

EAST COWES



SAILING CLUB

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Captain Stuart McIntosh
Chief Executive and Harbour Master
Cowes Harbour Authority

16th July 2020

Dear Stuart,

CHC/CTWT Merger Stakeholder Response

Forgive the tardy reply; I have been canvassing opinions from the General Committee and others in the club. Thank you for your Q&A document yesterday. I'm sure it answers most if not all of the comments I've received on the Stakeholder Consultation document; namely: https://www.cowesharbourcommission.co.uk/content/S637292971797623109/CHC_Consultation_Document_V4_Final.pdf. I had to follow up the internal request for comment I made following your press release with the full, rather than the partial, link in the press release. My view is that, these days, if it's not on the other side of a click no one will bother hunting it down.

That aside, I have received one unequivocally positive comment: "...not before time, and it should form a way forward to pull Cowes water front businesses together, and improve harbour facilities. It hasn't escaped me that East Cowes [town] is often not integrated into West Cowes planning. I hope that our integration with Cowes clubs using our new race facility could be a link between clubs both sides of river..."

Other comments are more nuanced, for example: "... grouping facilities together will definitely make management of events easier and the East bank will probably remain the poor neighbour whether it all goes ahead or not. I'm sure The Club will still receive the same treatment, or lack of it, as at present so no additional worries there however I think Cowes Corinthian and Lallows may feel a bit of a squeeze seeing as they will be surrounded by one charitable trust..."

Continuing on the facilities consolidation theme, I received one verbal comment that the merger would diminish competition on the river.

Finally, one comment about representation: "... with directors of the new combined CHC/CWT charity being selected from existing Commissioners etc., the new organization would be very heavily slanted towards the West side of the river. Bearing in mind that Commissioners meet monthly and the CHC Advisory Committee meets some 3 times each year..."

I hope our contribution helps the consultation along.

Yours sincerely

David Nixon

Commodore

East Cowes Sailing Club