

Initial email to Boatfolk

From: John Day <johnmday@sky.com>

Sent: 28 April 2021 10:51

To: Jon Roberts <JonR@boatfolk.co.uk>

Cc: roger WORK <rm@ictmentoring.com>; Rosie Hearn <Rosie.Hearn@ryacymruwales.org.uk>

Subject: FW: Old Flares Amnesty

Dear Jon

Some of our members have brought to our attention the difficulty of disposing of out-of-date flares.

We have discussed the issue with Holyhead Coastguard, Conwy Harbour Authority, RYA Cymru Wales, Yachtshop, Norwest Marine, Glaslyn Marine also Conwy Sailing and Watersports Group.

Holyhead Coastguard stress that they are not the first port of call for receiving old flares and point out the following options berth holders have:-

- Take them back to the supplier
- A local life raft service agent may take them
- Some ports and marinas have set up collection points
- Although Coastguard Stations no longer take commercial vessel's flares for disposal, some still take them from leisure boaters – but this does not include Holyhead at present because of a significant storage issue.
- There are specialist disposal companies such as Ramora UK.

This advice is consistent with that on the RYA Website and UK Government advice.

Yachtshop are unable to take flares because of increased transport restrictions but have agreed to discuss the issue with their two suppliers.

Norwest Marine will take flares free of charge to liferaft service customers and charge £4.00/kg for visitors bringing flares for disposal.

Andrea at **Conwy Harbour Office** has agreed to discuss the matter with Matt Forbes.

It is illegal to leave old flares at police or fire stations.

It is not illegal for leisure boaters to transport TEP's in own cars to an accepting Coastguard Station or disposal facility.

Ramora UK have arranged old flare amnesties in various parts of the UK. An article in this month's Powerboat & RIB describes an amnesty arranged with Premier Marinas over two days in June.

Berth holders will be offered 3 flares free and any over charged at £2.00 per flare. Visitors pay £2.00 for each flare.

We have been in discussion with Ramora UK and they have sent the above quotation for a two day amnesty. To achieve this we believe it would need to be a joint venture between the two marinas and Conwy Harbour. We have established that a one day amnesty at Conwy could be arranged and charged at the weekday or weekend rate whichever was chosen.

Perhaps Boatfolk have already addressed this issue? We are asking that an arrangement is provided in Conwy for all annual berth holders and perhaps others to allow the flares to be collected and disposed of safely and legally.

There are conditions attached to the amnesty day, most importantly to be able to provide a safe area to dispose of flares deemed unsafe to transport.

I have copied this letter to Rosy Hearn of RYA Cymru Wales as she asked to be kept up to date with progress on this issue and offered help if it goes ahead.

Regards

John

John M Day

CMBHA Treasurer

Response from Boatfolk

On Fri, 30 Apr 2021 at 9:59, Jon Roberts
<JonR@boatfolk.co.uk> wrote:

John,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Regards,

Jon Roberts

Conwy Marina Manager

jonr@boatfolk.co.uk

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www.boatfolk.co.uk



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Ellis Way
Conwy

LL32 8EP

Response sent in reply to email from Boatfolk

Dear Jon

I haven't shared your response to my email until now and ask that you don't just consider the cost but initially help us to establish a number of facts. We get it that the safe disposal of old flares is the responsibility of individual boat owners but at present because the MCA's agreement with Coastguard stations maybe being withdrawn towards the end of 2021 the options are limited.

How big is the issue? This affects all berth holders, not just CMBHA.

Would the other berthing and mooring providers in the Conwy Estuary cooperate in a joint initiative?

Could the two chandleries do more?

Have any of the other 10 Boatfolk marinas undertaken such an exercise?

What are the alternatives to using Ramora UK?

CMBHA's aim is to be able to go back to our members with the best advice and hopefully a cost effective legal solution to their problem. We are not however in a position to look at the whole picture here in Conwy and have no remit with all the local boater as you suggest. We could for example survey our members which would provide a picture of the whole marina but are reluctant to do that until we have a plan in place to help with this issue.

The use of crowd funding has been tried in the USA and to a lesser extent in the UK but I doubt it would work in this instance which is why the Amnesty's have recently appeared.

Regards

John

John M Day
CMBHA Treasurer

[Sent from Sky Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

On Thu, 6 May 2021 at 13:05, Jon Roberts

<JonR@boatfolk.co.uk> wrote:

John,

[REDACTED]

|

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Regards,

Jon Roberts

Conwy Marina Manager

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