



LLANDUDNO  
COASTAL  
FORUM

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ARFORDIROL  
LLANDUDNO

**Minutes of Llandudno Coastal Forum Meeting**  
**Thursday 25<sup>h</sup> February, 2016**

**1. THOSE PRESENT**

Clr Frank Bradfield - Conwy County Borough Council  
Mr Peter Byron – Friends of West Shore  
Clr Dave Cowans - Environment, Roads & Facilities, CCBC  
Mr Berin Jones - Llandudno Hospitality Association  
Clr Dewi Miles - Conwy County Borough Council  
Ms Alison Shields - Restore Our Beach  
Mr Mike Shields (Restore Our Beach)  
Mr Dyfed Rowlands - Environment, Roads & Facilities,  
CCBC  
Mr Gerry Sweeny – Friends of West Shore  
Mr Nigel Treacy - Destination Conwy (**Chairman**)  
Ms Debbie Wareham - Ships' Timbers (**Secretary**)

**APOLOGIES**

Mrs Eileen Burrows – Llandudno Chamber of Trade  
Clr Glynne Davies - Llandudno Town Council  
Mr Geraint Edwards - Environment, Roads & Facilities, CCBC  
Mr John Farrell – Restore Our Beach  
Mr Edward Hiller - Mostyn Estates Ltd  
Mr Paul Moreton – RNL  
Clr Greg JT Robbins - Llandudno Town Council (**Vice  
Chairman**)  
Ms Rachel Roberts – Independent Conceptual Artist

**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 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2016.

**4. URGENT ITEM**

None received at the time of publication.

## **5. West Shore Proposals**

Cllr Dewi Miles (CCBC Elected Representative) confirmed that he had met with the Forum Chair and a representative from Welsh Water at the west shore to ask about some of the concerns that the Forum had. Concerns had been expressed about two of the lamp lights on the west shore as they are currently without a cover. The concern from Welsh Water is the Health and Safety if they fall off again. It was agreed that Welsh Water will look into this further and report back. The sewage pipe was also discussed. All the sewage from Llandudno goes from the pumping station to Black Cat to be cleaned and taken back to Rhos on Sea to be pumped out. There is nothing going through the long outflow pipe on the west shore. The fact that material has been seen coming out of this pipe is because the pipe is broken and water is mixing with rust in the pipe and that is what is seen, but there is no sewage coming out of the pipe at all. The drainage was discussed and the pebbles have been cleared from the outside, but inside that was full so the material will be cleaned out. The use of the water pumping station and sewage station for information boards was discussed and this was received positively. The communications officer, Gwennan Davies, from Welsh Water has contacted Cllr Miles to say that they would not pay for showers where we wanted them put, but any other help they would be happy to assist. Cllr Miles is waiting for a reply about the use of the two stations for adding information boards. Cllr Miles suggested that Welsh Water could give a presentation to the Forum about their plans for the west shore. This idea was well received by the Forum. Cllr Miles will progress this. Written evidence will be provided about the fact that no sewage is being deposited from the outflow pipe on the west shore. The Forum thanked Cllr Miles for his help to address all of these matters.

### **5.3 Funding – Big Lottery Fund: Create your Space (Ships' Timbers)**

Cllr Dave Cowans (CCBC – Elected Representative) confirmed that he had seen the work that Ms Wareham (Ships' Timbers) had done on the Lottery Bid and thought that it was brilliant. To be effective a small group is required which Ms Wareham has recognised. Cllr Cowans asked if he could be on the Group which Ms Wareham has accepted. The way it had been set out will tick all the boxes for a successful application. Cllr Cowans commented that he was encouraged by the professional approach taken by Ms Wareham and further to initial conversations with the Big Lottery there was a positive response. Cllr Cowans wanted to give his thanks for this work, and felt that the application will succeed.

Ms Wareham (Ships' Timbers) explained the project to the group. Ms Wareham had read the funding guidance and decided upon a title for the project as Ar Lan y Mor – Beside the Sea. Ms Wareham then started to write a document about the project identifying the key areas based around what the Forum had discussed for west shore. These areas would be biodiversity, boating pond shelter, board walk, access, litter, to create a dedicated outdoor space for the quiet enjoyment of alternative holistic therapies, cultural heritage, to promote the west shore in context of all of those. Ms Wareham phoned the Big Lottery and feedback was positive. The project spans seven years and it is a community project which is supported by a project officer from Big Lottery. The aim is to see networks develop across the seven years. Projects do not all have to be decided upon initially, but can be developed through the years. The next step is to develop partners for the project which will evolve.

Mr Berin Jones (LLHA) asked how the project will develop in relation to the forum?

Cllr Dave Cowans (CCBC – Elected Representative) explained that information would be brought back to the Forum from the project group.

