



Falmouth Harbour
Commissioners

CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

1400 hrs on Tuesday 10 September 2014 at the
Cornwall Port Health Authority Building

Attendees:

David Barnicoat

Martin Bidmead

David Carne

Carrie Gilmore Falmouth Harbour Board Member

David Muirhead

Ian Munday (Chair)

Mark Sansom Falmouth Harbour Commissioners

Chris Smith

Mary Stribley Falmouth Harbour Commissioners (Minutes)

Apologies:

David Hitchcock

Governance

1. Apologies

See table above.

2. Approval of Minutes of the Last Meeting – 10 June 2014

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as accurate.

3. Matters Arising

a) MS to circulate the DfT's initial guidance on skills audits to Carrie.

Completed.

b) MS to liaise with the MCA to get evidence reference jet-ski incidents to submit to Stephen Hammond

MS informed the committee that John Hayes was the new minister. He said that BPA have produced a questionnaire as support, and there is hope that the DfT will take notice and take necessary legislative action in due course, especially regarding the definition of a ship. *Ongoing.*

c) MS to submit a new byelaw regarding the mandatory 4-knot speed limit.

MS said that this has not been started, as there is a need to get Powers of General Direction in place beforehand. *Ongoing.*

d) MS to draft something regarding the Port User Group for Ian to sign-off.

Completed.



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- e) MS to remind the next FEMSC meeting that their action to meet with IFCA to harmonise byelaws regarding the marking of fishing gear is still outstanding.
- f) David Muirhead to remind Simon Cadman that FEMSC have yet to meet with IFCA to harmonise byelaws regarding the marking of fishing gear.

David Muirhead said he was meeting with Simon Cadman soon. *Ongoing.*

- g) IM and MS to meet to discuss the Consultative Committee agenda and put together standing agenda items to cover the different business areas of FHC.

Completed.

- h) SM to arrange for all Consultative Committee members to receive a copy of the last Falmouth Haven e-newsletter and then for their details to be added to the distribution list for all future e-newsletters.

Completed. DB noted that the Sea Checker was very good.

- i) MS to make sure that the MAIB report on the Padstow rib incident is circulated to the Consultative Committee.

Summary circulated. *Completed.*

- j) MS to write an article about 'The Maritime Community Award – Sponsored by Falmouth Harbour Commissioners' and circulate it to associated groups (Falmouth Sailing Association and Town Centre Forum for example) for nominations.

MS said that the FHC Award was being re-branded. *Ongoing.*

- k) Application for Powers of General Direction.

MS reported that the process has been started, and there has been a press release today. He added that it would be helpful if CC members were to spread the word. *Ongoing.*

Reports

4a) Minutes of FHC meetings

Harbour Board Meetings: 13 June, 11 July and 8 August 2014.

IM made the point to the Board, about using the CC more, and cited the re-branding of Falmouth Haven as a good example of this. HE added that CC could help to promote it more, and he asked for the Board to consider his request, as it is part of the governance process.

There was a discussion around the PNPf deficit, and income streams. MS explained the history of PNPf.

The committee also discussed the recruitment of two new commissioners and the Falmouth Haven Management Panel members' backgrounds.



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Project Updates

5a) Port of Falmouth Development Initiative

The environmental consents for dredging were discussed, the impact of the trial dredge results, and the proposed mitigation strategy. MS reported on the proposed mitigation measures and the status of the MMO application. He said that Haskoning are being commissioned to update section of the Environmental Statement.

They also discussed the fact that dredging will bring in more than larger cruise ships – it should help to provide a sustainable future for Falmouth as a commercial port.

b) Falmouth Haven launch

CG reported on progress so far. She said that the premium mooring product had produced excellent feedback, and circulated an email example of a very satisfied customer. She added that there have been bookings made for next year.

The committee asked if the Falmouth Haven Card could be sold to normal mooring customers; CG said they were working on this.

CG produced a chart of incomes from the various costs centres within Falmouth Haven; she added that this is commercially sensitive at the moment, and that figures exclude the lease for the pub forecourt.

The committee noted that the car park was the most profitable site, although there is a need to make it more profitable; the concessions are very profitable. It was noted that the sale of fuel, however, is generally unprofitable, although there is little that can be done to alter this. CG said that they were looking at adding additional fingers on pontoons, and also other initiatives, some of which will need capital investment.

CG said views on how FH maximise space would be welcome from the committee. DB suggested putting pontoons in CHQ basin; MB wondered if we could put pontoons on the foreshore in front of Trago Mills. CG explained that it all comes down to expenditure vs. income. It was noted that there is the possibility that the site could be used as a film location. Different car park uses were also discussed. As profit, not income, was the major driver, self-service fuel was discussed as an option. CS said that students were currently working on redeveloping Prince of Wales Pier, and the same could be done for CHQ. DC suggested that the Boat Park had a lot of wasted space.

CG reported that Falmouth Haven Management Panel are currently working on their Business Plan and they will ask CC to review it thoroughly when completed.

c) Launch of Falmouth Pilot Services

CEO explained the rationale behind the separation of pilot services from FHC, and the launch on Wednesday 24 September at the Shipwrights.



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Consultations

6a) Falmouth Tall Ships Race evaluation

MS reported that they had received a glowing commendation and had impressed the Sail Training International captain. He said that an economic valuation of the event was being undertaken.

The committee discussed the idea of keeping a reserve of pontoons for events.

Urgent Business

7. FHC Public Meeting

MS said that the Board were still settling on a date. The committee discussed possible stakeholder concerns that may arise.

8. FHC Award

MS and IM said that nominations were required and asked the committee members to submit names as soon as possible. MS said that a letter is being drafted.

Any other business

9. Cornwall Local Plan

CS spoke about this. CEO suggested that the committee take note of the soon to be published Penryn River Study, and the potential development.

10. Powers of General Direction

The committee discussed the issues and frustrations surrounding not having the definition of a ship defined so that directions apply to all vessels.

11. Coastguard Station

It was noted that the Coastguard Station will be closed for two weeks, for renovation, and that operations would be transferred to a National Centre.

12. Meeting of Board with Consultative Committee

IM suggested that it would be appropriate for the Consultative Committee to meet with the Harbour Board, to discuss the committee's role and efficacy. MS suggested that this should be put to the Board at the next Board Meeting, Friday 10 October.

ACTION: MS and IM to fix a date for the Consultative Committee and the Harbour Board to meet.

13. Confirmation of next meeting – TBC

The meeting closed at 1545 hrs.