

## CARDIFF BAY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2017 at Cardiff International White Water.

Present:

Councillor J.C. Bird	Vale of Glamorgan Council (Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Education)
Mrs. C. Dimond	Cardiff Flood Action Committee
Councillor N. Humphrey	Penarth Town Council
Mrs. N. De Longhi	Operational Manager, Natural Resources Wales
Mr. A. Parker	
Mrs. S. Newbold	British Marine Federation / Royal Yachting Association
Commodore D. Cairncross	Cardiff Bay Yacht Club

Also present:

Mr. T. Gifford	Cardiff Harbour Authority
Mr. D. Hall	Cardiff Harbour Authority
Mrs. K. Bowen	Vale of Glamorgan Council (Democratic and Scrutiny Services Officer)
Ms. E. Boylan	Penarth Town Council (Clerk)
Ms. L. Felton	Environmental Health Officer (Natural Resources Wales)

(a) Appointment of Chairman –

Councillor A. Parker was appointed Chairman for the Municipal year.

(b) Appointment of Vice-Chairman –

Mrs. C. Dimond was appointed Vice-Chairman for the Municipal year.

(c) Apologies for Absence –

These were received from Mr. S. Clarke (Chief Executive Officer, Canoe Wales), Mr. J. Maidment (Cardiff Harbour Authority) and Mr. A. Vye-parminter (Harbour Master).

(d) Minutes –

AGREED – T H A T the minutes of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2017 be approved as a correct record.

(e) Matters Arising –

The Clerk advised all Members of the Committee to note the dates of future meetings of the Committee as below:

Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> September, 2017 at 5.15 p.m.

Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> December, 2017 at 5.15 p.m.

Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> March, 2018 at 5.15 p.m.

the venue being Cardiff International White Water.

(f) Navigational Safety –

Mr. T. Gifford provided the Committee with a verbal update report advising that there had been some issues of speeding within the Bay and a speed gun trial had been undertaken with the intention being to promote safety on the rivers. The Harbour Authority was also looking to repeat this process throughout the summer months.

Reference was also made to a recent successful bye-law prosecution with a vessel owner being found guilty of driving in a dangerous manner under the influence of alcohol. There having been no further incidents to date it had been considered that the message had clearly been made and awareness raised.

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

(g) Progress Report re Cardiff Harbour Authority –

Mr. Hall referred to the outdoor living area at Mermaid Quay and the need to ensure that there was no further exploitation of rubbish being thrown into the waters. Again raising awareness was considered to be key with information being provided to the public and training sessions being established at local schools to apprise local children.

Mr. Hall also referred to the environmental importance of keeping plastic out of the water and to a feasibility study that had been trialled in the Grangetown area which had been the subject of an article an engineering literature document. It was suggested that this trial could also be expanded.

The Committee was informed that Cardiff Harbour Authority was one of the relevant Authorities for the Habitats Directive, with good practical guidance being produced.

The information was available on line and Mr. Hall agreed to forward the information to the Clerk for Members' information.

The Vice-Chairman referred to regular event posters that were being placed in and around the area that appeared to remain for some time and needed to be taken down. Mr. Hall agreed to look into this. Mrs. Dimond referred to the example of three or four still remaining by the local Police Station.

Following a query regarding oxygen levels, the Committee was informed that the oxygen levels had been compliant in the last month but that the recent heat-wave had had an impact. It was noted that the Oxybarge was usually located further up the River Ely.

AGREED – T H A T the Cardiff Harbour Authority progress report be noted.

(h) Natural Resources Wales: Progress Update –

Ms. De Longhi commenced by introducing to the Committee Ms. L. Felton, an Environmental Health Officer within Natural Resources Wales (NRW) and subsequently advised of the following:

**Blue Green Algae – Roath Dock**

Roath Dock had had blue green algae since early May, NRW had taken samples weekly and as of Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> June, the dock had been clear.

**Dissolved Oxygen**

There had been two reports of sub 5mg/l DO, one at Site 5 from 23<sup>rd</sup> May – 2<sup>nd</sup> June and the other at Site 17 from 29<sup>th</sup> May to 6<sup>th</sup> June. There were no signs of dead or distressed fish. The low readings were due to the light winds and rising water temperature (above 19°C) with both readings at the “bottom” of the Bay. There had also been low levels recorded on 20<sup>th</sup> June.

- Mitigation:*
- (1) *The aeration system was operating continuously at maximum output and would continue in this mode for the foreseeable future.*
  - (2) *The oxybarge was deployed to the River Ely on 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> May and 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> June and remained on standby if dissolved oxygen levels fell again.*

**Deshoaling**

Every two or three years, there was a need to remove recent accumulations of river-bed material (deshoaling) in order to maintain safe navigable water depths for the water taxis. The material removed was to be placed into deep areas within the Bay (selected as the reduction in depth in these deep spots would assist in the reduction

of failure of the dissolved oxygen standard). NRW were agreeing the processes for permissions with Cardiff Harbour Authority.

### **UEFA Champions League Final**

For the football festival, a floating football pitch had been constructed, a Marine Licence issued and the structure had now been removed.

### **Grab Sampling**

Cardiff Bay was included in a UK wide survey looking at micro-plastics. The Marine Licence has been issued; this was due to occur in August; and results have been asked to be shared with NRW.

### **Fish Counter Data**

NRW proposed to include a substantive item on “Fisheries Issues” for the September agenda which was agreed and NRW would bring along a fisheries expert for the item.

AGREED – T H A T the Natural Resources Wales update report be noted and that the Committee receive a report to the September meeting in relation to “Fisheries Issues”.

(i) Any Other Business –

(i) **Penarth Town Council**

Following a recommendation at the last meeting of the Committee the Clerk from Penarth Town Council was in attendance in order to ensure Penarth’s engagement with the Volvo Ocean Race (VOR). Ms. Boylan advised that Penarth was keen to maximise its involvement and to support the events as a result of the VOR coming to Cardiff in 2018.

(ii) Ms. Boylan also referred to the Great Places Scheme (Funding opportunity) where Local Authorities and Community Councils could come together to create stories and trails regarding their areas and apply for up to £500,000 grants funding in order to promote the areas. It was suggested that where possible this funding opportunity be further explored.

(j) Date of Next Meeting –

It was noted that the date of the next meeting was to be Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> September, 2017 at 5.15 p.m. at Cardiff International White Water.