



CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

1400 hrs on Tuesday 24 March 2015 at the
Cornwall Port Health Authority Building

Attendees:

Martin Bidmead		MB
Carrie Gilmore	Falmouth Harbour Board Member	CG
David Hitchcock		DH
David Muirhead		DM
Ian Munday (Chair)		IM
Mark Sansom	Falmouth Harbour Commissioners	MS
Mary Stribley	Falmouth Harbour Commissioners (Minutes)	MSt
Barry Buist	Falmouth Haven	BB

Governance

1. Apologies

David Carne, Chris Smith.

2. Declarations of Interest

None.

3. Approval of Minutes of the Last Meeting

- a) Meeting of the Consultative Committee – 10 September 2014

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as accurate.

- b) Meeting of the Board and the Consultative Committee – 12 December 2014

The CC agreed that these minutes were not for publication and should be treated as commercial in confidence.

4. Matters Arising

- a) MS to liaise with the MCA to get evidence reference jet-ski incidents to submit to Shipping Minister.

It was acknowledged that MS has done a lot of work in trying to get DfT to address the definition of a ship question. MS reported that the BPA will be writing to DfT asking them to keep the issue under review. The committee discussed the new Powers of General Direction. *Completed.*

- b) MS to submit a new byelaw regarding a mandatory 4-knot speed limit in bathing areas.



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MS said that it is planned to try to achieve this using the new Powers.
Ongoing.

- c) 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.
- d) David Muirhead to remind Simon Cadman that FEMSC have yet to meet with IFCA to harmonise byelaws regarding the marking of fishing gear.

DM asked for a list of FEMSC meetings, so that he can invite Simon Cadman to one of them. *Ongoing.*

ACTION: MSt to email a list of FEMSC meeting dates to DM.

- e) 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 reported that it was too late to achieve this in 2014 and it would be undertaken this year. *Ongoing.*

- f) MS and IM to fix a date for the Consultative Committee and the Harbour Board to meet. *Completed.*

Reports

5. Minutes of FHC meetings

Harbour Board Meetings: 12 September, 10 October, 7 November and 12 December 2014.

The committee discussed various points about the minutes, including:

- October minutes, page 3 – who will be authorised to use the quay ladders? MS said they are not for general use by the public but for those who need to access craft. There was a general ladder/railing discussion.
- December minutes, page 4 – the caution offered to J Seabourne.

Project Updates

6a) Port of Falmouth Development Initiative

The committee discussed progress, and referred to David Barnicoat's report in the Falmouth Packet.

There was a discussion of the dumping of dredged material and the timescale. MS was asked about the potential increase in turbidity, which could affect



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fishing; he said that these issues had been considered fully in the Environmental Statement.

There followed a full discussion of dredging, including possible monitoring of the dump site.

b) Falmouth Haven – presentation by Carrie Gilmore and Barry Buist

CG presented of Business Plan and explained that there have been some other changes since 12 December, such as:

- Falmouth Haven Card – regular users will have extra facilities available to them.
- Falmouth Haven plan to install pontoons on North Quay for tender berthing.
- Premium moorings.

CG said that FH are keen to generate other revenues rather than putting up mooring prices, and they have two areas in mind at the moment:

- Slipway – how we might promote the different uses.
- CHQ Basin – to be renamed Inner Marina.

BB talked through the plan. There were discussions around where the current users can be accommodated and waiting lists, and also a discussion of the impact and the potential backlash from local users. DM said some boats shelter in CHQ when there is bad weather. CG explained that there will be a wide variety of prices and options, including a one-day launch and recovery option – with car parking perhaps.

She also added that none of this is in the public domain yet.

BB talked about the Pacsoft accounts system, and customers being able to pay on the water. Also they are intent on improving WiFi access.

BB said they have been collecting feedback from customers, and there are FAQ on the website.

The anchorage situation was discussed; MS explained that he did not think it was within FHC's powers to prohibit anchorage in this area.

CG and BB ended by asking the committee for their thoughts, which will be gratefully received.



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c) **Falmouth Pilot Services**

MS reported that the Management Panel has recently been set up, with a remit to managing costs and achieving maximum efficiency.

One of the first tasks is to produce a Business Plan to review the pilotage model.

d) **Powers of General Direction**

MS reported that FHC will have Powers of General Direction (PGD) from 6 April 2015, and the major item for consideration is the need to set up a Port User Group (PUG) as soon as possible.

Consultations

7. Port User Group membership

IM reported that Neil Andrew has been suggested as a member of the PUG, to represent all sailing clubs, which was well received. IM suggested that we should select some members from Consultative Committee to form a working group to implement this. It was agreed that the positions should be openly advertised and adverts sent to members of the FEMSC advisory Group who covered many of the activities needed. It was agreed that there should be a joint group PUG with the Docks as they have also been granted PGD.

He added that this PUG should be set up by a small working group reporting to the Consultative Committee. IM, MB and DH volunteered to become members.

IM suggested we promote the appeal for members with a press advert.

ACTION: MS to draft an advert for PUG.

There was a discussion about how to take into account the views of the port users as part of the direction process.

Urgent Business

8. FHC re-organisation

MS said there were some changes to the job roles in FHC, and it was agreed to distribute the FHC organisation chart with the minutes.

ACTION: MSt to circulate Organisation Plan with minutes.

9. Port Marine Safety Code Compliance Declaration

MS reported that every three years FHC is required to undertake an audit to prove compliance with the PMSC. We have been independently audited on our



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Safety Management System. The auditor reviewed the minutes of the meetings of the Consultative Committee and we received very good feedback.

Any other business

a) AZAB race

IM reported that there are 72 entries for this race, which start on 6 June. The Committee stated its support for the event.

b) Falmouth Haven Business Plan

DM pointed out that some of the wording in the Business Plan might alienate the public and particularly local users.

c) New commissioner

CG reported that FHC have a new commissioner, from 1 January – Prof Julian Wolfram. She said it would be good for the committee to meet him and it was agreed to look for an opportunity for this to happen.

d) Consultative Committee membership

MB asked if we were going to replace the committee member, it was agreed that we could advertise this vacancy at the same time as advertising for PUG members.

ACTION: MS to draft advert for Consultative Committee member.

e) MRCC changes

MB explained changes to the Coastguard Station and offered to show members around the station. He also mentioned having a safety briefing for AZAB competitors. It was agreed that it would be a good idea for the Duty Harbour Masters to visit the Coastguard. MB said they were to be called CGOC now.

10. Confirmation of next meeting

Tuesday, 9 June at 1400 hrs.

The meeting closed at 1615 hrs.