

NEWLYN PIER AND HARBOUR COMMISSIONERS (NPHC)

ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS HELD AT 0830 AM ON THURSDAY 30th June 2020 VIA CONFERENCE CALL

In attendance:

- Rob Wing (Chairman) (RW) ✓
- ~~Kevin Bennetts~~ (Vice) (KB)
- Rob Parsons (HM) (RP) ✓
- Robert George (RG) ✓
- Sam Winters (SW) ✓
- ~~Jim McKenna~~ (JM)
- Mike Warner (MW) ✓
- Gus Lewis (GL) ✓
- ~~Abbie Smith~~ (AS)
- James Roberts (JR)

Also, in attendance:

- Keith Owen (AB Chairman) (KO)
- Nick Howell (AB Vice) (NH)
- Paul Durkin (PD)

Part 1

Agenda ID	NPHC Number		Action
C01	N124	<p><u>Apologies for Absence</u></p> <p>There were apologies for absence from John Thomas (JT), Paul Corin (PC) and Anthony Hosking (AH)</p>	
C02	N125	<p><u>Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>AH declared a personal interest in any item on the agenda as an active sea-going fisherman and boat owner operating on the harbour.</p> <p>RP declared a personal interest in any items on the agenda relating to staffing matters as an employee of NPHC, and as the owner of the vessel "Little Susie" moored in the harbour.</p> <p>RW declared a personal interest in any items on the agenda in connection with the harbour as a fish merchant operating on the market, and a Trustee of the National Lobster Hatchery which was a tenant on the harbour.</p>	

C03	N126	<p><u>Minutes</u></p> <p>Resolved: That the minutes (Part 1 and Part 2 summary) of the Ordinary Meeting held on 15th May 2020 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.</p>	RP
C04	N127	<p><u>Matters Arising</u></p> <p>There were no matters arising from the minutes</p>	
C05	N128	<p><u>Port Marine Safety Code (PMSC) Duty Holder Update</u></p> <p><i>RP gave his regular PMSC update to the duty holder once again informing them that all parties are both individually and collectively responsible in accordance with the code.</i></p> <p>Income or a lack of has been a driver with regards to the prioritisation towards maintenance. The HM raised that harbour users are still tying vessels to ladders so more bollards and rings will be required to educate users.</p> <p>Incidents have been centred interaction with both the Police and Port Health due to Covid 19 and guidelines on access to the shore. Port Health activity had been significant by way of Maritime Health Certificates and how that Trawler Agents or Agents were responsible to visiting vessels to Newlyn in providing the MHC to Port Health, NOT the Harbour authority. Police activity was due to a public order offence which was in the process of being investigated with our CCTV.</p> <p>Easing of lockdown measures has seen more visitors but regarding any Maritime PMSC incidents there has been nothing of any liability to the Commissioners since the HM's last report.</p> <p>RW asked the board if there were any questions for the HM of which none were raised.</p>	RP
C06	N129	<p><u>COVID 19</u></p> <p>RP gave an update to the board on what the Harbour Management have done thus far in response to the Global Pandemic, in particular:</p> <p>HM raised guidance from the British Ports Association in relation to Leisure craft and the easing of lockdown measures. HM informed the board that at present on activity that was organic was permitted and any visiting leisure craft was taken on a case by case basis for the provision of Fuel and supplies.</p> <p>Office opening is still on hold as the delivery of the protective plexi glass screen was taking time due to restricted delivery. The measures are required to protect staff, but the HM had recently received complaints as customers did not like the present set up. HM reiterated that he would not open the office to the public until the glass was in place and signage installed surrounding social distancing.</p>	RP

