



Marina, Harbour and Dredging Committee

Newsletter Update

1.0 Dredging

- 1.1 The Department of Agriculture, Food and The Marine (DAFM) received planning approval from Fingal County Council for the dredging of the Harbour. There was one observation submitted which is now the subject of an appeal to An Bord Pleanála (ABP). DAFM have made their counter submission and a decision from An Bord Pleanála should be received before the end of 2023. Liaison and consultation is continuing between the Development Committee and DAFM with the objective of having the HYC requirements incorporated into the dredging contract to minimize disruption to Club members' use.
- 1.2 Despite the referral to An Bord Pleanála, DAFM have submitted their Article 11 declaration to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The EPA are due to revert in the next few weeks advising on the type of authorisation required and the permitting process will commence thereafter. The EPA process is likely to take 12 months. It is not known if the EPA licence process will be allowed to run concurrent with the appeal to ABP and, if not, this could result in a significant delay in the progressing of the project.
- 1.3 The Invitation to Tender process for the Dredging Contract will commence after the EPA process is complete since, the EPA conditions (assuming a permit is granted) will need to be incorporated into the tender documents. The Invitation to Tender process is likely to commence in Q2 2024 and is expected to take a minimum of 6 months.
- 1.4 The earliest start of dredging operations is expected to be Q4 2024 but it could easily slip to 2025. The dredging contract is likely to take 18 to 24 months.

2.0 Marina



- 2.1 The Development Committee are looking at options to enhance the buoyancy on the south side of the main walkway near the gangway to see if the twist that has developed can be reduced. Inland & Coastal, who provide pontoons, are ready to proceed with a trial on the central walkway involving the installation of additional buoyancy beneath the pontoon at the worst locations.
- 2.2 A cost is awaited from Inland and Coastal for the replacement of the pontoons under the crane, the next ones scheduled for replacement as part of the ongoing maintenance programme.

3.0 Piling

3.1 Investigations are underway to explore solutions for the rehabilitation of the greenheart piles that locate some of the marina pontoons and a trial will be undertaken shortly on one of the most eroded piles. Investigations are also underway into the cleaning off of the rust on the original steel piles, followed by the application of a rust inhibitor and a new epoxy coating.

3.2 A meeting was held with a company specialising in the rehabilitation of greenheart piles suffering from gribble attack and a very interesting remediation proposal has been received. The solution proposed consists of the installation of a fibreglass surround to the pile that is then pressure filled with a high strength resin.

3.3 Final pricing is awaited for the proposal and expert advice has been separately obtained about the possibility of continued gribble attack after the resin treatment is undertaken, as well as the degree of gribble penetration towards the base of the greenheart piles. The initial advice is that that the gribble attack should not continue after the resin surround is in place and the infestation is unlikely to extend into the base of the greenheart pile due to the preference of the worms to attack timber closer to the water surface.



Similar Piling Rehabilitation Works (Ref: Denso Website)

4.0 General Matters

- 4.1 The summer racing marks will be reinstated before the end of April.
- 4.2 Investigations are continuing into the sourcing of a suitable replacement for Star Point but, in the meantime, significant engine repairs took place over the winter to keep the vessel fully operational while a replacement is found.
- 4.3 The waste collection system beneath the crane that takes run-off from the concrete deck is not functioning as effectively as envisaged. Investigations are underway into damage noted to the system's pipework and its overall suitability / performance.
- 4.4 A number of potential Government grants that would support improvements to the Club's marine related infrastructure have been identified and applications that focus on current and future development works are being prepared .