair of Surf Life Saving Club	CL
Francesca Rowe, Seaside Services	FR
Steve Taylor, Falmouth Marine School	ST

### 3. **Declarations of Interest**

- None.

### 4. **Approval of Minutes of the Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2025**

- The minutes were approved with no amendments.

### 5. **Matters Arising**

- Previously distributed for information.
- IP went through and updated the Matters Arising. The HUG agreed that all Matters Arising were captured.

### 6. **Flushing Sailing Club Presentation - Peter Harbey**

- PH ran through his presentation which included a history of the club and the process of building the new clubhouse which opened in May 2020.
- Well supported race nights on a Tuesday and Saturday.
- During the winter they have a talks programme and the local community is invited with food being served.
- Encouraging to have a thriving younger membership.
- Projects include use of GPS autonomous race mark.
- Walk ashore pontoon project has MMO approval but does not yet have planning to connect the pontoon to land. FH has been extremely supportive for which the club is very grateful.

### 7. **Update on Gyllyngvase Beach Safety Zone (BSZ) – Ifor Pedley**

- IP commented that this has not been an easy process.
- Buoys are now in position.
- Some continued comments from some parties who feel no boats should be allowed anywhere near the beach.
- Two A1 signs will be installed at the beach to include bar code which links to FH's website with more information.
- Original life guard information boards will be reviewed to include information on the zone.
- Flyers will be available to help promulgate this information (hopefully on the take away building).
- Zone will be reviewed at the end of the season.
- NB thought that the northern boundary doesn't represent what was shown on the zone documents so repositioning of the buoys would help.
- DO commented that repositioning of the buoys may help make the zone clearer.
- AH commented that there have been a couple of incidents with boats in the zone but this was due to lack of knowledge. IP suggested sharing information on repeat offenders and vessels that refuse to comply and to contact duty HM if any infringements escalate. There are several webcams which record which could be used as evidence.
- Harbour patrol tries to go out about twice a day where resources allow.
- DO thanked IP, DN, AH and the wider FH team for all their hard work on this project.

## 8. Hazman Demonstration - Ifor Pedley

- IP demonstrated the Hazman system used by Falmouth Harbour (FH) and Cornwall Council (CC). The docks do not use Hazman.
- Hazman is used for navigational risk assessments and the reporting and analysing of incidents within the harbour.
- The general public have access to submit incident reports which has led to an increase in reported incidents.
- Once entered the Harbour Master Team decide what actions (if any) need to be implemented. Actions can include starting an investigation or transferring the incident to another harbour.
- Evidence such as photos and videos can be attached to the incident.
- IP also demonstrated the risk assessments (hazards) within the system.
- Hazman can upload to MAIB if it is a reportable incident.
- Records go back to 2013.
- IP encouraged all to use the reporting portal to advise of incidents.
- Mobile phone interface could be improved so we advise people to use PC mode when using their mobiles. This is advised on our website.
- PH commented that Flushing Sailing Club have worked hard to update their risk assessments following learning lessons from MAIB reports. Could Hazman be used to advise of learning lessons from incidents. IP suggested using HUG forum to disseminate any lessons learned.

## 9. Hazman Incident Report - Ifor Pedley

- Previously distributed for information.

**ACTION:** DO asked about a comments column on the incident report which may help sailing clubs with their risk assessments. DO and IP to discuss further. (Added to Matters Arising No 47).

## 10. Any Other Business

- Classics and Sea Shanty start on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> June. 350 performances across 3 days.
- Live streaming from Events Square plus extra venues including Falmouth Hotel.
- RNLI raised £28k from last year's festival.
- Castle to Castle Swim on 22<sup>nd</sup> June at 14:00. Approximately 600 swimmers. AH reported on the safety procedures in place which include 50+ support staff.
- Classics festival organisers have taken on board advice from FH following last year's event.
- DO commented on the multiplicity of speed limits in the harbour. TB raised this at FEMSC and Cornwall Council will look to change the current 4 and 5 knot limits up to 6 knots to make it easier for harbour users.
- TRW asked the HUG members to pass on any feedback on FH leisure services.
- Buoyant Productions update - consultation period is now closed. MMO are waiting for final pieces of information to come in from Natural England and CIFCA and once clarifications have been accepted we are expecting a decision. Hoping that this process will not delay the project deployment date of end June / beginning of July.
- There is an MMO licence that has just been submitted for deployment of a second device at FaBTest. This is for testing of a dynamic cable protector design and will only be deployed for 5 days and will be attached to a vessel at all times throughout the deployment window. Deployment is planned for Sep / Oct this year but Vicki Spooner, FH, thinks this is ambitious and may be pushed back potentially into 2026.

- FH are in talks with Natural England to potentially deploy a Seal Spy device close to Black Rock. This has been used by Celtic Sea Power at Gwithian and it successfully recorded seal vocalisations whilst capturing video images to provide scientists with additional insight into seal behaviour.
- New PMSC has a requirement for adjoining harbours and ports have to have a bridging agreement (an MOU) where both parties agree their areas of responsibilities.
- DO commented that HUG members can raise any concerns with him or AWT and these can be raised at the FH Board meetings. DO attends quarterly Board meetings.

## **11. Future Meetings Location and Timings**

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2025 at KML.

Meetings start at 14:00 unless indicated otherwise.