

CARDIFF BAY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on 14th March, 2018 at Cardiff International White Water.

Present:

Mr. A. Parker (Chairman)	
Mrs. C. Dimond (Vice-Chairman)	Cardiff Flood Action Committee
Mrs. N. De Longhi	Natural Resources Wales
Councillor J.C. Bird	Vale of Glamorgan Council
Mr. N. Ajax Lewis	Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales
Commodore D. Cairncross	Cardiff Bay Yacht Club

Also present:

Mr. A. Vye-Parminter	Cardiff Harbour Authority
Mr. S. Ellery	Cardiff Harbour Authority
Mrs. K. Bowen	Vale of Glamorgan Council (Democratic and Scrutiny Services Officer)

(a) Apologies for Absence –

These were received from Councillor M. Michael (Cabinet Member for Environment, Cardiff Council), Councillor N. Humphrey (Penarth Town Council), Councillor C. Wild (Cardiff Council), Ms. S. Newbold (British Marine Federation and Royal Yachting Association), Mr. J. Maidment (Cardiff Harbour Authority).

(b) Minutes –

AGREED – T H A T the minutes of the meeting held on 6th December, 2017 be approved as a correct record, subject to it being noted that Commodore D. Cairncross was present

(c) Matters Arising –

There were no matters raised at this point with it being noted that update reports would be presented under the relevant items later in the agenda.

(d) Navigational Safety – Cardiff Harbour Authority –

- In December, January and February over 150 tonnes of rubbish had been removed from the bay. In accepting that 150 tonnes was considered to be a fairly high level, Committee was further advised that up to 1,000 tonnes of rubbish could be accumulated in 12 months depending on weather conditions.

- The Centre for Research into Environment and Health had been commissioned to produce a new predicative water quality model for Cardiff Bay and this would allow better predictions of the bacterial quality and also comply with the revised Bathing Waters Directive. Following a query as to whether Welsh Water had plans to undertake any work, it was confirmed that this was not known but officers would seek further information from Welsh Water and inform the Committee accordingly

AGREED – T H A T the report be noted and thanks extended to the officer.

(e) Progress Update – Cardiff Harbour Authority –

The Committee was advised that a despite a high amount of pressure on staffing levels during the recent snow event, Barrage staff continued to man the Barrage as per normal operations.

At Lock 3 the site had been closed on Tuesday 13th and Wednesday 14th March and all stop beams had been removed on the 13th with only clear up works and fencing removal being required on the Wednesday.

During the high winds, over the previous two months, sections of the anti-climb fencing and significant amounts of netting had been damaged. The anti-climb fencing had been repaired and all damaged netting removed, renewal of the netting was being programmed in.

A cycle hire scheme was due to be rolled out across the City and as part of this initiative eight bikes had been allocated to the Barrage. Members were informed that at present a suggested location for the bikes was to be adjacent to the car park bus shelter. The bikes would be attached to a frame and could be accessed for use and then dropped off at another hire location (similar to the London Boris Bike Scheme).

The Vice-Chairman raised concerns in relation to the number of cyclists that used the Barrage in an unsafe manner which was proving particularly dangerous for pedestrians. Although notices were displayed around the Barrage, it was queried as to whether anything further could be done in order to request cyclists to be more responsible. Officers confirmed that the path had been widened in parts to 4m but they would look into any further ideas that could be presented.

Volvo Race – Mr. Vye-Parminter confirmed that the Harbour Authority had met with Penarth Traders and that he would be attending a meeting with the Cardiff and the Vale Highways departments in the next few weeks to run through the current programme for the Volvo Race.

Following a query regarding how recyclable products were going to be utilised during the Race, it was confirmed that drinking stations would be arranged on site, with no water to be sold in plastic bottles. Further consideration as to whether such facilities could also be placed in an around Cardiff City centre were also to be explored by

Cardiff Council. Members queried whether they could be invited to view the boats at the boatyard and Mr. Vye-Parminter advised that he would consult with the relevant organisations to ascertain the possibility.

AGREED –

- (1) T H A T the report be noted and thanks extended to the officer.
- (2) The Committee confirmed that they were interested in undertaking a site visit in relation to trash collection prior to the June meeting.

(f) Update Report – Natural Resources Wales –

Ms. De Longhi informed the Committee that in relation to the discussion at the last meeting regarding any research that had been undertaken in respect of cormorants in the area confirmed that a trial was taking place in the Usk area to identify hot spots and to record the number of birds. Although it was a local initiative in a local area, there was a possibility that the research and information received could assist other areas. Ms. De Longhi agreed to keep the Cardiff Bay Advisory Committee informed of progress.

(g) Timetable of Meetings –

During consideration of this item, the frequency of meetings was also considered. The report suggested a number of future dates for the Committee with Members being informed that with regard to custom and practice meetings took place at 5.15 p.m. on a Wednesday evening. The dates had been considered in conjunction with previous years' timetables of meetings, with it being noted that the June meeting would be the Annual General Meeting.

Discussion ensued regarding the frequency of meetings, with the Chairman advising that although the nature of the original Act had slightly changed, the role of the Cardiff Bay Advisory Committee remained to ensure that the Committee was undertaking scrutiny and monitoring of the role of the Harbour Authority and seeking views from key stakeholders, for example Natural Resources Wales.

Following the consideration of the above it was

AGREED – T H A T the following timetable of meetings be approved:

DATE	VENUE
Wednesday, 27th June, 2018 at 5.15 p.m. (Annual General Meeting)	Cardiff International White Water

Wednesday, 19 th September, 2018 at 5.15 p.m.	The agenda and reports to be forwarded to all Members of the Committee via email with comments on the documents to be collated and disseminated by the Clerk.
Wednesday, 19 th December, 2018 at 5.15 p.m.	Cardiff International White Water
Wednesday, 20 th March, 2019 at 5.15 p.m.	The agenda and reports to be forwarded to all Members of the Committee via email with comments on the documents to be collated and disseminated by the Clerk.

(h) Any Other Business –

The Vice-Chairman requested that the relevant officer / Professor for ground water monitoring advice be invited to attend the next meeting in June to provide an update on ground water monitoring to date and the impact for local residents.

A further concern related to de-watering wells and whether they were still in operation, Mr. Vye-Parminter advised that he would obtain the information and report back to Committee.

The Chairman took the opportunity to apprise Members that he had recently been informed that Welsh Government had provided £100k for the Vale of Glamorgan Council to undertake surveys to look at the technical issues and economic and transport benefits of several schemes in the Penarth area including the Penarth Headland link, buses across the barrage and a park and ride facility at Cosmeston Country Park. The work was currently underway with draft reports to be prepared for the Vale Council to consider.

It was subsequently suggested that the Cardiff Bay Advisory Committee agendas contain a standing item titled Penarth Headland Link in order that future updates could be reported as and when available.

Councillor Bird referred to a planning application in respect of the Swing bridge at Penarth Marina which had recently been withdrawn by Penarth Quays Marina however, the Council's Highways Department had advised that the area was a public footway and should remain open. Councillor Bird agreed to provide further updates to the Committee in due course.

(i) Date of Next Meeting –

Wednesday, 27th June, 2018 at Cardiff International White Water at 5.15 p.m.
(Annual General Meeting).