

**Minutes
Filey Coble Landing Users Group
Monday 20 July 2026
Evron Centre, Filey**

Present:

Chris Bourne (CB) – Head of Harbours
Sam Whitfield (SW) – Assistant Harbour Master
Samantha Allen (MF) – Community Swimming Group
Charles Baker, (ChB) – Café Owner – Chair
Alan Brain, Filey Boat Angling Club (AB)
Mike Cockerill, Filey Town Council (FC)

Apologies:

Rex Harrison
Councillor Samuel Cross (SC)
Ian Butler, RNLI (IB)

1.	Welcome and introductions Attendees introduced themselves, stating their name and organisation for the AI transcription system. Apologies noted as above.	
2.	Matters Arising and Updates 2.1 Parking Signage Chris Bourne reported that the Parking Team is satisfied with the current positioning of the existing "No Parking" sign and has no plans to relocate it. Members expressed concern that motorists often commit to turning before the sign becomes visible. Alternative locations were suggested, including near the cycle parking area and at the Herring Hill junction. Members noted the absence of additional parking restriction signage further along the landing. Agreed Action: Chris Bourne to investigate the installation of supplementary non-enforceable harbour signage to reinforce parking restrictions.	CB
	2.2 Abandoned Boats and Trailers Members were advised that owners of previously identified vessels and tractors in poor condition have paid outstanding charges. Sam Whitfield confirmed that notices requiring repair have been issued for several vessels and trailers in poor condition. A standard six-month compliance period is normally provided, although shorter timescales may apply where health and safety risks exist.	

	Concerns were raised regarding the visual impact of deteriorating vessels; however officers noted the legal complexities associated with removing privately owned assets. Outcome: Ongoing monitoring and enforcement action to continue.	
	2.3 Nets on Railings Members noted that one set of nets has been removed and that revised net storage arrangements represent an improvement on previous practices.	
	2.4 A-Boards and Site Clutter Discussion took place regarding the positioning of A-boards and associated clutter along the landing. Members highlighted that signage currently obstructs areas intended for loading, unloading and passing traffic, affecting businesses and visitors. Potential solutions discussed included introducing loading bay markings and limiting use of the area to loading and unloading activities. It was noted that formal enforcement measures may require a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO). Agreed Action: Chris Bourne to investigate suitable loading bay markings and agree potential locations with affected businesses.	CB
	2.5 Historic Traffic Regulation Orders Chris Bourne confirmed that information relating to historic TROs had previously been received but could not be located during the meeting. Members recalled that parking restrictions covering the whole landing were introduced approximately twenty years ago during historic ownership discussions. Agreed Action: Chris Bourne to locate and circulate the relevant documentation.	CB
	2.6 Cobble Erosion and Grouting Members were advised that remedial works to address cobble erosion, including injection works beneath the cobbles, have now been completed.	
	2.7 Metal Grinding Members noted completion of previously requested metal grinding works.	
	2.8 Seasonal Attendant and Towing Policy Updates were noted and actions recorded as complete.	
	2.9 Harbour Accounts Chris Bourne confirmed that Filey does not operate under legislation requiring separate harbour accounts. Financial activity is managed within the Council's General Fund but monitored through a dedicated cost code. Initial analysis indicates that Filey Coble Landing required approximately £13,000 subsidy during the previous financial year, with expenditure exceeding income. Agreed Action: Chris Bourne to provide detailed financial information following publication of the Council's annual accounts later in the summer.	CB
	2.10 Benches Members were advised that replacement benches have been ordered and are awaiting manufacture and delivery.	

	Locations have been agreed to ensure benches do not interfere with berthing operations and will be positioned facing the sea. Agreed Action: Cllr Mike Cockerill agreed to monitor progress of bench delivery and installation	MC
	2.11 Berthing System It was reported that Rex Harrison considers the current berthing arrangements effective. However, Sam Whitfield advised that changes to the system are under consideration and discussions are ongoing.	
3.	Landing and Fish Dues A significant discussion took place regarding the collection of landing and fish dues. Members were advised that no such dues appear to have been collected since the establishment of North Yorkshire Council and potentially for some time beforehand. Chris Bourne also raised concerns landings were not being reported to NEIFCA. Chris Bourne confirmed that legal and financial reviews are underway to establish historical arrangements and clarify the Council's entitlement to dues. Correspondence has also been received from Kevin Hollinrake MP seeking clarification on behalf of local fishermen. Members discussed the limited scale of commercial fishing activity currently taking place in Filey and questioned the practicality of collecting dues from small-scale direct sales. Outcome: Investigation remains ongoing	
4.	Operational Updates 4.1 Commercial Bins Members discussed ongoing problems caused by commercial waste bins occupying berth space, overflowing and attracting seabirds. A proposal was supported to establish a dedicated fenced compound within Bay 8 to accommodate commercial bins and improve site appearance. Agreed Action: Sam Whitfield to work with Andy Crossley to explore installation of a timber or key-clamp bin enclosure.	SW
	4.2 Site Clean-Up Positive feedback was received regarding the pre-season clean-up operation. Members agreed that annual clean-up and inspection events should continue in future years.	
	4.3 New Boat Location Members and officers noted they were aware of a new boat under construction that was intending to berth in Filey. Chris Bourne stated they had not been formally approached for a request for berthing and, dependent upon its size, were doubtful if it could be accommodated within the current arrangements and berths already allocated.	

	This item was noted as an ongoing issue and continues to be monitored.	
	4.4 Coble Landing Attendant Members expressed appreciation for the work undertaken by the Coble Landing Attendant, Charles Baker, highlighting his proactive approach to maintaining standards and supporting visitors. A concern was raised regarding difficulties processing card payments for launching fees due to uncertainty surrounding payment arrangements. Agreed Action: Sam Whitfield to clarify card payment procedures and provide guidance to the attendant as required.	SW
5.	Any other Business 5.1 Public Obstruction of the Landing Members raised concerns regarding members of the public refusing to move from the launching area during vessel movements and lifeboat operations, creating significant safety risks. An incident was highlighted when members of the public refused to move, even with Police in attendance. Potential solutions discussed included additional warning signage and other measures to improve public awareness of operational activities. Whilst concerns were raised regarding enforceability, members agreed that signage could still serve as a useful deterrent and educational tool. Chris Bourne stated he is not in favour of additional signage and it is not enforceable.	
	5.2 Unidentified Vessel Sam Whitfield reported concerns regarding an unidentified vessel and requested assistance in identifying its owner. Further enquiries will be undertaken, including liaison with local contacts.	
6.	Date and time of next meetings: 26 November 2026 at 14:00 in Evron Centre.	