



LLANDUDNO  
COASTAL  
FORUM

FFORWM  
ARFORDIROL  
LLANDUDNO

**Minutes of Llandudno Coastal Forum Meeting**  
**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2015**

**1. THOSE PRESENT**

Cllr Dave Cowans - Environment, Roads & Facilities, CCBC  
Cllr Glynne Davies - Llandudno Town Council  
Mr Geraint Edwards - Environment, Roads & Facilities, CCBC  
Mr Ken Finch - Democracy, Regulation & Support, CCBC  
Mr Berin Jones - Llandudno Hospitality Association  
Mr Dewi Miles - Conwy County Borough Council  
Ms Rachel Roberts – Independent Conceptual Artist  
Mr Dyfed Rowlands - Environment, Roads & Facilities, CCBC  
Ms Alison Shields - Restore Our Beach  
Mr Gerry Sweeny – Friends of West Shore  
Mr Nigel Treacy - Destination Conwy **(Chairman)**  
Ms Debbie Wareham - Ships' Timbers **(Secretary)**

**APOLOGIES**

Cllr Frank Bradfield - Conwy County Borough Council  
Mrs Eileen Burrows - Llandudno Chamber of Trade  
Mr Peter Byron – Friends of West Shore  
Mr John Farrell – Restore Our Beach  
Mr Edward Hiller - Mostyn Estates Ltd  
Mr Tony Lockett - Llandudno Sailing Club  
Mr Paul Moreton – RNLI  
Cllr Greg JT Robbins - Llandudno Town Council **(Vice Chairman)**  
Mr Mike Shields (Restore Our Beach)

**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 22nd October, 2015.

**4. URGENT ITEM**

None received at the time of publication.

## **5. NORTH SHORE INTERIM WORK UPDATE**

### **Reference 1 (Document): Removal of Stones from Lower Beach at North Shore, Llandudno (CCBC)**

### **Reference 2 (Appendix A): Plan of Llandudno North Shore (CCBC)**

### **Reference 3 (Appendix B): Plan of Llandudno North Shore indicating permitted areas for stone removal (CCBC)**

Mr Dyfed Rowlands (CCBC – ERF) explained that he had the finished report for the interim work options for Llandudno's north shore and proposed to go through that with Forum Members. Ms Alison Shields (RoB) commented that the report was supposed to be with Members before the day of the meeting and that she did not pick up the email until 17:35 that evening. In addition the report should have been ready for the previous week's meeting of 12<sup>th</sup> November, 2015. Mr Geraint Edwards (CCBC – ERF) explained that no decisions were needed to be made at this meeting on the content of the report and proposed that Members listened to Dyfed's presentation then give feedback at the next meeting. Mr Ken Finch (CCBC) explained that he understood the points being made and suggested that the Forum should listen to the presentation and Members give their feedback at the next Forum meeting. Forum Chair suggested that the Presentation is given and asked Forum Members if anyone objected to that; there were no objections. Ms Shields asked if in future could deadlines be met emphasising that the CCBC had two months to prepare the report. Ms Shields asked that in the future could the Forum receive Reports 24 hours before the Meeting? Mr Geraint Edwards (CCBC – ERF) replied saying they would aim to achieve that. Mr Ken Finch (CCBC) explained that there were sometimes other things to do at short notice such as attend to local flooding issues.

Mr Dyfed Rowlands (CCBC – ERF) gave his presentation to Forum Members of the draft report to remove stones from the lower beach at north shore, Llandudno. The Forum thanked Mr Rowlands for his detailed presentation and for preparing the Report with options.

Mr Dyfed Rowlands was clear to emphasise that further to Feedback from Forum Members, CCBC now wanted to take the Report through the Democratic Process within CCBC. The Report would go to Scrutiny and Cabinet for Feedback and Approval. Mr Rowlands was clear to explain that a Marine License from Natural Resources Wales will be needed to carry out any stone removal work from the lower foreshore and Natural Resources Wales may not grant that license due to the impact stone removal may have on marine life / marine habitats colonising / using the areas around the large boulders and due to the contribution the large boulders make as a natural sea defence.

