



2008

HARBOUR DUES INFORMATION

Harbour Dues are payable by all vessels in Poole Harbour and I would like to advise all users that the public right of navigation in the harbour is dependent on the payment of the appropriate dues. The harbour authority is empowered to take action to recover harbour dues, including the arrest of boats.

You may find it useful to know why harbour dues are charged, and how the money is spent. Commercial vessels like the BARFLEUR pay a “boomage” charge, which is the equivalent of harbour dues, and together these charges fund the “conservancy” of the harbour, ie. surveying, dredging to keep the channels clear, marking of navigational channels, the maintenance of navigational aids (all buoys, markers beacons, lights, stakes, notice boards etc), traffic management to keep the harbour safe (harbour control, radar, CCTV) responding to and handling emergencies, patrolling and enforcing the byelaws. There is a huge variety of tasks which must be undertaken and the recreational sector must pay its fair share of the cost. Our total revenue is about £9.5 million of which some £350,000 comes from recreational users.

To give you some examples of recent expenditure, some £60,000 was spent on the surveying and marking of the minor navigation channels and £50,000 on policing the harbour in the summer months. Harbour Control costs around £150,000 a year to maintain. New buoyage has been placed in the minor channels such as East Looe, Goathorn, Pottery Pier, North Channel and Wareham Channel. The requirements of the Port Marine Safety Code must be met and as a responsible harbour authority we are obliged to follow best practice.

Vessels observed not displaying an annual Harbour Dues decal will be stopped by a harbour patrol vessel in order to check whether Harbour Dues have been paid.

Please display your annual harbour dues disc in a prominent position on the port side of your craft. Action will be taken by the Harbour Authority to recover dues not paid.

Poole has an excellent reputation for marine safety and liaison with stakeholders, which I am sure you will want to help us maintain.

Thank you for your contribution

HARBOUR MASTER