

CARDIFF BAY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting held on 14th September, 2016 at Cardiff International White Water.

Present:

Councillor L. Burnett (Chairman)	Vale of Glamorgan Council (Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Education)
Mrs. C. Dimond	Cardiff Flood Action Committee
Councillor G. Roberts	Penarth Town Council
Mr. S. Jones	Quay Marinas Ltd (Marina Manager)
Mrs. S. Newbold	Representing British Marine Federation and Royal Yachting Association
Mr. D. Cairn Cross	Cardiff Bay Yacht Club

Also present:

Mr. T. Gifford	Cardiff Harbour Authority
Mr. D. Hall	Cardiff Harbour Authority
Mr. C. Vlaicu	Cardiff Bay Yacht Club
Mrs. K. Bowen	Vale of Glamorgan Council (Democratic and Scrutiny Services Officer)

(a) Apologies for Absence –

These were received from Mr. C. Atherton (Waterfront Partners - Chairman), Mr. M. Chidlow (Associated British Ports – Harbour Master), Mrs. N. De Longhi (Natural Resources Wales – Operational Manager), Councillor B. Derbyshire (Cardiff Council (Cabinet Member for Environment)), Mr. C. Michael (RSPB – South Wales Area Manager) and Mr. A. Parker (Independent Member).

(b) Minutes –

AGREED – T H A T the minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 22nd June, 2016 be approved as a correct record.

(c) Matters Arising –

A number of Members referred to the details provided at the last meeting in respect of forthcoming events in the Barry, Penarth areas and Cardiff Bay, agreeing that such information should be presented to the Committee on an annual basis in order that further advertising can be encouraged and pursued. Reference was also made to the excellent event that had been held in Barry, namely the Isle of Fire it being noted that it was hoped this would continue to be an annual event. The Chairman

stated that the sharing of such information and the use of social media was essential to promote events and capture wider audiences. The Chairman also took the opportunity to advise the Committee of forthcoming events due to take place in Southerndown which was again publicised by the use of social media amongst other methods.

AGREED – T H A T the sharing of information with regard to events, as soon as it is available, be continued.

(d) Navigational Safety – Cardiff Harbour Authority –

Mr. T. Gifford, (Cardiff Harbour Authority) in presenting his report referred to the following : -

- Cardiff Half Marathon was scheduled to take place on 2nd October, 2016 commencing at 10.05 a.m. There would be 90 minute bridge closure and notices for the event were in hand.
- Dredging - this had been successfully completed in July 2016 with a final dredge to take place in 2017. It was noted that as a result of the value of the contract, this would now have to be put to tender for a European contract. It was further noted that the current dredging had been the first under the licence provided by Natural Resources Wales. Following a query as to dredging depths it was confirmed that the target dredge depths were the same as previous years.
- Barrage - the crocodile bench had arrived in the Barrage during the week, which had been welcomed by all.
- Routine maintenance repairs were currently being undertaken at Sluice 4.

Following a further query, regarding the PA system at Pont y Werin it was reported that there had been an issue with the power supply but this had recently been rectified.

AGREED – T H A T the update report be noted.

(e) Progress Report – Cardiff Harbour Authority –

Mr. D. Hall (Cardiff Harbour Authority) referred to the successful Green day project being undertaken by “Innovate Trust” with various activities such as bird watching, pond dipping, etc. which was about getting people involved and was a confidence building project.

Reference was also made in respect of a number of dead swans that had been found around the Bay and which had been taken for analysis to a laboratory in order

to try to understand what had happened and whether the swans had been subject to bird flu or any other viruses. However, the test results had come back clear and although there was no real reason that could be concluded as to why they had died, the area would continue to be monitored.

In 2014 Cardiff Harbour Authority entered into a project with the British Geological Society to assess the viability of using groundwater in Cardiff as a heat source. The study found that the groundwater temperature in the area was well above average. As a result boreholes were sunk and Grangetown Nursery School is now heated by groundwater which provides a steady source of heating.

AGREED – T H A T the progress report be noted.

(f) Natural Resources Wales –

Mrs. De Longhi, who was unable to be present at the meeting, had forwarded an update to the Clerk which was tabled at the meeting. The report outlined that the “Know Your Rivers” report had been delayed and she would provide an update at the next meeting or circulate via correspondence, whichever was deemed appropriate.

There had been no further low dissolved oxygen events since the last meeting in June, and as such there had only been one for the Summer period which had been in May 2016.

There had been an issue with a sunken vessel where oil had been floating to the surface. However, this had been deemed relatively low risk with little or no pollution and had been quickly resolved.

The Radyr Weir hydro power scheme (CCC) was operational and the associated multi species fish pass was also operating.

Associated British Ports Cardiff had applied to renew their dredging permit for a three year renewal and Natural Resources Wales did not anticipate any issues with this renewal application.

In considering the report, reference was made to whether there was potential for micro-hydro in the Bay, with the representatives from Cardiff Harbour Authority advising that this was a question that was asked on numerous occasions but that this was not an option that was being considered at present. Different projects were however ongoing for consideration as to whether there was a possibility of using energy from water, but there was nothing at present to report. The officer also advised there was nothing at present that would work that would not affect the operation of the Barrage.

AGREED – T H A T the Natural Resources Wales update be noted.

(g) City Deal Update – Report to Cardiff Cabinet 14th July, 2016 –

In the absence of Mr. J. Day, Economic Policy Manager, who was due to present the report and was en route, the Chairman, having been party to a number of discussions in relation to the City Deal, provided an update to Members.

It was noted that the City Deal was a partnership between ten Local Authority Leaders, the First Minister of Wales, the Minister for Finance, the Secretary of State for Wales and the Chief Secretary to the Treasury. Following the signing of the City Deal document earlier in the year, progress had been made in establishing governance and support arrangements for the finalisation of the deal. A Programme Director had been appointed and a growth and competitiveness commission established. Discussions were continuing and various other organisations were now on board. A number of issues would however be required, for example:

- an integrated strategic development plan needed to be developed
- business support issues needed to be addressed
- the development of a form of transport authority, including details of infrastructure.

Discussions were continuing to take place and the Chairman could confirm that she would be attending a meeting in relation to the Growth and Competitiveness Commission later in the week. She would provide further updates to the Committee in due course.

The Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government for Wales had also advised that although he had said Local Government reorganisation was not part of his agenda, he had outlined that he was supportive of increased collaboration. Therefore, the Chairman stated that the City Deal could be seen as a way of fostering good relationships and encouraging collaboration. Of significant importance she further stated that the development of the Metro, would be an important aspect of the City Deal.

AGREED – T H A T the Chairman's report be noted and further updates be provided to the Committee in due course.

(h) Any Other Business –

- The Vice-Chairman referred to Dewatering wells and requested that a presentation be made to a meeting of the Committee, preferably the next meeting, to provide details of such usage.
- It was also noted that the six monthly ground water report was due shortly which, as normal, would be forwarded to Mrs. Dimond for her consideration to report any concerns to the Committee.

- The Chairman advised that the zigzag path from Penarth Marina to Penarth Heights was now illuminated at night and appeared to be well used.

(i) Date of Next Meeting –

It was confirmed that the next meeting be held on Wednesday, 14th December, 2016 at 5.15 p.m at Cardiff International White Water.