

Newlyn Pier and Harbour Commissioners

Meeting of the Advisory Board held at 1.30 p.m. on Thursday 17 June 2021 at St Peter's Church, Newlyn

In attendance: Nick Howell (Acting Chairman)
Simon Cadman (SC)
Nigel Davis (ND)
Paul Durkin

Also in attendance: Andrew Watts

	<p><u>Questions from Members of the Public</u></p> <p>This was a closed meeting to comply with COVID-19 safety restrictions. No questions from the public had been submitted in advance of the meeting.</p>	
1	<p><u>Apologies for Absence</u></p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from Tom McClure, Fr Keith Owen and Jason Ward.</p>	
2	<p><u>Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>SC declared an interest as a director of Seafood Cornwall Training, which was discussed in relation to Penzance's Town Deal.</p>	
3	<p><u>Minutes</u></p> <p>It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting were a true and accurate representation.</p>	
4	<p><u>Matters Arising</u></p> <p>The NPHC has asked the AB to suggest some safety barriers for the lorry park entrance to stakeholders. NH circulated a proposed layout using water filled barriers. The AB asked that the concepts should be more detailed, with labels on the plan to make it more intelligible.</p> <p>The AB noted that the proposals did not make the working areas impregnable, and repeated its request for better signage for the general public.</p> <p>The AB stressed the need for the closure of the North Pier to be tied to the opening of access to the South Pier, to ensure a positive reaction. The South Pier was more attractive to visitors anyway, because of the Tidal Observatory, which is shortly to be the subject of national television</p>	

	<p>coverage.</p> <p>The AB was pleased to note that the NPHC had accepted its assurances that we are all on the same side, and looks forward to a productive cooperation.</p> <p>There were no other matters arising which were not already items for discussion on the Agenda.</p>	
5	<p><u>Harbour Commissioners - update on Concepts</u></p> <p>The AB and the NPHC are holding a joint meeting on Zoom on 1 July, at a time to be confirmed. Joint discussions have been limited to date, so there was some catching up to do.</p> <p>The AB was of the view that there should be an agenda for the meeting, to include: working together, the legal remit of the AB, communication and Part 2 confidentiality criteria, as well as the preparations for the joint presentation of the Sandy Cove concepts. It was discussed who would prepare and ask questions on the agenda and most members asked for the meeting to be in the afternoon due to other commitments.</p> <p>Working together has been difficult because of Covid, of course, but the problems are more systemic than that. In particular, there were many matters discussed in Part 2 of meetings, which were not in the public minutes, which should not have been. Part 2 should only be used for information which is provided by a government department on terms which forbid disclosure or is otherwise prohibited legally from being disclosed.</p> <p>It was suggested that, to improve dialogue, a member of the AB could sit in on the NPHC meetings. The AB agreed to extend an open invitation to any Commissioner to attend any meeting of the AB.</p> <p>The AB then turned to the Sandy Cove concepts. The AB heard that there was more potential in them than imagined: a representative from Hexicon was interested in looking at Newlyn for wind farm supply vessels. The Commissioners needed to be brought up to speed on these developments.</p> <p>For any public meeting, it was suggested that the plans should be printed at A0 size, the NPHC having agreed to cover printing costs. Members thought any invitations should make clear that this was to be the Commissioners exhibition with practical help from the AB.</p> <p>John Lambourn had told a previous meeting that the town council could supply boards for the presentation, and ND agreed to follow up on this.</p> <p>It should be emphasised that the opinions of people attending the presentation mattered, and they should be encouraged to write on the plans, add post-it notes, etc.</p>	ND

	<p>As well as the NPHC itself, MDL should be offered space to show its ideas for Port Penlee, as well as the Cornwall Community Land Trust (see agenda item 8) and the proposed route for a Cornwall Council by-pass. The AB noted that drawings were made of a proposed bypass ten years ago, and these could be presented again, although the AB wanted to make it clear that it was the concept of a relief road that was up for discussion, not the route.</p> <p>Another board should show the concepts for inside Newlyn harbour, which were proposed whether or not the Sandy Cove redevelopment went ahead.</p>	
6	<p><u>Local Election</u></p> <p>The Conservatives now control Cornwall Council. With a Conservative MP locally as well, there was now “nowhere to hide” - any failure to protect the fishing industry and to provide housing would be their responsibility alone.</p> <p>The AB noted that the council’s new representative on the NPHC, Cllr Peter Channon, is on Cornwall Council’s strategic planning committee.</p> <p>The AB believed that Cornwall Council was ideally placed to pull all the elements of the Sandy Cove concepts together. As has previously been agreed, the access road is vital to the redevelopment of Sandy Cove; if the council saw the business case for it that would give confidence to all other parties.</p> <p>The AB discussed sensitivities in Penzance about transport links to the Isles of Scilly, and heard that many members of the town council would be open to some of them being relocated to Newlyn.</p>	
7	<p><u>Advisory Board Composition</u></p> <p>The AB learnt that the advertisement (for members of the Commission as well as the AB) had been placed on the NPHC website, and was pleased to note that it sought “motivated and forward-thinking people”. Candidates were shortlisted in the week commencing 28 June, with interviews scheduled for early July.</p> <p>The Board members asked that the AB be represented on the interview panel, and repeated its request for members from the catching sector and commercial shellfish to be on the AB.</p>	
8	<p><u>Planning application</u></p> <p>The AB considered the planning application for housing at the top of Chywoone Hill, and heard that the Penzance town council had offered no objection. The AB heard that the plans were for quality houses for local people, and opposing them would stop building in Sheffield, Paul and Lamorna. Of the 114 comments received on the planning website,</p>	

	<p>however, only 16 were in favour.</p> <p>The AB considered whether the AB should make a comment as a body, but it was agreed that it would be more appropriate (and probably more persuasive) for those members in favour to comment individually.</p> <p>It was undeniable however that the plans fitted in with the concepts the AB had proposed.</p>	
9	<p><u>Any Other Business</u></p> <p>The plans to close the harbour car park to the public increases the pressure on parking in Newlyn. The AB heard that it was possible to ask the town council to allow local use of publicly owned land. The AB agreed to ask ND to raise the question of converting the land on the Coombe owned by the council into a car park.</p> <p>There was no other business, and the meeting closed at 3:41 pm.</p>	ND
	<p>The next meeting will be on 17 July 2021 at 1:30 pm</p>	