

<b>NAME OF COMMITTEE</b>	<b>Salcombe Harbour Board</b>
<b>DATE</b>	<b>23 September 2013</b>
<b>REPORT TITLE</b>	<b>DEEP WATER MOORING OPTIONS TRIAL</b>
<b>REPORT OF</b>	<b>Salcombe Harbour Master</b>
<b>WARDS AFFECTED</b>	<b>All South Hams</b>

### Summary of Report

To report to the Harbour Board the outcome of the trial of fingers on the Coad Cove pontoons for vessels up to 8 metres.

### RECOMMENDATION

**That the Harbour Board RESOLVES to:**

- 1. Note the results of the berthing arrangements trial.**
- 2. to increase the number of finger pontoons from 4 to 10 on Coad Cove Pontoon B for the 2014/15 season.**

### Officer contact:

Ian Gibson – 01548 843791 (Internal 7104).

### 1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 There is a long waiting list of customers who would like to have a deep water mooring in Salcombe Harbour, currently over 150.
- 1.2 There is a relatively healthy turnover of moorings between 9 and 11m; however accommodating requests for moorings for boats over 12m is more difficult with over 30 customers waiting for a mooring from a pool of only 52 available facilities. The consequence is that vessels larger than 12m will wait much longer for a mooring than those under 12m.
- 1.3 The Residents' deep water pontoons in Coad Cove were replaced with the current pontoons in 2008. There was a legacy of relatively small boats accommodated on the pontoons which had to be accommodated on the new pontoons. The majority of these small vessels are still on the Coad Cove deep water pontoons.

1.4 At the annual allocation for the past two seasons, when small berths have been given up the berths have been consolidated into fewer larger berths. This has helped the waiting list for larger vessels to some extent, but it is a relatively slow process.

1.5 In an attempt to speed up this process and get the waiting list moving, the Harbour Board agreed to a trial of finger berths on the inside of Coad Cove Pontoon B (SH27/12).

## 2. FINGER BERTH TRIAL

2.1 Over the winter 2012/13 four 6.5m fingers were installed on the shore side of Coad Cove Pontoon B creating 8 berths for vessels up to 8m for the 2013 season. Having used the berths for the season the berth holders were contacted for their feedback on the functionality and usability of the finger berths, there is a précis below with full comments at Appendix A.

Berth	Boat	Customer Comments
1	7.15m Jeanneau Merry Fisher	Manoeuvring into and out of the berth challenging but possible. Water noise on hull. Does not want to move from this berth.
2	7.6m Boston Whaler	Does not like the finger pontoons, difficult to use.
3	6.5m Doral	No feedback received
4	5.3m RHIB	No feedback received
5	5.18m Dell Quay Dory	Supportive of the concept of Finger pontoons.
6, 7 & 8	Variety of Boats, Blue Water Commercial berths.	Suitable for RHIBs and sports boats. Larger boats have found berthing more challenging.

2.2 Having monitored the use of the pontoon finger berths throughout the season and taken the berth holders comments into consideration it is concluded that the use of finger berths is viable and that they are generally best suited to day boats without a cabin and specifically RHIBs.

## 3. Proposal

3.1 It is proposed that an additional six finger pontoons are procured and fitted to the inside of Coad Cove B Pontoon, creating in total 20 berths for RHIBs and open day boats of up to 8m.

3.2 Day boats less than 8m currently allocated to the deep water pontoon are moved to the finger berths, creating space for a berth restructure to establish mooring facilities for vessels of over 12m, for which there is a chronic shortage within the Harbour Authorities berthing facility portfolio.

## 4. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Statutory Powers: Local Government Act 1972, Section 151. The Pier and Harbour Order (Salcombe) Confirmation Act 1954 (Sections 22-36).

4.2 There are no other legal implications to this report.

## 5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The cost of 8 x 6.5m fingers is £9,681 which can be funded from the pontoon maintenance revenue budget. The investment would deliver a return in year two.

## 6. Risk Assessment

- 6.1 The risk management implications are:

Risk/Opportunity	Risk Status			Mitigating and Management Actions
	Impact/Severity	Likelihood/Probability	Risk Score	
There is an opportunity to reduce the waiting list and deliver increased income by changing the configuration of the Coad Cove deep water pontoons	2	2	4	There is very little risk in this proposal. Financially it delivers an excellent return, paying for the investment in year 2. It would also help move the waiting list on, particularly for larger vessels which are difficult to accommodate on swinging moorings.
Berthing across the tide presents an increased risk of berthing incidents.	2	2	4	The finger boats are allocated to day boats which have less windage than cabin boats, so reducing the degree to which environmental factors will affect manoeuvrability during berthing.

**Corporate priorities engaged:**

Community Life  
Economy  
Environment

**Consideration of equality and human rights:**

There are no equality or human rights issues with this report

**Biodiversity considerations:**

Harbour Board's policies have a bearing on biodiversity.

**Sustainability considerations:**

The Harbour policies need to consider sustainability.

**Crime and disorder implications:**

None

**Background Papers:**

SH 27/12 – Trial of Finger Pontoons

**Appendices attached:**

A. Customer feedback on the finger berth trial.

Ian Gibson  
Harbour Master

Salcombe Harbour Board  
23 September 2013