

Llandudno Coastal Forum Meeting Thursday 11th September 2014

PRESENT

Mr Roy Haley - Chairman.

Cllr Frank Bradfield - Conwy County Borough Council.

Mr Gerry Sweeny - Friends of West Shore.

Mr Berin Jones - Llandudno Hospitality Association.

Cllr Gary Burchett - Llandudno Town Council.

Cllr Greg JT Robbins - Llandudno Town Council.

Mr Edward Hiller - Mostyn Estates Ltd.

Ms Alison Shields - Restore Our Beach.

Mr John Farrell - Restore Our Beach.

Ms Debbie Wareham - Ships Timbers.

Mr Geraint Edwards - Environment, Roads & Facilities CCBC.

Cllr Mike Priestley - Environment, Roads & Facilities CCBC.

APOLOGIES

Cllr Dewi Miles - Conwy County Borough Council.

Mrs Eileen Burrows - Llandudno Chamber of Trade.

Mr Ken Finch - Democracy Regulation & Support CCBC.

1. MINUTES

IT WAS AGREED to accept the minutes of the meeting held 28th August 2014 as a true and correct record.

2. CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence had been received from Llandudno Town Council regarding representation on the Forum.

IT WAS CONFIRMED that Cllr Garry Burchett and Cllr Greg JT Robbins serve as the representatives for Llandudno Town Council on the Forum.

Prior to the next item on the evenings agenda Cllr Greg JT Robbins (LLTC) requested that "Item 10 Matters Arising", be moved in the meeting's order, for discussion next. No objections were made by members.

3. MATTERS ARISING - COASTAL LAGOON PROJECT

Ms Debbie Wareham (Ships Timbers) informed the Forum she had requested the topic be discussed in view of there being a public meeting in Colwyn Bay on 22nd September, to discuss the possibility of a Tidal Lagoon off Colwyn Bay. During the discussion that followed concerns were raised among Forum members, regarding the effect the proposed tidal lagoon at Colwyn Bay could have upon Llandudno.

Mr John Farrell (R.O.B) informed the Forum that members of Restore Our Beach had meet with a representative from the Swansea Lagoon Project last Thursday 4/9/2014, regarding the prospect of such a scheme coming to Llandudno. This lead to healthy debate where members expressed their views regarding a tidal lagoon scheme for Llandudno Bay. Members were reminded that schemes of a similar type had previously been suggested for Llandudno several years ago, and that any type of sea defence that such schemes provide were a by product as their primary function was the production of electricity. Members were further reminded that as such schemes are usually privately funded, that they should look at the timescales when considering any such schemes.

It was suggested that if the Forum wished to be proactive that they invite a representative from the company that Restore Our Beach had met with, along with any other similar companies if possible, to give a presentation at a future Forum meeting.

Mr John Farrell informed the Forum that the Representative of the company they had met with would be able to give a presentation to the Forum on Thursday 6th November 2014.

IT WAS AGREED to invite TIDAL LAGOON POWER to give a presentation to the Forum on Thursday November 6th 2014.

4. DATA ROOM

Cllr Greg JT Robbins (LLTC) reported to the forum that the "Data Room" was up and running and how it would work. The Forum were informed it would allow information and research items to be exchanged online amongst members. Links that allowed the public access to the research documents would be set up via the Forum's website, by Mr John Farrell (R.O.B) in due course.

Ms Debbie Wareham (Ships Timbers) expressed a concern, that to upload the information and reports she had could be very time consuming, it was suggested that if she contacted Mr Ken Finch (CCBC) as he may be able to assist.

5. TIDAL HEIGHTS

Prior to the meeting members had been provided with information regarding the Highest Tides for Llandudno over a 20 year period (2008 - 2028). Mr Geraint Edwards (CCBC) who provided the information was asked by members to explain how the data was arrived at.

During the discussion that followed members questioned whether the threat posed by high tides to Llandudno was nothing more than scaremongering and used as justification for the 'STONES ON BEACH' Llandudno has at present. It was explained to members that high tides were only one ingredient along with barometric pressure, wind speeds and direction when designing sea defences.

It was identified during the course of the discussion that members would like information on the highest tides at Llandudno during the last century, to compare with the forecasted highest tides.

IT WAS REQUESTED that Mr Geraint Edwards (CCBC) provide the Forum with data on "Ranked Highest Tides Over The Last 100 yrs" for Llandudno.

6. WISH LIST FEED BACK

Members had been provided with a copy of the list of 47 items that had been identified during the wish list exercise (meeting 12/8/2014) prior to this evenings meeting.

A lengthy discussion took place regarding the items that had been previously highlighted along with several new subjects that were identified during the course of the evening.

IT WAS REQUESTED that Mr Geraint Edwards (CCBC), in 4 weeks time, (Thursday 9th October), give a presentation explaining the following:

- a. Data on sand acquisition / loss, and movement across Llandudno North Shore
- b. The tidal patterns, and how this effects the beach movement
- c. Comparisons of historical data regarding levels and movement of sand from when the promenade was constructed, and the wooden groynes were in place compared to the current situation, and the situation prior to the rock recharge works.

7. THEMED ITEMS

Members stated that they were under the impression that the Forum was to have received a report from CCBC at this time. (Item 5 - Forum Minutes Thursday 28th August)

Mr Geraint Edwards (CCBC) confirmed that the "Ideas and Issues" had been themed into several topics such as access, flooding and amenity etc. However, following the direction given at the last meeting, that the topics should be reviewed over no more than 3 meetings, he suggested using the themes of sustainability (social, economic and environmental) but had considered that it would be presumptuous of him to have allocated the "Issues and Ideas" to these themes and suggested that it was something for that the Forum itself agree.

There then followed a lengthy discussion amongst members on the best way to proceed, during which numerous ideas were discussed for themes of future meetings, and if there was need to have experts present from outside bodies at these meetings.

It was suggested that members bring one item from the "ISSUES & IDEAS" report (previously circulated) to the next meeting for discussion.

IT WAS DECICED that the themed topics for discussion at the next meeting would be:

- a. Sandy Beach.
- b . Groynes.
- c. Sea Defence Wall.

8. IDENTIFICATION OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Members were informed that the contact details for NPOWER, Dwr Cymru/Welsh Water and The Crown Estate had now been received.

9. TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Time and Date of the next meeting was confirmed as 6pm Thursday 25th September 2014.

MEETING ENDED AT 8.05pm