

# RYDE HARBOUR NEWSLETTER

You may recall that in the Spring 2009 newsletter, we told you that the council had decided, both in recognition of the recession and as part of its overall strategy, not to increase its fees and charges for 2009/2010.

During last summer, an extensive review of the current charging structure was carried out. This included charges for both permanent and visitors' berths. We compared other similar facilities and look at 'best practice' charging models which are used elsewhere.

As a result of this review, we have retained the existing annual (12 month) agreement for permanent berths, together with the various payment options (plus a monthly direct debit), but have increased the existing minimum berth agreement from six months to eight months. The two charging structures, payment options and payment comparisons are printed on the back of this newsletter.

The new minimum eight month option recognises that there is a considerable number of people who would only require a berth for the sailing season as they over-winter their boats elsewhere. This option is, therefore, available from 1 March to 31 October each year. Outside of this period the boat should be removed from the harbour. If the boat remains in the harbour, mooring fees will be charged at the monthly rate.

So that there will be a smooth transition for anyone wishing to change from a twelve-month agreement to an eight-month agreement, these new charges will be implemented from **1 March 2010**.

During this time, the terms and conditions for permanent berths have also been reviewed and a draft is attached – this will also be displayed on the noticeboard at the harbour office. If you would like to comment on any aspect of the revised terms and conditions, I'd be grateful if you could do so by **Wednesday 24 February**. Please send any comments to [sean.newton@iow.gov.uk](mailto:sean.newton@iow.gov.uk). Subject to any comments received, it is anticipated that the revised terms and conditions will also be implemented from 1 March. At this time, two copies will be issued to each permanent berth holder – please sign one copy and return it to the harbour office, together with a new application form.

If you have any queries regarding these proposals, please contact me. If you'd like to discuss the application of these fees to your boat, please contact harbour staff on 613879 or email [ryde.harbour@iow.gov.uk](mailto:ryde.harbour@iow.gov.uk).

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