



Falmouth Harbour
Commissioners

CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

on Tuesday 18 March 2014 at 1400 hrs
at the Port Health Offices, Docks

Attendees:

Ian Munday	Chairman
Mark Sansom	Harbour Master
David Barnicoat	Vice Chairman
David Muirhead	
Chris Smith	
David Carne	
Mary Stribley (minutes)	FHC

Apologies:

Barry Buist	General Manager, Falmouth Haven
Sue Cocks	Falmouth Haven Accounts Manager
Martin Bidmead	

1. Apologies

2. Approval of Minutes of the Last Meeting – 17 December 2013

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

3. Matters Arising

a) Board skills and appraisals update

CG circulated the commissioners' appraisal form, and explained the process used to appraise commissioners.

MS was asked to explain the project ongoing with Plymouth University and the system developed for the ports to evaluate themselves. This project could be of assistance in determining a skills matrix for the Board and for staff. This approach is currently being considered by the Remuneration Sub-Committee. CG elaborated on this process: DE and CG will be looking at descriptors to help produce a framework for Board recruitment in the future.

IM noted that this came of out DB's disappointment in not being selected to the Board. CG reported that the appraisal forms are useful in identifying needs, strengths and weaknesses, and that the appraisal lasts approx. one



Falmouth Harbour
Commissioners

hour. She then asked for feedback.

IM said that it was important for the committee to understand the process.

CS noted that this demonstrates the mark of mature organisation.

DC noted that it is well thought out, but not at a local level: there is no address, no idea how local they are, and no reference to anyone's entrepreneurial skills. He would like to see business development skills included, and the contribution made to FHC. MS said that he would talk about that at Agenda Item 5. A discussion followed.

DB noted that this is what he was referring to when he brought the subject up in the first place. MS responded that the study had identified a very broad range of relevant management areas and the skill mix for the Board was necessarily broad.

ACTION: CG will take this back to the RSC.

ACTION: IM would like to see the 11 categories from the university student's research.

b) MS to write to head of Navigation Safety

MS reported on the recent visit from Sarah Newton. She has written to Stephen Hammond the Shipping Minister to ask him to persuade the Government to do something about the definition of a ship. She has said that the timing for the approach may be good as the Coalition is looking for non-contentious legislation to bring forward during their last year in office.

c) IM to lead on setting up a port user group compliant with the Code of Practice

This item is ongoing. The project has lacked definition and will be discussed further in Agenda Item 4.

d) CG to update on Board skills at next meeting

Covered at 3a).

e) All to forward nominations for FHC Award

MS reported that no one was selected for 2013. FHC are keen to continue to support the Award, and the Board will discuss it at their next Strategy Day. This will be further discussed at Agenda Item 10.



Falmouth Harbour
Commissioners

4. Marine Navigation Act Powers of General Direction

It was noted that satisfactorily exercising these powers hinges on the definition of a ship. Despite their limitations, General Direction have a place when organising events such as Tall Ships. MS reported that at the last FEMSC meeting it was agreed for all CHAs to apply to make estuary-wide directions which will build a much more effective framework. MS said that he has undertaken to draft the application and share this with the other CHAs.

IM asked if the estuary should run a consolidated PUG. MS replied that this would make sense. It was noted that there would still be a need for a Consultative Committee in each CHA. IM asked about joining up this work. He also asked when the application would be completed, and MS said by the end of April.

Ongoing.

5. FHC Re-organisation

MS reported that the set-up meetings had been well received. There was a discussion on the future of private moorings; MS said that one of the main drivers was the higher incident rate of vessels moored on private moorings. IM reporting hearing some “drum-banging”. MS said he was very pleased with the branding, new website, and handling of mooring problems, and hopes to win round the dissenters in due course. There was a long discussion on the management and maintenance of private moorings.

DM asked if there was a “use it or lose it” rule; MS replied that FHC do have such a rule and enforced it if the mooring had not been used for more than 2 years. It was not clear whether Falmouth Haven would follow this policy.

MS went on to talk about the Falmouth Haven Management Panel: he described the structure and the reporting arrangements.

MS also reported to the committee that Falmouth Pilot Services is next to be rebranded.

The committee then discussed the role of FHC’s Consultative Committee and the Falmouth Haven Panel. CG described the flow of ideas, business development, etc.

DC spoke about the signage around Falmouth Haven; there is nothing saying “Welcome”. CG noted that this is being reviewed, and described the difficulty in



Falmouth Harbour Commissioners

finding any information, and asked for any suggestions. DB discussed some of the negativity of the signs.

DC thought that the leaflet was not very well thought out.

DB mentioned the website. CG said they are looking to improve the photos on the website.

ACTION: The committee was invited to provide feedback.

ACTION: DM would like to see the Haven welcoming visitors to Falmouth; providing a drop-off point on pontoons.

IM suggested committee members keep an eye out for other ports' signage and messages.

DM asked if BB and his team have been to Fowey to look around. It was noted that they didn't make it to the Channel Is.

DB asked when FHC would be launching Falmouth Pilot Services, and MS said mid-April.

6. **Port of Falmouth Development Initiative**

MS reported that the Maerl trial report has been completed and sent to the MMO. FHC will be re-presenting their environmental information in support of their consent application. DB spoke about cruise liners and Princess Liners missing out Falmouth for 2015.

DM reported that fishing organisations are concerned about the disposal of dredged materials.

7. **Waterfront Development**

CS reported that things are in limbo. He is working with the university to improve the PoW Pier – there will be banners and flags. There will also be part of the Oyster Festival annexed to the pier this year, which was well-received by the committee. They also noted that, in a recent poll, Falmouth is the 4th best town in the country to live in!

8. **FaBTest Update**

MS reported that FaBTest was being managed on a much more professional footing now, and it receiving lots of good publicity. There has recently been a



Falmouth Harbour
Commissioners

very good review from Fred. Olsen. (A for effort), and a strategic drive fronted up by Cornwall Council. FHC hope to get more devices out by the end of the year, and A&P is currently making a new device.

9. Minutes of Board Minutes: December 2013 – February 2014

There was a discussion about the vessels that had been considered to replace Pendenis which had been spotted by IM. The committee agreed to keep the feelers out.

It was noted that the incident between Emma Lucy and Catalouf had resulted in Harbour Master's Cautions being issued.

10. FHC Award - Nominations

IM asked the committee for any thoughts on this, and whether the ToRs needed to be circulated.

ACTION: MS to circulate ToRs with minutes.

11. AOB

IM said he had spoken to David Hitchcock, who, due to work commitments, suggested he become a correspondent member. It was agreed to review the way forward at the next meeting.

DM mentioned the "Marking of Fishing Gear" draft leaflet, and was told that it was being reviewed by FEMSC.

12. Confirmation of next meeting

The date of the next meeting will be Tuesday 10 June 2014 in the Port Health Building at 1400 hours.

The meeting concluded at 1540 hrs.