Mr Dyfed Rowlands (CCBC – ERF) explained that the BMP will look at improving the sea defences but would not include the additional key areas identified by the Ar Lan y Mor Project. Mr Rowlands also explained that he had met with the golf club to walk the site with them to discuss the sand on the golf course. There may be a possibility to move the cycle path through the dunes along the designated path that is already there. This can be looked at as an alternative engineering option which may be less costly than constructing a board walk along the current route.

Ms Wareham (Ships' Timbers) asked if we were to be successful with development funding we would explore those options at that stage?

CLlr Dave Cowans (CCBC – Elected Representative) replied to say that is the time to get really professional and involves a lot of work and CCBC will be more than willing to help. The project is so good there is every possibility we will succeed. Cllr Cowans will do everything he can to help. Cllr Cowans explained a small working group is best.

Berin asked if this project could apply to the amenities on the north shore as well with the potential opportunity to address both the shelters there for instance.

Cllr Cowans commented that when the initial development funding is awarded it would tie in with the new beach management plan. At this time the project could then be broadened and we could go back to Big Lottery Fund to include the north shore. There is a definite opportunity to expand the project.

Mr Gerry Sweeny (FrWSh) commented that the funding applications are difficult to complete.

Cllr Cowans (CCBC – Elected Representative) commented that there are people in CDS to assist with grant applications and he would further that request for help.

Ms Wareham (Ships' Timbers) commented that she wanted to formally thank Ms Alison Shields (RoB) for bringing the funding opportunity to the attention of the Forum, and that it is Ms Shield's dedication to this group to pick up on these items and bring that to the Forum. Without this we would not be progressing the application.

Ms Shields (RoB) thanked Ms Wareham for the positive comment and said she would tell her Mum who saw the link initially. Ms Shields went onto enquire if the original documentation still existed about the cycle path going over the golf course as this was an option initially.

Mr Dyfed Rowlands (CCBC – ERF) commented that this alternative route could be looked at but there may be conservation issues, and status of the path. But to consider it as an option, and cost it.

Cllr Cowans suggested Crosby is a very good example of excellent dune management.

Mr Berin Jones (LLHA) added that Pembrey and Newborough were also good examples. These were a combination of wetland and sand dune.

Cllr Cowans suggested taking this project to the west shore residents association for their views.

Mr Gerry Sweeny (FrWSh) explained that the group needed to meet more often. And asked what information we have to hand at the moment.

Ms Wareham (Ships' Timbers) explained that the project was very lucky to have the results from Forum discussions and also the public consultation work to include in the funding application. Ms Wareham explained she could send the project key areas across for consideration.

Cllr Cowans (CCBC – Elected Representative) asked if the group could meet as a one off to hear about the project.

The Forum Chair asked about the scope of the Friends of West Shore and who they represented in terms of business, residents, water users, and the area they represent. To ensure that Friends of west shore is representing a broad voice.

Mr Gerry Sweeny explained that all Llandudno Friends groups have a constitution. The west shore group represents businesses but depends on who turns up to meetings, and numbers vary.

Mr Nigel Treacy (Chair) confirmed that it was important that we could answer questions about who have we consulted, and when.

Mr Berin Jones (LLHA) reminded the Forum that we had already had a consultation on the north shore, and we intend to have one on the west shore.

Cllr Frank Bradfield (CCBC – Elected Representative) commented that you don't need everyone to come to a meeting. You just need key people with knowledge to decide on a path to take but if you need support then you ask the wider community. If an issue is worth fighting for you will get support.

Mr Peter Byron (FrWSh) commented that the west shore group has become very parochial and needs to look further afield.

Mr Gerry Sweeny (FrWSh) suggest that visitor opinion needs canvassing

Cllr Dave Cowans (CCBC - Elected Representative) suggests that if Welsh Government Deputy Minister Ken Skates is successful in the May elections he will support the project.

Forum Chair asks what is needed next for the project

Cllr Cowans (CCBC – Elected Representative) comments that we need to have a think who will sit on the group. Pulling people in one at a time as needed.

Ms Wareham (Forum Secretary) comments that there are two levels. One that Berin suggested for the consultation which we need to do quickly but not by the end of March, which would draw in any other concerns from people who were not being represented at the Forum. Then that will feed into the larger document which will go to CCBC for the BMP. The Lottery application is about who have we spoken with but not pitched very highly.

Mr Berin Jones (LLHA) suggested contacting David Iddens who can advise on holistic therapies. Mr Berin Jones suggests that Friends of west shore need to talk to Ms Wareham (Ships' Timbers) about what needs to be done at west shore. Such that in the funding application we have consulted with businesses, local groups, and they have a representative who sits on this group.

Cllr Cowans (CCBC – Elected Representative) explains that creating opportunities for people to gain employment is also appropriate for the project.

Mr Berin Jones (LLHA) asks Cllr Cowans why a deck chairs and attendant had not been employed on the north shore recently?

Cllr Cowans (CCBC – Elected Representative) commented that he will look into it.

Ms Shields (Rob) expressed concerns at the suggestion that deck chairs on the pier would not be viable.

