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Newlyn Pier and Harbour Commissioners

Meeting of the Advisory Board held at 2.30 p.m. on Friday 21 October 2022 in the Newlyn Harbour Commission offices

In attendance: Nick Howell, Acting Chairman (NH)
Richard Adams
Nigel Davis (ND)
Nick Downing
Laurence Hartwell
John Lambourn (JL)
Tony Pearce
David Stevens

Cllr Peter Channon, NPHC commissioner (PC)

Also in attendance: Andrew Watts

	<p><u>Questions from Members of the Public</u></p> <p>There were no members of the public present, and no questions had been submitted in advance of the meeting.</p>	
1	<p><u>Apologies for Absence</u></p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from Paul Durkin and Tom McClure.</p>	
2	<p><u>Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>JL declared a personal interest in an item on the agenda in connection with the harbour as a boat owner, the owner of a business premise situated adjacent to the harbour and which benefited from a delineated right of way over the harbour to the Strand.</p>	
3	<p><u>Minutes of Last Meeting</u></p> <p>The Minutes of the last meeting had been altered at the request of Gus Lewis, to remove a reference to a commercially sensitive matter.</p> <p>It was RESOLVED that, notwithstanding this alteration, the minutes of the last meeting were a true and accurate representation.</p>	

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4	<p><u>Matters Arising</u></p> <p>After some discussion, it was agreed that in general everything discussed at AB meetings was a matter of public record - but that if anyone asked for an item to be withheld from the minutes for reasons of confidentiality, legal privilege, commercial sensitivity, etc. this should be respected.</p>	
5	<p><u>Landing Dues</u></p> <p>The NPHC had asked the AB for input on changing the method by which they collected landing dues.</p> <p>Landings have to be reported to the MMO, and the NPHC wants boat owners to allow the harbour to access this information (without having to submit a Freedom of Information request).</p> <p>The AB considered that, if it was reasonable to submit this information to the MMO, it should also be provided to the harbour. The MMO could indeed make it a rule that it was shared with the harbour, although the MMO had said that it was confidential between them and the boat owner.</p> <p>The NPHC are considering their options: including requiring anyone landing at Newlyn to report to the harbour at the same time as the MMO, requiring the auction to report what they handle as a condition of the lease, and so on. The AB also suggested that the CFPO should be approached and asked to canvass its members on the possibility of sharing information.</p> <p>The AB did not object to any of these proposals, did not think they were punitive, and did not believe they affected Newlyn's status as a port of refuge. The AB emphasised however that the same price and the same rules should apply across the board.</p> <p>The AB asked for an update at the next meeting.</p>	
6	<p><u>WSP brief</u></p> <p>NH reported that he had presented the brief for WSP at a meeting of the Harbour Commission. WSP had provided a pre-feasibility study in April, based on NH's outline CAD drawings, and were focusing on engineering options for the construction of the quays.</p> <p>WSP had asked about the energy requirements of the new development and estimated fish tonnages in 2026.</p>	

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	<p>WSP would not be commenting on the road structure and the additional traffic generated, although the NPHC were considering extending the brief to include the slip road down to Sandy Cove and its suitability for articulated lorries.</p> <p>The AB agreed that the road structure remained a significant obstacle to the redevelopment, but PC had already arranged a briefing with Cllr Louis Gardner, the Portfolio Holder for Economy at Cornwall Council, and George Eustice had offered to invite his replacement to Newlyn for a briefing. Newlyn remained a high priority in Cornwall's economy.</p> <p>The AB suggested that a possible option could be a bridge to the Mary Williams pier - as had been done at Peterhead - but this would depend on WSP's economic argument.</p> <p>The Harbour Master would be leading the project, and NH had handed everything over on behalf of the AB.</p> <p>The AB had been asked to concentrate on the fishing industry, but the wider economic argument would, at a later stage, include offshore wind and environmental protection.</p> <p>The AB discussed inviting the local MP to get more involved, and it was resolved to invite him to a future meeting to discuss possibilities. This could be held jointly with the CFPO.</p>	
7	<p><u>Auction</u></p> <p>The AB heard that negotiations were continuing.</p>	
8	<p><u>Any Other Business</u></p> <p>The AB discussed the traffic in Newlyn, and it was proposed that it should be an agenda item for the next meeting. PC will be raising the matter with the new Portfolio holder for Transport at Cornwall Council, Cllr Connor Donnithorne.</p> <p>The AB considered the possibility of adding other industries and facilities to the redevelopment of Sandy Cove - such as sewage treatment plants, fish silage, solar panels - and agreed to produce a list at a later meeting.</p> <p>There was no other business and the meeting ended at 4:31pm.</p>	
	<p>The next meeting will be on 18 November 2022 at 2:30 pm</p>	