Cllr Dewi Miles (CCBC Elected Representative) commented that two meetings ago there was some dispute about beach management plans and that there was no Beach Management Plan for Llandudno, but there is one for Colwyn Bay. There is talk of riddling work from the lifeboat slipway to the jetty and spending £12,500. Cllr Miles asks if we could make some room for a proper Beach Management Plan for Llandudno. Mr Geraint Edwards (CCBC – ERF) replied to say that the criteria of the Beach Management Plan in 2000 set tolerance levels for Llandudno which are not robust 15 years later; Llandudno is a different place. Mr Edwards commented that there is a Beach Management Plan for Llandudno, the one which recommended putting stones on the north shore. We are proposing that a new Beach Management Plan is created for Llandudno North Shore by the Consultant. Cllr Dewi Miles (CCBC – Elected Representative) asked when the new beach management plan would be ready. Mr Geraint Edwards replied to say, six months and that we would consult on the document in December 2016. Mr Berin Jones (LLHA) asks if the Beach Management Plan would go to Scrutiny. Mr Geraint Edwards (CCBC – ERF) explained that the report being discussed is an interim piece of work. Mr Berin Jones (LLHA) asked if the work being presented would be presented externally. Mr Geraint Edwards (CCBC – ERF) replied to say that the report would go to democracy but CCBC would take any comments from Forum Members on the draft document. Ultimately, decisions are made through the democratic process. Mr Ken Finch (CCBC) pointed out to Forum Members Minutes of 22.10.2015, page 3, DW comment, 'there are two parallel projects, the long term feasibility study project plan, and the interim work plan for Llandudno's north shore, which Dyfed and team are preparing a report for the next Forum meeting.'

Ms Shields (RoB) asked to see the 1996 image of the north shore as shown in the presentation which showed the Groynes / shingle, and sand, on the north shore. Ms Shields (RoB) added that the Council should have maintained the upkeep of the wooden Groynes on the north shore, and that this is what the Campaign is all about. What the Groynes were replaced with was a massive mistake.

Mr Berin Jones (LLHA) asked what is the point of the report as he feels it is going back to the 1870's and not relevant for the future. Cllr Dave Cowans (CCBC Elected Representative) replied by asking what was the point of that (comment). Mr Berin Jones (LLHA) commented that the stones on the north shore are the number two reason for Llandudno being unattractive, according to STEAM Report. Mr Jones also asked, how long the current marine license is valid for, what is the relevance of the 1906 reference, and why we are dependent upon historic data, could we lease the equipment, and as regards disposal of the stones as the stones came from the shingle bank could they be put back there? Ms Alison Shields (Rob) comments that the stones being the number two reason for Llandudno being unattractive on the STEAM Report is important because they are comments from people coming into the Town. Cllr Dave Cowans (CCBC – Elected Representative) replies to say that hoteliers have indicated that this year has been the best in years. Mr Berin Jones (LLHA) replied to say that if we want to know statements like that then we shouldn't be sitting here. Visitor numbers have generally increased UK. Forum Chair comments that Members are here to representative different voices. Mr Gerry Sweeny (FWSh) commented that on the Report Option 2 indicates that maintenance costs are £12,500, but then it is later stated that there is no budget. Cllr Dewi Miles (CCBC – Elected Representative) asked if £100,000 was the Budget for the whole of Conwy, in which case it there is not much for Llandudno. Ms Alison Shields (RoB) commented that now the beach is suffocating underneath hundreds of thousands of tonnes of rock. Ms Shields went on to say that on the pier side of the jetty there have always been stones, but that the situation has been made worse. Cllr Dewi Miles (CCBC – Elected Representative) commented that at the last meeting the timeline indicated that the interim work could be done quickly, so we could see something being done, and people could see that something is being done soon. Mr Geraint Edwards (CCBC – ERF) asked Forum Members what they would like to see the interim works look like on the north shore. Ms Wareham (Ships' Timbers / Forum Secretary) commented that a photograph she had taken and circulated of the north shore just after the re-profiling works in 2014 showed a lovely sandy beach, on the lower foreshore, and similarly there was sand from the lifeboat slipway to the jetties on the upper foreshore. Ms Wareham asked if that could be recreated again. Mr Berin Jones (LLHA) asked if CCBC could do what they did last time to relocate the stones before the start of the summer season. Forum Chair comments that this will give us something to focus on and we can work towards that for the summer season. Ms Alison Shields (RoB) asked about the areas the stones would be relocated to. Mr Dyfed Rowlands (CCBC – ERF) replied to say that the work the Council does is within Area B on the plan given (Reference 3, Appendix B) to move some of the larger stones within that area which was included on the last license. Some stones were moved to Ael y Bryn to help with the sea defences there. Because the migrated stones are a combination of large stones with algae and some sea defences we don't want to put those larger stones back on the sea defences.

Ms Wareham (Ships' Timbers / Forum Secretary) asked about section five of the report and the historical council resolution of 1906 not to remove stones from the beach, how restricting is this resolution and can it be overturned? Mr Ken Finch (CCBC) replied to say that unless the resolution was made statute then the decision of the previous Authority does not bind future decisions but if we go back this indicates that this material belongs to the Crown so the 1906 resolution refers to the defences of the beach.

