



## TOBERMORY HARBOUR END OF YEAR REPORT.

2021, and a far better New Year to everyone from Tobermory Harbour. We all need good news, take a boat trip into the future! Your team at our Community Harbour, our staff and Directors have decided to change the company focus. We will now move from a seasonal business to building new facilities to generate year round income. New facilities to create year round jobs and to deliver year round community gain. Covid has shown us that there are new opportunities, even in a pandemic. Two years ago we installed the North Arm Breakwater Pontoon with berthing for bigger boats. This year, these berths have been busy with a steady stream of local aquaculture and fishing boats, plus a steady stream of inshore commercial boats.

This Christmas we are pleased to report that after more than a year of designing and planning, we have raised grants and loans, and added Harbour funding to 'future proof' the Pontoons at Ledaig. The timber decked East Hammerhead, facing Aros Park, will be replaced by three big breakwater pontoon sections. These breakwater sections will be moved from the North Arm and floated across to make the new East Hammerhead Breakwater to moderate waves in southerly gales. At the same time the three sections removed from the North Arm will be replaced with three new sections. These changes should result in a 90% enclosed pontoon harbour which will allow us to extend the season and offer much safer and protected berths in the autumn and winter.

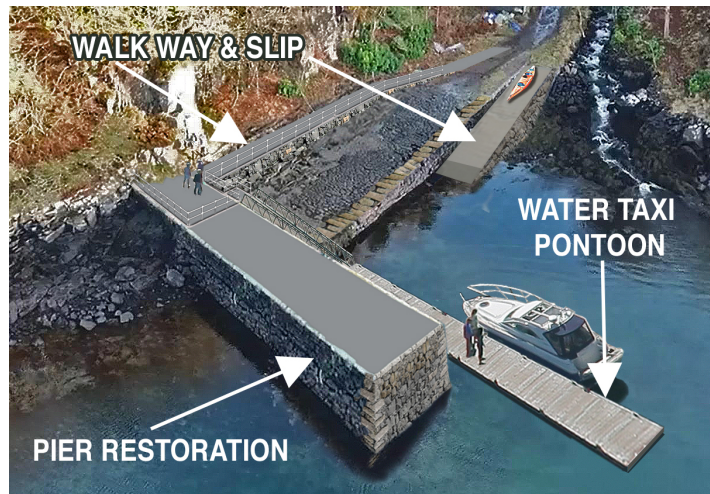
The three new sections for the North Arm are already on order. Externally the new sections will look exactly the same as before. Internally the new sections will house new power and new fuel lines and a reinforced decks for a much needed self service Commercial Fuel Berth. The new Commercial Fuel Berth will have two steel cabinets housing both low and high flow fuel dispensers, two credit card terminals and two hose reels. Looking further into the future we have also added extra ducts to accommodate extra electrical cables to recharge the next generation of all electric and hybrid boats.

Ashore we are very close to concluding the purchase of the Ledaig Solum from Crown Estate Scotland. The Solum is the old sea bed, under the Argyll and Bute Ledaig Car Park and under the Harbour Boat Park. This purchase will result in more community control and community gain. More good news! The flood plain restrictions by SEPA, which had halted all building development at sea level in Tobermory, have now been overturned by Scottish Ministers. This is excellent news! As a consequence we are now working with Argyll Properties to deliver a small ground floor extension for Tobermory Harbour. The extension is part of the redevelopment of the land between the Harbour Building and Macgoghans which had been on hold for the last two years.



Longer term, we are working hard to restore the historic pier and slip at Aros Waterfront and on projects to redevelop the old hatchery and sawmill at Aros. We are further planning to improve the compound area to the south of the harbour building. One option is to build four small two story units to provide opportunities for marine business who require harbour side space. We are also talking to others about wider opportunities for Tobermory Harbour if and when off shore renewables move north along the west coast.

Back in Tobermory we are continuing to work with Argyll and Bute on defences against short duration storm surges over the town sea wall and on defenses at the Ledaig Slip and in the surface drains to protect the Ledaig car park.



Back to the present and your Harbour Directors wish to thank the whole Harbour Team for going way above and beyond in 2020. We say a big 'thank you' to Anne, Mary, Rob and the Marine Team and to Netty and her excellent cleaning team. As a statutory Harbour Authority the port has remained open throughout the pandemic. Some staff were furloughed and some went on maternity leave and now we have a new and beautiful team of aquarium babies! We hope that after covid the Harbour Team will deliver a new purpose built Aquarium and Visitor Centre ready for the next generation to take over your Community Harbour.