Mr Gerry Sweeny (FrWSh) suggested Ms Wareham explain to the Friends of West Shore what they want them to do and they can get that agreed.

The Forum Chair moves the meeting on to consider other issues of west shore on the Agenda.

Mr Berin Jones (LLHA) gives an update on the dog agility project. Mr Jones asks for further information about the existing gym material at west shore to get an idea of costs for similar equipment for the dog agility area.

Mr Dyfed Rowlands (CCBC – ERF) agrees to send that information to Mr Jones.

Forum Chair asks for clarification about how we arrived at developing a dog agility area.

Mr Berin Jones (LLHA) explains that holiday resorts with dog friendly accommodation is available, but that in Llandudno there is a very negative feedback from visitors about friendliness towards dogs. So to alter this view the idea was to develop areas where dogs can go. Exercise is very useful for dogs and dog agility helps with mental and physical needs of dogs and when dogs are cooped up. An area where dogs can exercise in a dedicated area would be very positive for Llandudno as a Town and resort. Other areas who have this are Eastbourne and Peterborough, Devon and Cornwall are looking into this. Benefit for residents and tourists, and for dog owner and non-dog owner. CCBC Tourism had looked into this.

#### **5.1 Ref 1: Table of west shore issues (prepared by LCF) – Updated (circulated via email)**

**Ref 2: Plan of west shore with list of issues - prepared by Mr Dyfed Rowlands (CCBC – ERF) (circulated via email)**

- 1. To consider text and list of options in Ref 2**
- 2. To compare Ref 1 with Ref 2 with a view of updating / affirming Ref 2**

Due to the lack of time at this meeting it was decided to defer this item until the next meeting.

#### **5.2 Proposed Parking on the West Shore, Llandudno**

Cllr Dave Cowans (CCBC – Elected Representative) explained that further to the consideration of this matter at the recent Cabinet meeting, this item has been sent back to Scrutiny for review by a task and finish group. This matter is on-going and the Forum will follow the progress of this in due course.

#### **6. North Shore Interim Work – Update**

Mr Dyfed Rowlands (CCBC / ERF) commented that there is still no update as yet, until we hear from the Welsh Government about the funding. Recent conversations with Welsh Government have been very positive about this funding request.

#### **7. LLANDUDNO BEACH MANAGEMENT PLAN / FEASIBILITY STUDY – UPDATE**

Agenda Item 7 was discussed with Agenda Item 6.

#### **8. TO CARRY OUT A FULL REVIEW OF THE FOLLOWING:**

**8.1 The recommendations and interpretation of the historic reports concerning the removal of the wooden groyne field from Llandudno's north shore and replacement of this with graded shingle as a means of sea defence.**

**8.2 The evidence leading to the recommendations of the historic reports concerning the removal of the wooden groyne field on Llandudno's north shore and replacement of this with graded shingle as a means of sea defence.**

**Ref 3: Fifteen photographs of Llandudno's north shore circulated by Ms Alison Shields (RoB) on 19.02.2016**

It was agreed that the Llandudno Coastal Forum would review all previous beach management plan documents relating to Llandudno and write a report. This report will be validated by an external source likely an academic who specialises in this field of work. This work will commence after 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016.

It was agreed to collate a series of images of the north shore as a chronology of development which will form a series of photographic overlays on maps / charts to illustrate changes to the beach and promenade from the nineteenth century onwards. This series of illustrations will be useful as a public lecture in Llandudno.

#### **9. MATTERS ARISING RELEVANT TO THE LLANDUDNO COASTAL FORUM**

Ms Debbie Wareham (LCF Secretary) asked for confirmation about updating the LCF Facebook Page with a post she had planned to write. Mr Nigel Treacy (Chair) confirmed that the Forum Secretary should write and post updates on the Facebook Page as required, and if any amendments were needed, that could be given after posts were updated. Ms Wareham (Secretary) agreed to this.

#### **10. TO DISCUSS OR NOTE ITEMS OF CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

1. An email had been sent to Dr Emmer Litt (NRW) asking about the possibility of arranging a presentation about dune ecology to Forum Members. A reply had been received by Dr Litt to say that she can only do daytime presentations. Members agreed to meet earlier in the day to accommodate Dr Litt. The Forum Chair suggested asking Dr Litt for some dates for a presentation and the latest time she could talk to Members.

2. An email had been sent to Mr Paul Moreton (RNLI Llandudno) to ask if RNLI Llandudno were still interested to be a member of the Forum as they had not attended any meetings for eleven months. A reply was received from Mr Moreton saying he does still wish to be a member of the Forum. There was no alternative representative offered to attend Forum meetings in Mr Moreton's absence. The Forum Chair requested that a reply is sent to Mr Moreton asking how Mr Moreton could continue to be a Member if he does not attend meetings.

#### **11. TO NOTE THE TIME AND DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

**The date of the next meeting is Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2016, at 18:00hrs in the Town Hall, Llandudno.**

**MEETING ENDED 20:00HRS**