

Minutes of Consultative Committee Meeting
18th March 2009 at 1000 hrs

Present: Cliff Brown (Chairman)
Mark Sansom (Harbour Master and Chief Executive)
David Bickle
Peter Morgan
Tim Light
Barry Buist
Sue Cocks

Apologies for absence:
Ian Mundy
Walter Amos
Morwenna Richards

Annual Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Appointment of Miss Richards:

Tony Richards has agreed to stand down from the committee and his replacement will be Morwenna Richards, who unfortunately was unable to attend this meeting.

Matters arising:

a) Waterfront Development: Mark Sansom handed out a list of objectives from the Falmouth and Penryn Community Plan Topic Group.

Tim Light said Jane Robbins is to write the bid for the Strategic Investment Framework and to identify possible funding from local businesses. Tim also asked if the Commissioners would be interested in meeting Jane Robbins, which Mark Sansom is happy to do so.

The promenade suggested within the objectives would bring the harbour into the town and would bring revenue from visiting yachts. The Piers come under Carrick jurisdiction so Mark Sansom is to contact Roger Radcliff who had been working on the scheme and find out the stage the proposed development is at.

b) Falmouth Harbour Bye-Laws: No further progress has been made since the last meeting.

c) Proposed Dredging Scheme: The EIA study has been completed. The costs come out at £35million to £40million in total. The dredging alone will probably cost £16 million. FHC could not fund the project alone and are looking at public funding either Convergence or RDA funding. A steering committee has been formed and will be chaired by chairman of Cornwall County Council.

Mark Sansom said if the project doesn't go ahead the channel has the danger of slitting up, as already shown with the channel now at 5m when it used to be 5.8m. This would result in the restriction of ships coming into Falmouth and the associated loss of revenue. There is a high level of political support for the project and the good media coverage helps.

d) Harbour Regulation Issues: Mark Sansom commented that it has been incident on a commercial vessel which the police assisted, the test proved negative. This brought up the issue of legislation of alcohol on leisure craft, as it is suggested on smaller boats of less than 7m and with a engine design not to go over 7 knots should be exempt, this lead to a lengthy discussion and exchange of views with no agreed outcome.

Minutes of Harbour Board Meetings: Nov 08 Dec 08 Jan 09 & Feb 09:

The funding for the Recreational Boating Study was agreed by the board, with the other partners being A&P, Natural England, Carrick District Council and ourselves.

Barry Buist reported he is still in talks with SWW regarding the water facilities on the Yacht Haven. A contractor has been appointed and after Easter will commence work.

David Bickle asked if he could see the published summery of the accounts, as he is an accountant.

Challenger Marine have won the contract to take over the managed lift at the Boat Park, as there were 2 alleged incidents of damage to boats last year.

Any Other Business:

Docks Marina still under review

Public Meeting will take place 1st April at the NMMC in the learning centre, all welcome.

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 16th June 2009 @ 10.00.