

Minutes of Consultative Committee Meeting
9th June 2009 at 1000 hrs

Present: Cliff Brown (Chairman)
Mark Sansom (Harbour Master and Chief Executive)
Ian Mundy
Peter Morgan
Morwenna Richards
Barry Buist
Walter Amos
Sarah Leverton
Garrick Royal (on behalf of Tim Light)

Apologies for absence: Tim Light
David Bickle

Guest: Sandra Pilson

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Matters arising:

a) Dredging Project: Mark Sansom outlined the current situation regarding the Port of Falmouth Development Initiative. The RDA have publicly announced that they will not be supporting the project financially. However, FHC are still positive that funding can be achieved through other means, as convergence funding is still a possibility, along with other match funding.

b) South West Water Issue on Yacht Haven: Barry Buist reported that a technical solution has been identified for the water situation on the yacht haven that South West Water are in agreement with. However, there have been difficulties in finding contractors able to carry out this work on a listed quay and consequently the situation is ongoing. At the moment water is being supplied as normal on the yacht haven.

Proposed Terms of Reference and Future Role:

Cliff Brown outlined expressed concern that committee members are not prioritising meetings, and so attendance by certain members has been sporadic. It was noted by several members that the meetings are moved from their original date, and so it is difficult to ensure that the meeting date is kept free in advance.

Cliff Brown also noted that there has not been much outside contact through the committee. It was suggested that this may just mean that stakeholders are relatively happy, but it was also felt that it was worth reminding RCYC and Flushing Sailing Club that the committee is available to pass on any concerns.

Ian Mundy asked if any work could be passed on to the committee from the harbour board. Peter Morgan commented that it was important that

the Consultative Committee interact with stakeholders and that it gives a vital feedback as to the attitudes of harbour users towards FHC.

Cliff Brown asked if the issues surrounding the bye-laws is something the committee could get involved in. Mark Sansom explained that government legislation states that bye-laws need to evolve through investigation of incidents and experiences of harbour users, gained through public feedback. The Consultative Committee could therefore play a role in reviewing the current bye-laws and updating them where necessarily.

Cliff Brown suggested a separate meeting on the dredging project in addition to the public meeting.

It was also suggested that a customer feedback survey should be developed by the committee. Mark Sansom is to draft an outline for this.

Review of Constitution:

It was suggested that the constitution should be updated by adding terms of reference. Apart from minor amendments on page 2 of the constitution it was agreed that the existing constitution was fit for purpose.

It was noted that the constitution stated that the committee should be an independent body. It was agreed that this should be emphasised in the terms of reference. Mark Sansom is to review this and circulate a draft copy within one month.

Revision of Boat Berth Charges:

It was suggested that the boat park berths should be reviewed to reflect a charge according to the size of the berth, rather than the size of the boat. This would work in a similar way to the moorings, and would hopefully mean that the boat park is better organised, with the larger berths accommodation the bigger boats and vice versa.

The committee agreed in principle to this, but a full proposal will be put to the next meeting.

Minutes of Harbour Board Meetings: March 09, April 09, May 09

Cliff Brown stated that he felt the Annual Public Meeting wasn't a success due to the fact that the public were not able to ask questions during the actual meeting, only afterwards. It was suggested that, in future, questions could be submitted prior to the meeting to be addressed on public, rather than one-to-one, basis. Peter Morgan agreed that this was along similar lines to what the board had agreed, but said that they received a mixed response to the meeting, rather than it being solely negative.

It was asked what PICSES was and what role this played. Mark Sansom explained that this was new software to predict the effect of oil pollution in the harbour in order to plan an effective response.

Any Other Business:

Walter Amos outlined the current situation regarding Falmouth Week. It has been agreed that the working-boats and sunbeams can finish on club lines between RCYC and Flushing Sailing Club on the days that those clubs were host. They are to finish off the docks on the other days. Walter commented that hopefully the precautions put in place will be adequate in order to ensure the racing is safe and controlled.

Ian Mundy commented on the range of fuel charges in Falmouth, and that out of these FHC was the most expensive. Barry Buist commented that he was aware of this, and that he was negotiating with suppliers.

Garrick Royal commented on Custom House Quay, and asked if the railings could either be painted or renewed and if the boards displayed could be a uniform size. Mark Sansom said he would look into this.

Cliff Brown mentioned the fact that the Red Arrows were displaying at Falmouth Week, and commented that it would be a very positive thing for Falmouth.

Meeting Ended: 15.40

Date of next meeting: 8th September 2009