		<p>The HM informed the board that the majority of the COVID 19 issues for the board are centred around income and market recovery and will be included in part 2 to discuss staffing and the JRS.</p> <p>HM informed the board that fish prices were slowly recovering but were still significantly down on previous years in regard to this time of year. Financially the HM reported that a strict policy on direct debits and invoice terms to our creditors. The policy employed was to ensure that sufficient cash reserves were retained for essential maintenance and now that grant schemes for the customers had been put in place that it would now be fair and reasonable to issue invoices out, which had been delayed since lockdown measures.</p> <p>The HM summarised that despite huge reductions in income the finances were stable at present, but this was due to the JRS and grant payments to the harbour's customers. Cashflow forecasts needed to be considered and some tough decisions may need to be made but future finances were unknown, and the harbour is very much taking things a day at a time though this crisis. The HM summarised however that NPHC strategy moving through this was to maintain navigational safety and where possible provide the best facilities for our customers.</p> <p>MW asked the HM how many staff were presently employed?</p> <p>RP informed of present staffing numbers and potential cost savings however continued that for the size of the port staffing numbers are significantly low.</p> <p>GL added to the Harbour Masters report on leisure craft that due to the frequent communication from the government the lines had become quite blurred over what was rules and what was guidance. GL continued that it was our responsibility as a Harbour Authority to comply with the rules and where practical and in good spirit comply with the guidance.</p> <p>RP added that some guidance had not really considered the operation of harbours and that Newlyn was really was taken a subjective approach to the guidance in order for efficient operation of the harbour.</p>	
C07	N130	<p><u>Projects –</u></p> <p>RW introduced the inclusion of KO, NH and PD to the meeting in their capacity as AB members. RW continued that over the past year the AB had moved to address a more forward thinking and strategic approach to its position and that he had seen the output from the AB in a recent meeting and was encouraged and appreciative of the work and stakeholder liaison in order to prepare this presentation, which was one of the reasons this meeting had been called. RW asked the board to hold their questions until the end due to the comprehensive nature of the presentation by the AB.</p> <p>KO informed the board that the AB looked at what it could deliver in its capacity as an AB and in order to do so asked two very simply questions of what would you like to see in Newlyn in 5 and 10 years' time.</p>	

