



Newlyn Pier & Harbour Commissioners

Minutes Part 1

Meeting Title:	Commissioners Ordinary meeting
Date:	7 th July 2021
Time:	0800
Location:	Microsoft Teams
Chaired by:	Robert Clifford-Wing
Attendees:	Robert Clifford-Wing (RW), Robert George (RG), Abbie Smith (AS), (Gus Lewis (GL), Robert Parsons (RP, HM)
Apologies:	Kevin Bennetts (KB), James Roberts (JR), Anthony Hoskin (AH), Paul Corin (PC), Cllr Pete Channon (Pch), Cllr Jon Thomas, (JT), Sam Winters (SW),

Minutes

1. Welcome and Apologies

- Apologies received as noted above

2. Declaration of Interest

- RP Declared an interest in any item on the agenda relating to staffing matters as an employee and as a leisure boat owner moored in Newlyn Harbour
- RW declared an interest in any items on the agenda in connection with fish buying as a Fish Merchant and as a trustee of the national Lobster Hatchery

3. Minutes of the last Meeting

- **Resolved** the part 1 minutes of the of the meeting held on the 9th of June 2021 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

4. Strategic overview with Advisory Board

- RW informed all present the main points raised within the Commissioners and AB members and the challenges that we face on delivery. It was reinforced how there seemed to be no limit to the requested scope by the AB and this was passed as a compliment to the work conducted by our Advisory Board. It was stated that the management of expectation on our plans was paramount as any deviation from the proposed ask may be seen as failure to



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deliver. It was stated that the funding schemes, timings, and criteria of funds varies but we must attempt to improve the harbour in some way as agreed.

- RP shared the Advisory Board presentation with the Commissioners.
- RP briefed all on the Maritime perspective, depth of water and possible constraints. All plans were shared from Port Penlee to Sandy Cove.
- GL commented on the plans of Sandy Cove and stated that at present that is as far as we need to go. With the restrictions on road access being out of the Commissioners control there would be no merit in using resource until that point was dealt with. As a vision the Sandy Cove plans are all that is needed.
- RW questioned the HM as to whether the Sandy Cove plans, would, if they came to fruition give the Commissioners an all-weather port?
- RP answered that weather will always provide challenges but the proposed, if successful, would be a significant improvement and predominantly make us an all-weather port.
- HM informed those present that the Vision statement will need to be reassessed especially in light of the forthcoming appointments to the board of Commissioners. **Action to revisit/Reissue Vision statement HM**
- HM continued to show the inner harbour AB concept plans (further revision) to the board.
- RW questioned the actual viability of merchant store being built on the North Pier due to the over topping and harsh environment.
- HM briefed the potential plans of North Pier, and that further investigation would be required but after initial concept discussions with engineers it is deemed viable.
- RW raised that the potential issue in relation to recent money spent on our Fish Market refurb may preclude the eligibility of funding for any future changes
- GL continued those certain parts of the Inner harbour plans and change of use is determined on the success of Sandy Cove which at present looks unlikely. GL understood the vision presented by the AB but we must work towards making the programme modular so as to gain deliverability.
- HM updated the board on the present Town Deal position and how that ties in with potential plans.
- RW asked on whether there was actually an appetite on the access road as it does seem that some contingent parts are dependant on the sandy cove road access.
- HM raised the fact that certain funds do place limitations for a period of time that may have an impact on future funds and will need to be investigated along with State aid Limitations

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- RW highlighted recent press releases in relation to Flood defences and the lack of and we must make sure we make the very best use of available funds with partners that we share a capital spend need for example the EA.
- RP said that he understood the recent frustrations as communicated to him that some members of the AB felt that the executive was being a blocker to progress but that after Covid and Brexit hopefully more staff can be recruited, and this programme can be taken ahead.
- RW informed the board of the present recruitment drive and the boards reluctance to waste money on unnecessary consultancy but aware of the requirement to use them in certain circumstances.
- NH raised the cost as spent by Cornwall Council and asked the Cornwall Councillors present as to why the cost was so high?
- PCh said that all the concepts for Newlyn was new to him having only recently being appointed to the Commission and urged caution when it comes to consultancy fees. He continued that we have the space, we have the water but all we need is the road access. PCh said that he will take this back to economic development and discuss the potential for Newlyn.
- RW thanked PCh for his assistance within council and how important it was to continually push this need for the road as the industry is in critical need.
- KB raised the need for social housing and how this need should be tied into any bid for improved access.
- KO supported the raising of social housing and said that these plans are not just for the benefit of the harbour but for the village of Newlyn as a whole in order to create high-quality well-paid jobs.
- NH said that previous designs for the access do exist as Nigel Blackler was involved in the past and hopefully will be able to assist with this bid.
- SC informed the board that as a representative of IFCA they do not have a view on this but attend the meetings to assist the fishing industry. SC also wanted to make it clear that IFCA do not comment on poor port infrastructure and if input is required I will.
- NH raised the need for the projects and infrastructure authority to possibly getting involved as a programme this size .
- RP raised the Mounts Bay Cluster and that hopefully will tie into the programme policy which will be updated to all boards and members in due course.

5. Chairman's Closure

- The chairman thanked all for attending and that the Commission have a lot to do and time is of the essence. RW continued to inform all present that the



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Board of Commissioners will digest everything that has been raised and get back to all members in due course. It was readily apparent that the road access is essential and that any input from the MP will be gratefully received. RW asked if anyone else had anything to raise and if not will bring the meeting to a close.

- NH asked if parts not covered in the meeting thus far need to be taken up with the HM
- SC raised that there were fundamental issues in relation to communication that need to be resolved and would be better served face to face when restrictions are lifted.
- NH informed the board that it has been suggested that the Commissioners meet on the first Weds of the month and the AB will meet on the third Weds of the month with a HM AB/ Chair meet in between.
- RW supported the comments raised and therefore would look at all the issues raised and in particular the communications policy.
- Meeting Closed at 10:22hrs

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Chairman



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Minutes Part 2

1. Minutes of Last meeting Part 2

- **Resolved** the part 2 minutes of the of the meeting held on the 9th June 2021 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

2. Matters Arising

- There were no matters arising

3. Chairman's Business

- RW asked for an update on the redundancy of Elaine Baker
- RP informed the board that they were still in negotiation and that previous offers had been rejected. Rp continued that any further rejection of offer would be met with a withdrawal of negotiations and Mrs Baker would be instructed to return to work.
- RW asked for an update with regards to Barron's Square.
- RP updated the board in relation to TD bid to refurb Barrons Square and the board will be updated in due course

4. AOB

- RP updated the board in relation to those shortlisted for interview in relation to Commissioners applications.
- RP updated the board in relation to present membership and the recent sale of the Sapphire to Waterdance and PCs future membership on the board and in relation to JRs membership as an employee of Ocean Fish.
- RW asked RG as to the health of Andrew Munson .

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