

**Minutes
Filey Coble Landing Users Group
Tuesday 31 March 2026
Evron Centre, Filey**

Present:

Chris Bourne (CB)
 Kirsty Patullo (Minute Taker)
 Rex Harrison (RH)
 Councillor Samuel Cross (SC)
 Charles Baker, (ChB)
 Carl Holsworth (CH)
 Samantha Allen, SA)
 Alan Brain, Filey Boat Angling Club (AB)
 Ian Butler, RNLI (IB)
 Mike Cockerill, Filey Town Council (FC)
 Sam WhitfieldWhitfield (SW)

Apologies:

Executive Summary of meeting	Action
<p>The meeting addressed several key operational and safety concerns at Filey Coble Landing, including the persistent issue of abandoned and unmaintained boats, parking enforcement, and general site tidiness. Significant progress was reported on Port Marine Facility Safety Code compliance, with all harbours now certified. Actions were agreed to tackle derelict vessels, clarify parking regulations, and progress community safety initiatives.</p> <p>Summary of actions arising today:</p> <p>Chris Bourne:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-examine the placement and sufficiency of "no parking" signs on the slip. • Investigate the licences and fees for the identified white, yellow, and black/yellow boats and the associated tractor, and initiate the agreed removal/upkeep procedure. • Follow up on insurance details regarding damage caused to a boat. • Raise the issue of moving the sign near the lifeboat shop with Parking again. • Contact MW to request removal of his nets from the railings. • Discuss with businesses the possibility of aligning A-boards/signs to reduce clutter and obstruction. • Discuss the feasibility and enforcement of a designated loading area with Parking. • Investigate historical Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) related to Filey Coble Landing parking, ascertain the number of permits issued, who holds them, and explore enforcement possibilities with Parking. • Raise concerns about erosion and lack of support under the cobble landing grouting with the engineers. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the public report on Port Marine Facility Safety Code compliance is circulated once published. • Review all feedback received on the Harbour Strategy Document. • Investigate why Filey Harbour accounts are being lumped with Scarborough. <p>Andy Crossley:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrange for the clearing of cobblestones from the beach, utilising the dozer method. • Arrange for the steel bit to be angle-grinded off. <p>James Buck:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proceed with interviewing and appointing the seasonal attendant. <p>Ian Butler:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue seeking community funding for the AED. <p>Harbour Masters (Sam Whitfield & Chris Bourne):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note the new RNLI towing policy and ensure protocols are in place to respond to berth requests. <p>Rex Harrison:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform Chris Bourne/Harbour Master when salmon nets will be placed on railings for mending. 	
1.	<p>Welcome and introductions</p> <p>Attendees introduced themselves, stating their name and organisation for the AI transcription system.</p>	
2.	<p>Notes of the Last Meeting and matters arising</p> <p>The minutes from the previous meeting were briefly reviewed. It was noted that Kirsty Patullo’s email reminder for this meeting had been effective, resulting in good attendance. Apologies were received from Colin Haddington.</p> <p>Matters Arising</p> <p>Yellow Hatched Box: Completed by Andy Crossley.</p> <p>No Parking Signs on Slip: Chris Bourne reported that Parking deemed extending the signs (to include lifeboat turning circle) unenforceable, thus they would not instal them. Charles Baker contended the existing signs were insufficient or badly placed. Action: Chris Bourne to re-examine the placement and sufficiency of "no parking" signs on the slip with Parking.</p> <p>Enforcement Powers of Harbour Attendant: This is being addressed within the job description review.</p> <p>Nets on Railings: Charles had previously raised concerns about fishing nets remaining on railings. Rex Harrison suggested they might belong to Matt Wilkes.</p> <p>Christmas Tree Insurance: Mike Cockerill enquired if the council could incorporate insurance for the fish teeth (Christmas tree) into their overall policy. Chris Bourne confirmed the council would not cover it as they do not own it. It was noted that removing the fireworks element from the policy could significantly reduce costs. Samantha Allen confirmed they still have the insurance.</p>	<p>CB</p>

