

**MINUTES OF THE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD AT FALMOUTH HARBOUR OFFICE  
ON TUESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2007 AT 10:00 HOURS**

Present:

Mr C Brown	Chairman
Mr W Amos	
Mr D Bickle	
Captain M Sansom	Harbour Master
Mr P Morgan	Falmouth Harbour Commissioner
Mr B Buist	Leisure Services Manager
Mr D Townson	Regulation Officer

**1 Apologies**

Mr I Munday

**2 Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

**3 Matters Arising**

a) Waterfront Development

Mr Brown informed the meeting that no real progress has been made by the working party since the last meeting. The working group were keen on the concept of building a substantial promenade between Prince of Wales Pier and Church Street Car Park. A meeting had been held with the RDA who did not appear to be interested with this suggestion but the car park at the Maritime Museum had been brought up. It had been suggested that high quality offices could be located on this site or the Trago Mills store could relocate there.

A meeting between the working party and Michael Varney, Mayor of Falmouth, proved promising as the Mayor was very keen to take the lead with propositions such as the promenade.

b) Falmouth Harbour Bye-Laws – Regulation Questionnaire

David Townson, Regulation Officer, was introduced to the committee and asked to give a brief summary of the regulation issues faced this summer.

Mr Townson explained that, as no regulation statistics existed for previous years, he had nothing to compare this year with. The majority of incidents reported and investigated this summer were speed, excess wash or moorings related and 55 verbal warnings had

been issued in August. The approach of educating boat users, rather than just regulating, was being taken.

Mr Bickle asked about taking action against users who cause fuel spills in the harbour and Mr Townson explained that tracing such spills was extremely difficult in practice.

Mr Brown commented that the large number of un-named ribs in the harbour was a problem and suggested that owners be reminded through an article in the next harbour newsletter that displaying the name was a requirement of the Harbour Bye-Laws.

Mr Brown asked if any of the sailing regattas had caused regulation issues. Mr Townson explained that it was very difficult to detect which boats were in races and an incident involving the ferry Princessa and racing working boats was discussed. It was explained that Collision Regulations take priority over Harbour Bye-Laws in such circumstances. It was agreed that cooperation was required between all harbour users in order for the regattas to be safe events.

Captain Sansom advised that the Harbour Bye-Laws will go to the Parliamentary Agents in due course for updating.

c) Mooring Holders Questionnaire

As Mr Light was not present, Captain Sansom asked Mr Buist to advise the Committee about a separate visitors survey currently being undertaken. Mr Buist explained that Laura Nayson, a student at Tremough Campus, had been conducting a survey on the Visitors Yacht Haven during Falmouth Week. She will be returning at a later date to conduct the survey again during a normal trading period to compare the responses. This survey would hopefully provide some useful data regarding visitors to the Yacht Haven.

Captain Sansom suggested that the Committee consider what questionnaire they would like to utilise for 2008 at the next meeting.

d) Proposed Dredging Scheme

Captain Sansom explained that some difficulties had been reached with regards to finalising the channel design. As a result, the report was unlikely to be ready until May or June 2008. A meeting had taken place with Cornwall County Council and the Regional Development Agency to discuss the economic benefits of the scheme.

e) FHC Award

Mr Morgan e advised the Committee that organisations could be selected for the award as well as individuals. After deliberation the Committee proposed the following three candidates be considered by the Harbour Commissioners at the next board meeting:

f) Harbour Regulation issues

The Committee agreed that this topic had been covered already in the meeting.

#### **4 Minutes of Harbour Board Meetings: May/June/July 2007**

Captain Sansom gave a summary of each of the board meetings to the Committee.

#### **5 Any Other Business**

Mr Amos gave a brief summary of the Falmouth Week racing activities. The overall number of participants was up and it was felt that the week was largely a success. Captain Sansom expressed his satisfaction at the cooperation between relevant parties involved and the low number of complaints received.

#### **6 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2007 at 10:00 hours.

The meeting ended at 11:50 hours.