

LOCAL NOTICE TO MARINERS No. 12 of 2021

Traffic Restrictions During Barge Operations between Littlehampton Marina and Sea

MARINERS ARE ADVISED that a 50m long and 14m wide pontoon barge (JML 5014) will enter the harbour under pilotage with the assistance of two tugs shortly after the early morning High Water on **Thursday 14th October** (subject to weather). The barge will transit the harbour and then moor mid-channel using spud legs alongside the Littlehampton Marina's downriver pontoon. The barge will remain in this position (as per the below image) all day through Low Water whilst cargo is loaded by a crane on the East (North) Bank on behalf of Littlehampton Welding Ltd. The barge will depart for sea shortly before the early evening High Water and will continue on passage to Dundee.

Various traffic restrictions will be in place between 6am and 7pm as follows:

Harbour Closure During Arrival: For a period falling approximately between 6am and 7.15am the area between the harbour entrance and Littlehampton Marina will be closed to all craft during the tow's entry (just after HW). Listen VHF CH71 for updates. Vessels expecting to be underway close to this time may contact the Harbour Office in advance to discuss exemptions to this longer than usual closure.

Supervised Passage Past Barge During Loading: Any river user wishing to transit from/to/past Littlehampton Marina in the period between the two harbour closures described in this notice (i.e. during the day between 7.15am until 5.30pm) must contact the Harbour Office via 01903 721215 or harbour@littlehampton.org.uk to discuss their request at their earliest convenience (and no later than the 3pm on Weds 13th October). Certain vessels moored nearby have been arranged to be moved to ensure a minimum 10m wide supervised passing space on the south (West Bank) side of the barge once the spud legs are deployed. A small guard vessel will be on station to supervise pre-approved movements via VHF Channel 71. Minimum speed to maintain steerage is a must and fenders would be recommended. Those intending to pass in same direction as the tidal flow should take particular care and follow instructions from the guard vessel and/or barge crew. Any larger vessels berthed at the Littlehampton Marina or further upriver (or others who would prefer not to pass the barge), alternative berthing can be arranged at Town Quay Visitors Pontoon the day before and/or after free of charge by advance arrangement only.



Harbour Closure During Departure: For a period falling approximately between 5.30pm and 6.45pm the area between the Littlehampton Marina and the harbour entrance will be closed to all craft during the tow's departure to sea (just before High Water). Listen VHF CH71 for updates. Vessels expecting to be underway close to this time may contact the Harbour Office in advance to discuss exemptions to this longer than usual closure.

Harbour Office, Pier Road, Littlehampton, West Sussex, BN17 5LR

www.littlehampton.org.uk

Harbour@littlehampton.org.uk

Tel: (01903) 721215

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The barge will be manoeuvred within the harbour by a 14m multi-cat OBERVARGH and 10m harbour tug ERICA. The tow will be restricted in its ability to manoeuvre at up to 95m in length overall for arrival and 65m in length overall for departure.



An additional seagoing tug DMS CONDOR (24m LOA) will deliver and collect the barge from approximately 1 mile offshore. Whilst her draft and manoeuvrability make her unsuitable to participate in the tow within the harbour, she is expected to enter and depart the harbour separately and berth at the Visitor's Pontoon for the day.

Owners, Agents, Charterers, Marinas, Yacht Clubs and Recreational Sailing Organisations should ensure that the contents of this Notice are made known to the Masters or persons in charge of their vessels or craft.

A further Local Notice to Mariners may be issued if the operation is delayed or otherwise adjusted due to unfavourable weather. Any on the day changes to the programme will be broadcasted regularly via VHF. Any questions can be directed to the Harbour Office via 01903 721 215 or harbour@littlehampton.org.uk.

This notice is self-cancelling following departure of the barge.

Harry Gregory
Harbour Master
8th October 2021