	<p>Meeting Dates: Kirsty confirmed that meeting dates for the rest of the year had been circulated.</p> <p>Abandoned Boats and Tractor Samantha Allen raised concerns about specific boats. Sam Whitfield confirmed there were three problematic boats: a white one, a yellow one, and a black/yellow one.</p> <p>Rex Harrison identified the owners of one boat stating it was blocking three berths, and its trailer was collapsed. He also noted it had caused damage to other boats when moved previously. The yellow and black/yellow boats also had collapsed trailers and were unseaworthy.</p> <p>Concerns were raised about if these boats lacked insurance, which is a requirement for berthing licences. The discussion extended to a tractor which was in poor condition, leaking oil, and inappropriately parked.</p> <p>Councillor Samuel Cross emphasised the long-standing nature of the issue and the need for resolution.</p> <p>A clear process was outlined for dealing with these vessels:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harbour staff will officially identify owners and check berthing licences and fee payments. • If no licence/fees, owners will be written to, given a period to remove boats, followed by a second warning with a shorter period, after which the boats will be removed by the council. • If licenced, the "vessel upkeep procedure" will be applied, requiring vessels to be seaworthy and properly berthed (e.g., occupying only one berth). <p>Action: Chris Bourne to investigate the licences and fees for the identified white, yellow, and black/yellow boats and the associated tractor, and initiate the agreed removal/upkeep procedure.</p> <p>Action: Chris Bourne to follow up on insurance details for damage to the boat, potentially sharing details if appropriate.</p> <p>Sign near Lifeboat Shop</p> <p>Samantha Allen noted the sign had not been moved from the lifeboat shop to the end of the corner, despite previous discussion. Chris Bourne stated Parking was not keen on moving it due to sighting concerns.</p> <p>Action: Chris Bourne to raise the issue of moving the sign near the lifeboat shop with Parking again.</p>	<p>CB</p> <p>CB</p> <p>CB</p>
3.	<p>Operational Updates</p> <p>Nets on Railings: White nets were observed on railings. It was suggested these belonged to Matt Wilkes.</p> <p>Action: Sam Whitfield to contact Matt Wilkes to request removal of his nets from the railings.</p> <p>A-boards/Business Signs: A request was made to discuss the placement of A-boards and signs outside businesses, as they were scattered and cluttering the area, potentially obstructing pedestrians and boat movements. Sam Whitfield cited specific examples of problematic placements.</p>	<p>SW</p>

	<p>Action: Chris Bourne to discuss with businesses the possibility of aligning A-boards/signs to reduce clutter and obstruction.</p> <p>Loading/Drop-off Spot: Sam Whitfield suggested painting a designated loading/drop-off area for deliveries to prevent access blockage. This would require consultation with Parking.</p> <p>Action: Chris Bourne to discuss the feasibility and enforcement of a designated loading area with Parking.</p> <p>Parking Regulations and Permits: Mike Cockerill highlighted that parking issues have been discussed for many years. Carl Holdsworth recalled a parking order from 2002/2003 under Captain Estill, which led to business owner permits.</p> <p>Councillor Samuel Cross noted that much of the current parking situation is unenforceable, as previously stated by Billy Kent from Parking.</p> <p>Concerns were raised about the number of permits issued (Rex Harrison estimated 12+ for businesses, plus boat berths), their usage (e.g., cars parked all day vs. only when boats are out), and the lack of clarity on who holds them.</p> <p>Action: Chris Bourne to investigate historical Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) related to Filey Coble Landing parking, ascertain the number of permits issued, who holds them, and explore enforcement possibilities with Parking.</p> <p>Cobblestones on Beach: Brian requested the cobblestones piled up on the beach after easterly storms be cleared again, noting the effective method used last year (pushing them along the beach with a dozer).</p> <p>Action: Andy Crossley to arrange for the clearing of cobblestones from the beach, utilising the dozer method.</p> <p>Grouting of Cobble Landing: Samantha Allen raised concerns about missing grouting, exposed rusty rebar, and apparent erosion underneath the cobbles, suggesting a lack of support.</p> <p>Action: Andy Crossley to address erosion and lack of support under the cobble landing grouting with the engineers.</p> <p>Rex Harrison suggested starting grouting from the top and allowing it to flow down. Action: Chris Bourne to mention Rex Harrison's suggestion for top-down grouting to Andy Crossley.</p> <p>Steel Bit: A piece of steel is to be angle-grinded off.</p> <p>Action: Andy Crossley to arrange for the steel bit to be angle-grinded off (Chris Bourne)</p>	<p>CB</p> <p>CB</p> <p>CB</p> <p>CB/AC</p> <p>AC</p> <p>CB/AC</p>
4.	<p>Port and Marine Facilities Safety Code</p> <p>Chris Bourne reported positive news: all harbours (Whitby, Scarborough, Filey) have achieved full compliance with the health and safety requirements of the Port Marine Facility Safety Code. An independent inspection by the designated person confirmed compliance, and Karl Battersby certified this to the DFT.</p>	