Ms Rachel Roberts (IA) asked if the stones could be buried. Mr Geraint Edwards (CCBC – ERF) replied to say that they could be buried by digging a trench and burying them but a Marine license would be needed for that work.

Ms Wareham (Ships' Timbers / Forum Secretary) asked what proportion of the stones are natural and what proportion come from the sea defences, and do any of the natural stones come from the works impact to Constable Bank. Mr Ken Finch (CCBC) replied to say that the Wind turbines were 12 nautical miles out to sea and we are unlikely to get littoral drift from there. Migrated stones do not come from sea defences as they are too large.

Mr Dyfed Rowlands (CCBC – ERF) explained that beach levels drop and accrete naturally and that trials will show how far down the stones go. If the stones are on the surface only then there will be less stones to remove in the future. If

the stones are deeper that will be more difficult. CCBC will needs to carry out trials to see how far the stones go for which a license is required from NRW. It can take up to four months for the approval of a marine license.

Forum Chair commented that it is about managing people's perception which we are doing.

Mr Berin Jones (LLHA) asked what the next step is. Mr Ken Finch (CCBC) replied by saying that it is about choosing priority areas for interim work then taking that to Scrutiny and Cabinet. Mr Dyfed Rowlands (CCBC – ERF) commented that Members could give comments and opinions.

Forum Chair pointed out that the interim work will follow the democratic process.

Cllr Dewi Miles (CCBC – Elected Representative) asked if the interim work should be added to the letter which is being sent to CCBC Members. The Forum decided not to include the interim work as this might cloud the overall long term plans being proposed.

Ms Wareham (Ships' Timbers / Forum Secretary) asked what is going to be agreed to at Cabinet. Mr ken Finch (CCBC) replied by saying that whatever the Forum recommends in the interim report, but that he could not say if this would be agreed to, but the Forum would need a second and third draft of the report

Ms Shields (RoB) asked if the work would be carried out if it is agreed to. Cllr Dave Cowans (CCBC – Elected Representative) replied by saying that the money can be in place by the time the work is needed to be carried out.

## **6. DRAFT PROGRAM TO DELIVER LLANDUNO BEACH MANAGEMENT PLAN APPRAISAL**

Mr Dyfed Rowlands (CCBC – ERF) commented that the Business Case for the Llandudno Beach Management Plan is on schedule to be delivered to the Conwy County Borough Council Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 17<sup>th</sup> December, 2015, and then to Cabinet in early January 2016.

## **7. West Shore Proposals**

### **Reference 4: Plan of Llandudno West Shore (CCBC)**

Cllr Dewi Miles (CCBC Elected Representative) commented that the West Shore is always last on the Agenda and that we should think about placing it at the top of the Agenda next time. Mr Gerry Sweeny (FrWSh) commented that the next meeting of the Friends of West Shore is on 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2015 so he will be able to bring the thoughts of the group to the next Coastal Forum Meeting. Forum Chair suggested that the West Shore should be item five on the Agenda of the next meeting. Mr Dyfed Rowlands (CCBC – ERF) explained that he had printed copies of charts of the west shore for everyone to take away and complete with their ideas, in the same way that ideas for the north shore had been developed. Forum Chair asked if we need to alter representation in the Forum if we are considering the west shore. Mr Gerry Sweeny (FrWSh) commented that he could only speak for the Friends of West Shore. Mr Berin Jones (LLHA) commented that the Forum had already accounted for representation for the west shore. Chair asked about the Conwy Harbour Master being part of the Forum. Mr Gerry Sweeny (FrWSh) replied to say that the Friends of West Shore have a question and Answer at their meetings with the Harbour Master's Office.

**IT WAS AGREED: To Put West Shore as Item five on the Agenda of the next Llandudno Coastal Forum Meeting.**

## **8. Recent Marine Planning Applications**

**Reference 5: Marine License Application, Windblown sand removal and deposit and foreshore re-profiling (Llandudno north and west shore); BUML1534 (CCBC)**

**Reference 6: Marine License Application, Release of Tracer Materials; TML1535 (CCBC)**

## **Reference 7: Marine License Application, Dredging and disposal of dredged material at Conwy and Deganwy Marina; DML1533 (CCBC)**

## **Reference 8: Marine License Application, Beach replenishment through local re-grading of beach material (Colwyn Bay); BUML1543 (CCBC)**