	<p>KO continued that a lot of information had been passed to the AB relating to the Auction, but this has been provided via a different paper and will not be discussed at this meeting. KO informed the Commissioners that there was a lot of concern over dredging and the depth of water and how the harbour could deal with larger draught vessels and how best use could be made of Sandy Cove. KO referenced all the previous reports and investigations in order to avoid duplication of effort and referenced the present requirements of both private businesses and Cornwall Councils position so as to propose a way forward.</p> <p>NH shared with the commissioner's notes from the surveys carried out and what stakeholders had asked for. NH raised that users wanted more space within the harbour for operations, parking, and sadness that the fishermen's mission was no longer in the harbour.</p> <p>NH continued to share his recent discussions with MDL a local company who owned the local quarry and areas of ownership. NH raised discussions joint ventures with MDL and the Harbour of which everything was on the table. The commissioners were shown heritage photos to show development to date, previous proposals, and comparisons to recent developments around ports.</p> <p>NH continued to show the commissioners charts of the area with potential deeper berths around Sandy Cove and previous conversations with MDL in the past. Sketches were shared with the commission over concept plans and ownership and how things could work as a joint venture. The Road Bypass was raised as a critical project in order for the growth to continue.</p> <p>NH presented more sketches relating to leisure craft moorings, Fishing vessel berths, engineering and storage and potential areas for growth via offshore services. NH then continued to state what would Newlyn Look like if the proposed was a reality by way of all the commercial being situated within the new area. NH shared sketches of ideas relating to changes to present infrastructure and potential parking and shops. Examples of build types were shared.</p> <p>NH described potential for heritage sites and charitable potential around the heritage site. Further discussion was centred around landscaped areas, commercial separation for safety purposes and fishermen only parking with additional pontoons for leisure craft moorings.</p> <p>PD then updated the board that he had had discussions with representatives and that it was apparent that this would not be successful without a bypass and how this could be tied into the new fisheries bill and the requirement of fisheries patrol and the ability to service craft employed in such. PD continued that initial talks were positive and that it was down to the commissioners to take this forward but initial reactions were encouraging.</p> <p>RW thanked the members of the AB for the work conducted and that the Board may now ask questions.</p>	
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	<p>RP – Thanked the AB for their work and raised the jurisdiction of Newlyn Harbour and the lack of likely hood of permanent MOD vessels and that it would probably be more need for IFCA and the MMO.</p> <p>MW asked for the slides as there was a lot of information and further consideration and if that was possible.</p> <p>NH informed that they were confidential and that they would be shared.</p> <p>SW thanks the AB for the presentation. SW added that so many of these plans are reliant on other things happening and that it would be better if it were broken up into sections for success. He then went on to ask about the stakeholder engagement and what numbers of people were asked. It was raised that the Commission were criticised last year over stakeholder consultation and would therefore like to understand the numbers of those consulted.</p> <p>NH responded that reps from membership groups were consulted.</p> <p>SW finished that we must always ensure that full consultation is taken place to avoid problems faced in the past.</p> <p>RP added that any strategy needs to be joined up with Penzance and supports the sectioning of projects to be more deliverable.</p> <p>JM raised that he would like to test the appetite of Cornwall Council and MDL initially to ensure that this is deliverable as it would be remiss to air this publicly until all this was clear. JM summarised that this as very exciting but must be paced appropriately and proper collaboration take place between parties to ensure that it is agreed as to what is on the table and what is not and caution as this project is multi millions and funds are not clear at present. PD reiterated the positivity received from initial meetings and that no one wants to pursue this and waste time.</p> <p>RW questioned the HM over whether contact had been made with Cornwall council.</p> <p>RP informed the board that contact had been attempted and that a further meeting was needed asap including the local MP</p> <p>NH informed the board that he had liaised with MDL weekly and that they were ready to sign a memorandum of understanding with the Commission as soon as is practical.</p> <p>AS raised that it all looked very positive, but a more psychological approach was needed as the word bypass seems negative and should be more an access road for progression and thought should be had over presentation moving forward.</p> <p>RG was very impressed with the presentation, but it comes down to costings and it was the funding that causes some concern.</p> <p>KO added the positive steps that were being taken on Penzance Prom at the moment and that we should build upon that to make Newlyn a destination.</p> <p>JM added that signage was going to be placed along the prom to encourage people to Newlyn</p> <p>GL Great proposal but a great opportunity and with HMG intervention post COVID 19 but, but expectations are to be managed.</p> <p>KB Stated that it should not be a Bypass but a Weston access road and that usually housing schemes normally are not in favour due to second home ownership but in this case he is fully behind this as he is a great advocate of local homes in the area that they work.</p>	
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minutes
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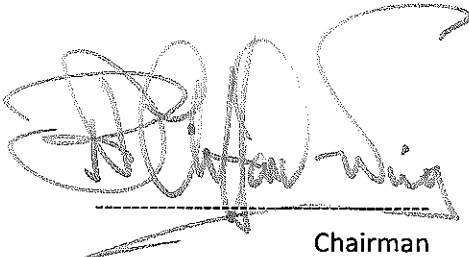
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		<p>JR raised that in the winter these waters are essential for fishermen but wanted the board to take into consideration that the area proposed is an area that gets fished.</p> <p>RW again thanked the AB for the work carried out and that the AB has shown its fit for purpose position and that recent failures in projects has made processes improve and that Newlyn must not allow monies to be lost due to a lack of understanding from stakeholders. RW summarized that this is a very exciting concept and that the Commission will be discussing this further.</p>	
C07	N131	<p>Part 1 Closure</p> <p>The meeting RESOLVED to close Part 1 of the meeting at this point in the proceedings as matters of a confidential and personal nature were to be discussed</p>	

SUMMARY OF MATTERS CONSIDERED IN THE CONFIDENTIAL PART OF THE AGENDA OF THE MEETING OF THE NEWLYN PIER & HARBOUR COMMISSIONERS HELD ON 30th June 2020

1. Minutes
The minutes (Part 2) of the Ordinary Meeting held on 15th May 2020 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.
2. Matters Arising
There were no matters arising from the minutes
3. PMSC Update
The Board received their usual Port Marine Safety Code update relating to incidents, Near misses and security and agency liaison.
4. COVID 19
The Board received an update on the Commissions continued reaction to the global pandemic relating to personnel and confidential issues
5. Chairman's Business
None
6. AOB
The date of the next meeting to be confirmed.

The meeting closed at 11:15hrs.



Chairman