

ABINGDON TOWN COUNCIL

Report to	Environment and Amenities Advisory Committee
Meeting date	11 th January 2022
Report author	Tim Badcock
Agenda item	12

Fisheries Report – Day Permit Sales

1. **Purpose of the Report**

To update members on the progress of the proposals made at the 16th November meeting of this committee and which were subsequently agreed by the Town Council on 1st December 2021.

2. **Summary**

The Council has made improvements, in partnership with a local boat hire company, to allow for easier access to the purchase of fishing permits for the Abingdon water.

3. **Action required and recommendations**

Members are requested to note the report and that this action is now complete.

4. **Link to strategic plan and objectives**

The teams work since the last meeting has impacted positively on the councils four key objectives and in particular support the council's key objective 1- To manage the Council's assets efficiently and effectively to meet for the needs of the community now and in the future.

5. **Background**

The council was originally approached by AV Boats in 2021 requesting a more streamlined solution to operate within the rules whilst hiring fishing boats to visitors without fishing permits. Please see confidential report to the meeting of 16th November 2021.

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Discussions have broadened and resulted in an arrangement whereby AV Boats will issue days permits for the council so they can be obtained readily outside of council office opening hours.

6. **Key information and options**

After discussions between A.V Boats and the Cemetery & Outdoor Services Manager an agreement has been made whereby A.V Boats will issue day permits along with the hire of their boats and also sell day permits to the wider public on behalf of Abingdon -on- Thames Town council at their premises on Nags Head Island. The tickets will be numbered and sales monitored for accounting purposes.

A.V Boats have agreed to offer this service without charge to the council as they feel it will generate business in their tackle shop whilst also streamlining the process for hirers of fishing boats.

7. **Climate change/green implications**

A.V Boats offer an electric motor option for their fishing boats.

Fishing encourages engagement with the natural environment giving people an awareness of the biodiverse habitat of our rivers and surrounding areas.

8. **Financial/budget implications**

It is hoped that permit sales will increase significantly on previous years.

9. **HR implications**

A small amount of admin will be needed but this can be carried out alongside the regular permit admin.

10. **Supporting papers and appendices**

None.

Tim Badcock
Cemetery and Outdoor Services Manager
7 January 2022