



Falmouth Harbour
Commissioners

CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

1300 hrs on Tuesday 13 September 2016 at the
Cornwall Port Health Authority Building

Members:

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|----|
| Ian Munday | Chairman | IM |
| Neil Andrew | | NA |
| Martin Bidmead | | MB |
| David Carne | | DC |
| David Hitchcock | | DH |
| David Muirhead | | DM |
| Chris Smith | | CS |
| Gary Tranter | (for Carrie Gilmore) | GT |

In attendance:

| | | |
|---------------|--------------------------------|-----|
| Barry Buist | Falmouth Haven General Manager | BB |
| Mark Sansom | Harbour Master | CEO |
| Mary Stribley | FHC (Minutes) | MSt |

Governance

1. Apologies

Carrie Gilmore.

2. Declarations of interest

None.

3. Approval of minutes of the last meeting – 14 June 2016

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as accurate.

4. Matters arising

a) Alternative berth creation proposals

There has been an evaluation of various schemes, which is on the agenda. GT said that Falmouth Haven are looking for feedback. *On agenda.*

b) Audit of FHC compliance with Community Relations Guidance

The committee noted the good work completed by NA and the Exeter University student. The question of how this would now be taken forward



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involving the Committee. CEO said that he was developing an engagement plan.

A review of the Guide to Good Governance is on the agenda. *Ongoing.*

c) FHC to draft fishing gear code of practice

It was noted that the MCA Safety and Navigation Committee will be discussing this shortly. It is still planned to produce a voluntary code for promulgation via the FHC website.

DM volunteered to give his time to assist Duncan Paul with the Code if required. IM said he will feed this back to David Barnicoat. *Ongoing.*

d) IM to provide PSS Quay Safety Guidance

IM said that this was only draft guidance at moment and was being produced by Port Skills and Safety (PSS). CEO said that Duncan Paul is going to attend a forthcoming consultation meeting hosted by PSS to discuss finalising the document. *Completed.*

e) CEO to investigate rings on steps

DM said that the steps on the inside of North Quay had insufficient rings. CEO agreed to investigate this.

ACTION: CEO to investigate the rings on North Quay steps.

f) FHC to correct time-line in weather data

Completed.

NA asked about having time history as well; CEO said this will be made available after the next update.

g) CG to provide Haven Cards for CC members

Completed.

h) FHC to provide a review of CC members' service

IM went through the figures. He suggested that this list is appended to the minutes. *On agenda.*

i) FHC to put CC ToRs on website

IM said that the ToRs on the website are not the latest version.



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ACTION: Check, and make sure the latest version of CC ToRs are on the website.

j) CG to advise whether provision around criminal conviction can stand

CEO said he would check on this, and we could mark it as discharged. IM mentioned that two applications are awaiting processing. *Completed.*

k) FHC to draw attention to General Direction on website

Completed.

l) CEO to liaise with NA re: annual report content

Completed.

Reports

5. a) Minutes of Harbour Board Meetings: May, June and July 2016

The committee discussed various points from the minutes.

DM asked for a definition of CERS and CERS2, to which CEO replied.

DM asked for an update on CEO's meeting with Colin May.

DC asked if his request for putting new fendering on the face of the Gasworks car park had been discussed.

IM asked for details of the proposed dredging, and where we are with the appropriate assessment. The committee noted the "fallout" following the announcement of the lack of funding for the dredging project. CEO said that there was going to be a meeting between A&P and LEP.

IM said that he has reviewed the new FHC website, with the following observations:

- There are no PUG ToRs, and the CC ToRs are not the updated set.
- 2016 CC minutes are not on the website.
- IMS policy statement – it would be good to "Say what you do, do what you say".
- The Organisation Chart is not up-to-date. CEO said that the CEO and HM roles are going to be reviewed at the next Board Meeting.
- Emergency Reporting Card link doesn't work.



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- Port Operations manual / Staff Handbook / Port Procedures not on the website; CEO said that these are not in the public domain.
- IM asked where MAIB safety reports are reviewed; CEO said that these are dealt with at Marine Ops and FEMSC meetings.

ACTION: Review website to ensure that up to date information is displayed.

b) Consultative Committee revised constitution draft

This has been agreed and will be updated.

c) FHC compliance with Community Relations guidance

IM said that he and NA will be working on this.

d) Stakeholder Engagement report

CEO will be working on preparing a stakeholder engagement plan, taking into account the work done to date for review by the Committee.

