

**MINUTES OF URGENT BUSINESS ONLY BOARD MEETING
HELD ON 21st AUGUST 2009 AT 0900 HOURS**

Present:

Mr. D. Ellis	Chairman
Capt. M. Sansom	Chief Executive and Harbour Master
Mr. P. Fish	
Mr. J. Langan	
Mr. P. Morgan	
Mr. R. Yates	
Mr. R. Reed	
Miss. S. Leverton	PA and Communications Officer

Apologies: Dr. K. Sumser-Lupson

Falmouth Port Development Initiative:

Mark Sansom reported that a letter has now been received from Julia Goldsworthy indicating her support for the Initiative and updating on her efforts to arrange further meetings with Cornish MPs. The working group meetings are now looking at combining the planning and economic impact assessments, based on the draft scope by John Forsyth that was commissioned by FHC. The next working group meeting will take place next week and a steering group meeting has now been fixed led by a reconstituted Cornwall Council.

A & P have indicated that they don't now wish to be associated with something so protracted, and have suggested that they pay for their own docks master plan. The Working Group will consider this at their next meeting and the proposal may be able to be adjusted to accommodate this. It may mean that public sector costs are reduced and that the project is able to move forward more quickly.

The consent applications are now in, the process has started and the Marine and Fisheries agency have acknowledged receipt of the applications.

Royal Haskoning have also arranged a meeting with Natural England to discuss the applications when they have formulated their draft response.

David Ellis added that he was now feeling more confident about getting the consent applications through as Royal Haskoning seemed optimistic that they could reach an accommodation with Natural England.

There is a meeting arranged on Tuesday with Lord Myners to brief him on the project. A courtesy email is to be sent to Brenda Dean to let her know that the meeting is taking place, as she had originally suggested speaking to Lord Myners.

Falmouth Week Red Arrows Display:

David Ellis formally thanked the staff at FHC for their efforts, although he reported that he had already done so verbally. The press coverage for the event was good, as was the feedback from attendees. David Ellis added that Mark Killingback should be especially thanked for his last minute commentary on Radio Cornwall.

It was agreed that the Red Arrows display should be held again next year, and an application put in immediately. It was suggested that VIP guests should be bussed in prior to the event next year, as getting into the town and parking was chaotic.

Mark Sansom noted that an incident happened during Fowey Week where a lady fell off the quay. He suggested that permanent fencing around North Quay be a feature of next year's budget.

Revised Trust Port Guidance:

It was noted that the new guidance from the DoT had now been issued and circulated to the commissioners.

It was noted that, despite FHC representations, the draft guidance was at odds in a couple of places with the FHC Harbour Revision Order.

Mark Sansom suggested completing an audit of our current compliance, then writing to the Department of Transport requesting advice on whether to change the Order.

It was agreed that the remuneration sub-committee would review the current role against the guidance. Peter Morgan is to organise this.

Commissioner Appointments:

John Langan left the room.

The issue of appointing commissioners from Jan 2010 was discussed. John Langan and Karen Sumser-Lupson's terms will expire at the end of 2009. Currently John Langan has completed one full term, and so the board could choose to reappoint him if they wished without considering external applicants. However, Karen Sumser-Lupson's appointment was more

complicated in that she replaced Paul Bickford half way through a term, then continued as commissioner for a full second term. This means that Karen has completed one full and one part term.

John Langan was unanimously reappointed by the board for a second term.

John Langan re-entered the room.

The issue of Karen Sumser-Lupson's appointment was discussed. Although she has been technically appointed twice, it was agreed that as two full terms had not been completed, the Board had discretion on re-appointing. The Board took full note of the guidance from the latest version of Modernising Trust Ports and decided that, in light of Karen's contribution to the Board and exceptional profile and credentials, they would re-appoint her for a further term.

Aqua Protect Project:

The Aqua Protect Project had asked FHC to sign a letter of commitment for about 59,000 Euros. It was understood from Karen Sumser Lupson that this did not represent an irrevocable agreement but, unfortunately, she was unable to attend the meeting to explain further.

It was agreed that FHC would not go ahead unless there are assurances that the project will not have any cash costs associated with it.

Mark Sansom was instructed to discuss this with Karen Sumser-Lupson at the first opportunity and to update the Board on the position by e-mail.

LK MITCHELL Re-engine:

It is predicted that there will be an overspend of £40,000 on the refit. The total cost allocated to the project was £250,000 and this will increase the total spend to £290,000. Mark Sansom explained that everything possible had been done to contain costs but that, due to the age of the vessel, a number of unforeseen problems had been discovered on dismantling. The extra expenditure was agreed and a report of the causes of the overspend will be put to the next meeting.

LIZRIX Oil Spill:

It was reported that a small oil spill had occurred in Falmouth Bay when a hose that had been used to transfer fuel oil between the LIZRIX and the THOR CONFIDENCE during blowing through.

Thanks to the quick actions of the bunker barge crew, only a very small amount of oil was spilt during the incident, which was contained effectively by deploying a boom between the ships. Braemar Howells were called in to clean up the spill.

Investigations are not yet complete, but it seems that the issue arose due to a defect in the hose. The hose was new, and was reportedly tested up to 30 bar, however it failed at 4 bar.

Other Urgent Business:

Names have been put forward for the commercial meeting, to be held in September. Suggested attendees include Mike Lynch (MOD), and representatives of Orecon and the Cornwall Chamber of Commerce. A copy of the invite for Seacore is to be sent to Richard Reed.

A review of the business plan is to take place at the budget meeting in October.

Meeting Ended: 1055 hours

Date of Next Meeting: Friday 18th September at 1000 hours.