

Minutes of Llandudno Coastal Forum Meeting Thursday 14th January, 2016

1. THOSE PRESENT

Cllr Frank Bradfield - Conwy County Borough Council

Mrs Eileen Burrows - Llandudno Chamber of Trade

Mr Peter Byron - Friends of West Shore

Mr Ken Finch - Democracy, Regulation & Support, CCBC

Mr Edward Hiller - Mostyn Estates Ltd

Mr Berin Jones - Llandudno Hospitality Association

Ms Alison Shields - Restore Our Beach

Mr Mike Shields (Restore Our Beach)

Mr Nigel Treacy - Destination Conwy (Chairman)

Ms Debbie Wareham - Ships' Timbers (Secretary)

APOLOGIES

Cllr Dave Cowans - Environment, Roads & Facilities, CCBC

Cllr Glynne Davies - Llandudno Town Council

Mr Geraint Edwards - Environment, Roads & Facilities, CCBC

Mr John Farrell - Restore Our Beach

Mr Tony Lockett - Llandudno Sailing Club

Cllr Dewi Miles - Conwy County Borough Council

Mr Paul Moreton - RNLI

Cllr Greg JT Robbins - Llandudno Town Council (Vice Chairman)

Ms Rachel Roberts - Independent Conceptual Artist

Mr Dyfed Rowlands - Environment, Roads & Facilities, CCBC

Mr Gerry Sweeny - Friends of West Shore

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None were received.

3. MINUTES

No changes were brought forward from the previous minutes, therefore it was agreed to accept the minutes of the Forum Meeting held on Thursday 10^{th} December, 2015.

4. URGENT ITEM

None received at the time of publication.

5. West Shore Proposals

Forum Members discussed various ideas for developing the west shore and produced a list as follows:

To consider alternative options to the limestone sea defences that are currently in place on the west shore;

Addition of dog agility areas;

Raised cycle path / boardwalk near the golf course;

Any action to reduce the amount of windblown sand on the west shore;

To raise the natural profile of the west shore as it is, as a wide open space, with the opportunity to roam free, to manage, promote and enhance its biodiversity and to make that a focus of the area;

To place a series of information boards around the outside of the building next to the boating pond to promote the local environment, and its biodiversity;

External showers near the toilet facilities for windsurfers / kayakers to use;

Beach huts;

Promotion of the maritime heritage of the west shore – information boards.

6. North Shore Interim Work - Update

Agenda Item 6 was discussed with Agenda Item 7.

Mr Ken Finch (CCBC) gave a short summary to Forum Members of the result of the recent CCBC Cabinet Meeting held on 12th January, 2016. The full meeting, as are all CCBC Meetings, are available to watch as a webcast on the CCBC Website. In summary, on 17th December, 2015, Members of the Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee were in favour of procuring a Beach Management Plan for Llandudno. Cabinet does not re-discuss issues addressed at Scrutiny as they have already been discussed at length. On 12th January, 2016, Cabinet approved, subject to funding, the procurement of a Beach Management Plan for Llandudno, and for interim work to take place. It was agreed to wait to hear what the result of the Welsh Government Funding application is before allocating money for the report from either CCBC or Llandudno Town Council. If 100% funding is available from Welsh Government for the Beach Management Plan then money set aside from CCBC and Llandudno Town Council can be re-allocated for the interim work to Llandudno's north shore. Cabinet will re-hear the item when the result from Welsh Government is received within the next four weeks. Members were advised to have confidence in the work of the Local Officers in their approach to obtaining funding for both the Beach Management Plan and the interim work. ERF Officers are now preparing the document that will go out to tender to secure a Consultant.

The recent storms were discussed, and it was pointed out that the north shore had been subjected to a lengthy series of severe north westerly winds combined with some particularly high tides. In essence, the current means of sea defence on the north shore had not been tested to this extent since they were put in place twenty years ago. The outcome was that the sea defences had worked well, and there was no flooding in Llandudno. There had been some overtopping at Old Colwyn.

It was also pointed out that the weakest location on the north shore i.e. where there is the greatest impact from the sea and erosion on the north shore is the area between the lifeboat slipway and the pier wall – this fact was highlighted previously in a CCBC presentation of the long term monitoring work carried out by the local authority. Hence, the Little Orme is protecting the north shore from erosion. Indeed erosion is taking place in only a small area near the pier wall and the lifeboat slipway. Hence, if that is the area that needs protection, it was questioned by members, does it matter what is placed along the rest of the beach?

The question was raised about ownership of the final BMP if Welsh Government funds the work. It was confirmed that the report will be owned by CCBC.

The option of Businesses funding the BMP or any future works to the north shore was discussed and it was confirmed that Businesses have agreed to contribute to future works to Llandudno where there are obvious deliverable benefits to the area.

There was some confusion about the location of the Mean High Water Spring Mark on the north shore and the length that the temporary access ramps would be taken to on the north shore. It was agreed that the Forum Secretary would clarify this point with Mr Geraint Edwards (ERF) via email.

7. LLANDUDNO BEACH MANAGEMENT PLAN / FEASIBILITY STUDY - UPDATE

Agenda Item 7 was discussed with Agenda Item 6.

8. PRESS RELEASE - Feedback

Further to the Meeting of 10th December 2015, the CCBC Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee Meeting approved the recommendation of a new Beach Management Plan for Llandudno and the need for interim work to Llandudno's north shore (17.12.2015). Hence, the two draft press releases that were circulated during the meeting of 10.12.2105 were not used. A new press release reflecting this decision was written and sent to appropriate newspapers with a copy put on the Forum Website. Feedback on the press release was very positive, and an observation was made that the following newspaper article appeared to emphasise the ten year timescale to achieve any change on the north shore. The possibility of the Forum having a Press Officer was briefly discussed.

9. <u>LCF WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA – UPDATE</u>

The Forum Chair was in the process of updating the Forum Website with Approved minutes. A request was made to check that Members contact details are correct on the website. Forum Secretary will contact Members to check this. The website needs further general updates such as the addition of a chronology of progress, and summative paragraphs of Forum Meetings, hence this additional work will be addressed outside Forum Meetings. No further updates were given on gaining access to the Forum Facebook Page, or Twitter Accounts.

10. MATTERS ARISING RELEVANT TO THE LLANDUDNO COASTAL FORUM

None

14. TO DISCUSS OR NOTE ITEMS OF CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

None Received

15. TO NOTE THE TIME AND DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting is Thursday 28th January, 2016, at 18:00hrs in the Town Hall, Llandudno.

MEETING ENDED 20:10HRS