

TOPSHAM MOORING OWNERS ASSOCIATION

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Notes to be read in conjunction with completing the Form B1 – Application for New Mooring Licence

1. The B1 form should be completed and returned to the Secretary, a bank transfer of £35 for administration also needs to be made before you can join the wait list. Bank details are on Form B1. The application will then be considered by the Committee and if approved, added to the waiting list.

2. Some background to the mooring arrangements at Topsham

There may appear to be gaps or areas with no moorings but the mooring area is effectively full. Applicants on the waiting list are therefore waiting for the Committee to allocate an abandoned mooring spot. Alternative is to buy a mooring that is for sale or to rent a mooring. Priority will be given to applicants who do not already own a mooring.

If you decide to buy a mooring, the committee play no part in the purchase, except that they need to approve the change of owner and boat, by way of a completed 'Change of Ownership' form, which is available from the secretary. The moorings are congested (a situation that the committee inherited) so a change of boat may be refused. If you arrange to buy a mooring it would be prudent to wait for committee approval of the details provided on the 'Change of Ownership' form, before money changes hands. The committee meet at approximately two monthly intervals so there could be a delay.

Due to the shortage of mooring spaces they have acquired a market value. The purchaser should establish that he/she is paying a sensible price and be aware that they are effectively just buying the mooring tackle. The purchase does not give any long term rights to the mooring spot as all moorings are subject to an annual licence renewal fee. TMOA simply regulate the mooring arrangements by way of a lease from the Crown, who remain the owners of the riverbed.

Another option is to rent a mooring and this arrangement is formalised each year by the owner and tenant jointly completing the annual 'Mooring Licence Details' form. The joint completion of the form ensures that items like insurance are covered. Check that your boat fits the registered length, 'Type of boat' and 'Type of keel' for the mooring you propose to rent. Confirm that the owner will be responsible for mooring maintenance.

If you are interested in these alternatives to laying your own mooring the Committee may be able to put you in touch with a mooring owner.

If you decide to join the waiting list for a mooring, when a position becomes available, the Committee will offer it to you and you will be sent the TMOA Handbook that details mooring specifications. The position will be marked either with a marker buoy or the remains of an existing mooring. You are required to lay the new mooring within eight weeks. Don't forget to paint your allocated number on the buoy.

Liability for the adequacy and regular checking of the mooring is the responsibility of the mooring owner. The committee set suitable mooring specifications but do not check or enforce compliance. If you do not maintain the mooring and the number becomes illegible or the mooring buoy disappears you will be subject to an administrative charge and in due course loss of the mooring space if the situation is not rectified.

The Committee inherited a complicated, and in places congested and the above arrangements formalise past informal arrangements that frequently led to problems.

3. Select the **Type of boat** from the following:

SC	Sailing Cruiser	YL	Yawl
SD	Sailing Dinghy	MU	Multihull
MC	Motor Cruiser	ML	Motor Launch
SP	Speedboat	RU	Runabout
SB	Salmon Boat	RB	Rib
O	Please specify:		

The boat length is the **overall length** including any bumpkin, rudder, outboard motor or outdrive in the normal position when the boat is moored. **Bowsprit length**, if applicable, should be stated. If you know the **Builder and Class** (e.g. Westerly Centaur) this helps to describe the boat.

Select the **Type of keel** from the following:

SF	Shallow Fin	LK	Long Keel
BK	Bilge Keel	FB	Flat/V bottomed
D	Drop or Lifting		

The boat **draft** refers to draft on the mooring i.e. keel raised, etc.

Preferred location of proposed mooring. A general idea of your preferred location e.g. Turf, below/above ferry etc, can help the Committee when allocating spaces.

- Insurance requirements.** All boats using the moorings are required to be covered by insurance with valid third party liability of a minimum of £2 million.
Note – Small boat owners may be able to obtain cover under their house policy.
- The Association wishes to remind and inform that all records of the association relating to you and your proposed mooring, as supplied or confirmed by you, are maintained in a computer database programme. This information will be used from time to time in connection with the organisation and management of the Association. Information regarding tenants is also kept on computer. The Association is registered under the **Data Protection Act 1984**.