Cllr Glynne Davies asked for an explanation of the Marine Planning Application (Reference 5) he saw in last week's North Wales Weekly News. Mr Dyfed Rowlands (CCBC - ERF) explained that the license was to deal with the wind blown sand on the west shore and they are looking at the idea of creating access ramps at set locations on the north shore down to the lower beach. This year when we created access ramps we were not able to go below the Mean High Water Spring tide level, so we could only take the sand part of the way down the sea defences. What we have looked at now is to obtain a license from Natural Resources Wales to deposit more sand from the west shore onto the north shore to create access ramps down to the lower part of the beach. We also want to deposit windblown sand on the west shore below mean high water, so we have combined a north shore and west shore license. We also carry out re-profiling of the beach on the west shore to the Cerrig Duon Breakwater. Ms Alison Shields (RoB) asked whether the deposited sand will blow away. Mr Dyfed Rowlands (CCBC - ERF) replied to say that when the tide comes in some sand may be taken away, but this summer we did dig down so it depends on the environmental conditions really. We are trying to do something to help. Mr Berin Jones (LLHA) asked was it a positive result. Mr Dyfed Rowlands (CCBC – ERF) replied that there was positive feedback from the public while on site. We have to be careful with the sea defences that they are not weakened and that they are put back as they were at the end of the season. Mr Gerry Sweeny (FrWSh) asked about a notice for work on the west shore on 8<sup>th</sup> December, but there is no information about what work, is this replenishment work? Mr Dyfed Rowlands (CCBC – ERF) replied to say this is re-profiling work, but if there are significant storms then they would consider the need for further replenishment. Cllr Dewi Miles asked what CCBC would call the white rock on the west shore? Mr Dyfed Rowlands (CCBC – ERF) replied to say that it is quarried limestone. Ms Debbie Wareham (Forum Secretary / Ships' Timbers) asked about the other three Marine License Planning Applications (References 6, 7, and 8) listed on the CCBC Website? As local works at sea has the potential to impact upon all areas of the Llandudno coastline then it would be appropriate to know what these other applications area about? However, Ms Wareham added that rather than go into detail at the meeting perhaps an email reply would be more appropriate? Mr Geraint Edwards (CCBC – ERF) replied to say that if Ms Wareham sends him an email with the planning applications then he would reply with an explanation.

## **9. LCF Website and Social Media**

Ms Alison Shields (RoB) commented that she had spoken with Mr John Farrell (RoB) about sharing access to the Llandudno Coastal Forum Website. Mr Farrell is happy to do that as long as access is given to an individual who has experience of using Word Press. This is because the Coastal Forum Website is held on Mr Farrell's own website Domain. Forum Chairman said that he is able to use Word Press with content being provided by Ms Wareham (Secretary). Ms Wareham (Secretary) commented that she is happy to provide content. Ms Shields (RoB) commented that she is happy with that arrangement and would pass that information onto Mr Farrell (RoB) to progress this. Ms Wareham (Secretary) enquired about access to the Llandudno Coastal Forum Facebook and Twitter Accounts. Forum Chairman commented that the Forum Secretary should have access to both these facilities. Ms Shields agreed and would arrange to progress access for the Forum Secretary to both of these facilities.

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

Ms Alison Shields (RoB) enquired about the progress of the Press Release. Forum Chairman commented that a meeting needed to be arranged to progress the Press Release. The Forum Chairman asked Ms Wareham (Secretary) if she would be attending also. Ms Wareham (Secretary) replied to say that she could attend. Mr Berin Jones (LLHA) commented that he had offered to help develop the Press Release adding that it would be difficult to organise four people's diaries. Forum Chairman replied to say that as Forum Secretary Ms Wareham should be able to attend. Mr Berin Jones (LLHA) agreed Ms Wareham should be able to attend the meeting. Forum Chairman suggested that a suitable date / time could be arranged and if Ms Wareham could fit in with that then she could attend. Forum Chairman went on to ask Ms Wareham if she would initiate the email to set up that arrangement. Ms Wareham

(Secretary) agreed to send out the email to arrange the meeting. Mr Berin Jones (LLHA) added that he would also be able to send out the email to make arrangements for the meeting.

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

##### **Reference 9: Email from Jade Prince at Crackit Productions**

Ms Debbie Wareham (Secretary) had received an email from Jade Prince, Assistant Producer at a London Television Production Company, *Crackit Productions*, asking if Forum Members may know of residents whose properties had been affected by flooding / coastal erosion for possible inclusion in a Channel five programme called '*Britain's Horror Homes*'? Mr Ken Finch (CCBC) commented that CCBC had received a similar email and their Press Office had dealt with the enquiry as not being relevant to the area. It was agreed by the Forum that the request was not relevant to the area and that Ms Wareham (Secretary) would send a reply saying as much.

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

**The date of the next meeting is 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2015, at 18:00hrs in the Town Hall, Llandudno.**

**MEETING ENDED 20:10HRS**