Project Updates

6. a) Port of Falmouth Development Initiative

The committee noted that the MMO were still considering the request for an appropriate assessment decision.

b) Use of Powers of General Direction

IM explained that the two proposed Harbour Directions have been discussed at the Port User Group meeting and have gone out to the public for consultation. There is some feedback, which will now be circulated to the PUG.

The PUG members expressed a range of views on the HD dealing with speed limits; these views are similarly expressed in the general public's response. Wash and wake is a big issue for the public. IM asked if more should be done; CEO replied that we investigate every complaint, and we've not had that many. It was noted that the regulation officer can't be everywhere.

NA suggested that it is the design of powerboats is the problem as they generate high levels of wash even at moderate speeds. There was a discussion. DH said that, as always, we ended up talking about wash instead of speed. CS suggested having reminder posters at launch sites; BB said that there already is slipway signage covering speed and wash.

MB cited a near miss incident. DC said that education is key, and that people never look behind to see if they have caused any trouble with their wash or



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speed. DH said that speeding is infringing a bye-law, surely. CEO said that it can result in a criminal prosecution and advises people to always report cases of excessive speed and wash. There have been nav light prosecutions, too. DM asked if we need a speed limit imposed; IM said that, in light of the recent MAIB report into an accident, to do nothing is not an option.

c) Audit against Governance Standards

Covered earlier in the meeting.

Consultations

7. a) Investment in additional leisure facilities

GT outlined the reasons behind continuing with plans for adding to leisure facilities:

- Waiting list for boats of less than 5m
- Need to increase revenue
- Decrease in commercial-vessel activity
- Pension repayments

He added that FH have taken on board the objectors' concerns and are developing a new design for facilities at Custom House Quay. They will definitely be announcing this at the Public Meeting on Tuesday.

[NA left the meeting, owing to a prior engagement; IM thanked him for his input].

The committee further discussed the plans for the additional leisure facilities, and noted the following points:

- The existing out hauls remain in place.
- The 3 or 4 self-drive boats will be situated adjacent to the pontoon, by the steps.
- FH are still looking at options for the fishing boats.
- With these proposed plans, we can get 26 boats on the pontoons on one side and 21 on the other. There will be nothing against the walls.

MB asked if King Charles Quay was being developed, too; GT said that there are no plans to do this at the moment.

DC spoke about wall access being reduced, and the potential benefits of ladder use for access.

The committee discussed Historic England's response to the previous plans.



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CEO said that they would welcome feedback from CC. They had followed previous advice that they hold a meeting with objectors and took on board their responses.

MB asked if they require piles to hold the access pontoons; CEO said that wall chains attach the pontoons to the quay wall. MB said that, at St Mawes, the pivot joint had to be replaced as there is a tipping/tripping hazard. CEO told him that they have looked into that due to a similar experience previously and were planning to use steel pontoons which were much more stable.

DC asked how many people were on the waiting list; BB said 20, and there is a further 25 on other waiting lists. DC then asked what the break-even timescale was, and CEO said about two years.

IM asked about the engagement with CC, and who can attend the Public Meeting; CS said that he can, and maybe DM and DH too, to “take the temperature” of public opinion.

MB discussed costs and seasonality.

IM asked if FHC has any more revenue-generating ideas. CEO said they are looking at moorings and the balance between visitor mooring facilities and annual lets. It was agreed that pontoons are tricky. CEO added that Grove Place could be developed, but this would be costly as they would have to provide shelter. They have looked at the long-term future of the Boat Park and the slipway. It was noted that swinging moorings are the highest-demand moorings.

IM explained a French scheme that he is part of which makes use of shore storage to increase availability of afloat facilities.

DC asked if FH have excluded the income from the berths they would lose by introducing this scheme.

DC also asked about a pump-out station; DH said that the French ports have to have them.

b) Responses to draft directions

Completed earlier in the meeting.

c) FHC Public Meeting

The committee noted that the Public Meeting is to be held on Tuesday 20 September at the NMMC.



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Urgent Business

None.

Any other business

8. a) Review of members' service on the Consultative Committee

IM said that, now he has the members' length of service details, he will conduct an audit against the constitution.

b) Review of applications to join the Consultative Committee

IM repeated that he has two outstanding applications, which he will work through and report back at next meeting.

9. Date of next meeting

6 December joint meeting with the Board.

The meeting closed at 1535 hrs.