	<p>A public report detailing this compliance, including the audit report, will be presented at the next Scarborough and Whitby Area Committee meeting. This aims to address ongoing unsubstantiated reports to the MCA regarding alleged breaches.</p> <p>Action: Chris Bourne to ensure the public report on Port Marine Facility Safety Code compliance is circulated once published.</p>	<p>CB</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Security / Health & Safety / Maintenance:</p> <p>Seasonal Attendant: Sam Whitfield confirmed that applications for the seasonal attendant role have been received, and interviews will take place in the coming weeks. A new shed and improved equipment (e.g., bigger brush, stick pump for dewatering vessels) will be provided.</p> <p>Action: Sam Whitfield/James Buck to proceed with interviewing and appointing the seasonal attendant. Chris will provide updates on this as it progresses.</p> <p>AED/Defibrillator: Ian Butler reported that the RNLI has granted permission for a power supply and mounting for an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) and cabinet on their building at the seafront. He is seeking community funding for the AED (£1400 plus £80 for pads every two years). The location is deemed necessary as it is more than two minutes from the Coastguard station.</p> <p>Action: Ian Butler to continue seeking community funding for the AED.</p> <p>RNLI Towing Policy: Ian Butler informed the group of a new RNLI policy for towing vessels. Before commencing a tow, the RNLI must now obtain permission from the harbour master, confirming a berth is available for the towed vessel. This is to ensure a safe haven is secured before a tow is initiated, as the RNLI is not a commercial towing service.</p> <p>Action: Harbour Masters (Chris Bourne, Sam Whitfield) to note the new RNLI towing policy and ensure protocols are in place to respond to berth requests.</p>	<p>IB/CB</p> <p>SW</p> <p>CB/SW</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Site Clean Up</p> <p>Discussions regarding the removal of abandoned boats, clearing of cobblestones from the beach, and general tidiness of the cobble landing were covered under "Matters Arising" and "Operational Update". The commitment to a significant tidy-up, similar to the previous year, was reiterated.</p>	
<p>7</p>	<p>Filey Coble Landing Attendant</p> <p>This item was discussed under "Security / Health & Safety / Maintenance" regarding the recruitment and equipping of the seasonal attendant.</p>	
<p>6.</p>	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>Harbour Strategy Document: Mike Cockerill enquired about the new harbour strategy document. Samantha Allen provided feedback, stating it was a "poor document" due to its lack of clarity, misleading presentation of facilities (implying all facilities were at all three harbours), and insufficient Filey-specific detail. Chris Bourne noted the feedback, explaining the intention was to group common policies for brevity.</p> <p>Action: Chris Bourne to review all feedback received on the Harbour Strategy Document.</p>	

	<p>Separation of Filey Harbour Accounts: Mike Cockerill raised the issue of Filey Harbour accounts being separated, as previously understood. Chris Bourne noted he had seen an email from finance suggesting Filey would be lumped with Scarborough, which he did not understand, as there is no individual legislation requiring separation for Filey as there is for Scarborough and Whitby.</p> <p>Action: Chris Bourne to investigate why Filey Harbour accounts are being lumped with Scarborough.</p> <p>Bench on Railings: Sam Whitfield enquired about the bench to be placed on the railings. Mike Cockerill confirmed it is in hand with the Town Council, but they are currently struggling with staff.</p> <p>Salmon Nets: Rex Harrison informed the group that in about a month, he would need to place salmon nets on the railings for mending. He would inform the harbour staff when this would occur.</p> <p>Action: Rex Harrison to inform Chris Bourne/Harbour Master when salmon nets will be placed on railings for mending.</p>	<p>CB</p> <p>CB</p> <p>RH/CB</p>
7.	<p>Date and time of next meetings:</p> <p>20 July 2026 at 14:30 in Evron Centre.</p>	<p>KP</p>

POST MEETING NOTES

Parking

Feedback was received from the Head of Parking in respect of the parking issues identified :

“I wanted to confirm that we are currently carrying out a review of parking across Whitby, Scarborough, and Filey, which forms part of the Parking Principles Local Area Action Plans (LAAP's). We've already completed the officer meeting stage, and the next step will be the Member consultation, where everyone will have an opportunity to share their views and feedback.

I believe this approach will ensure all areas are considered together, and I don't see the need to hold a separate meeting just for Filey at this stage.”

Accounts

Feedback was received from the Head of Finance in respect of the accounts :

There is no legislation in place requiring the ring-fencing of accounts for Filey Coble Landing.

The accounts for FCL are therefore included in the Council's General Fund and the figures are kept separate under its own cost centre.

After the accounts are published annually we can provide the Coble Landing User Group with outturn figures.