



LLANDUDNO  
COASTAL  
FORUM

FFORWM  
ARFORDIROL  
LLANDUDNO

## **MINUTES**

### **Thursday 1st December, 2016**

#### **1. THOSE PRESENT**

Cllr Frank Bradfield - Conwy County Borough Council  
Mr Peter Byron – Friends of West Shore  
Mr Owen Conry - CCBC (ERF)  
Cllr Francis Davies - Llandudno Town Council  
Mr Berin Jones - Llandudno Hospitality Association  
Cllr Dewi Miles - Conwy County Borough Council  
Mr Dyfed Rowlands – CCBC (ERF)  
Ms Alison Shields – Restore Our Beach  
Mr Mike Shields - Restore Our Beach  
Mr Nigel Treacy – Destination Conwy (**LCF Chairman**)  
Ms Debbie Wareham - Ships' Timbers (**LCF Secretary**)

#### **APOLOGIES**

Mrs Eileen Burrows - Llandudno Chamber of Trade  
Cllr Dave Cowans – Conwy County Borough Council  
Mr Geraint Edwards – CCBC (ERF)  
Mr John Farrell – RoB has now resigned  
Mr Edward Hiller - Mostyn Estates Ltd  
Cllr Greg JT Robbins - Llandudno Town Council (**LCF Vice- Chairman**)

#### **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

#### **3. MINUTES**

**3.1** To receive and accept the Minutes of the Llandudno Coastal Forum meeting held on **Thursday 17th November, 2016** (previously circulated via email) as a true record of the meeting.

Proposed by Cllr Francis Davies (LITC), and seconded by Mr Berin Jones (LHA)

### **3.2 Matters Arising from Minutes, Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> November, 2016**

Cllr Frank Bradfield commented on the high standard of the Minutes and expressed his thanks for the printing of the minutes. Cllr Bradfield asked that, 'the amount of professionalism that goes into this group', is noted in the minutes.

Cllr Dewi Miles (CCBC – Elected Representative) asked if AECOM were going to be returning to give another presentation to the Coastal Forum.

Mr Dyfed Rowlands (CCBC – ERF) replied to confirm that AECOM were scheduled for three or four meetings to attend the Forum to present their findings. The aim was that once AECOM had completed a piece of work they would come back to the Forum and present their findings at that stage. When a Draft version is ready AECOM will return for Forum Members to comment on. And the AECOM Team will be available again at the end of the process.

### **4. URGENT ITEM**

None received at the time of publication.

### **5. LLANDUDNO BEACH MANAGEMENT PLAN – UPDATE**

#### **5.1, 5.2**

Mr Owen Conry (CCBC – ERF) confirmed that further to the last meeting, he had sent a screen shot via email of all the reports that were sent to AECOM. Ms Alison Shields (RoB) emphasised the importance of AECOM having the reports that led to the current means of sea defence being chosen for the North Shore, as the reports explained that Llandudno should not have had that type of sea defence. Mr Dyfed Rowlands (CCBC – ERF) confirmed that a list of all the reports sent to AECOM would be sent out for circulation to Members and if anything had been left out to let him know.

Mr Berin Jones (LHA) asked if AECOM had received the Ships' Timbers shoreline heritage information as it was not on the list? Mr Dyfed Rowlands (CCBC – ERF) replied to say that AECOM had received that information as the heritage sites were labelled on the Consultation Documents and the Report that Ships' Timbers had produced. Mr Owen Conry (CCBC – ERF) also confirmed that information was sent. Ms Debbie Wareham (Ships' Timbers) said she would resend the information as the north shore list had been amended since Ms Wareham gave the initial presentation to the Forum about the north shore heritage.

Mr Nigel Treacy (Chair) asked the Forum if everyone was happy that all the information had been sent to the Consultancy Team?

Mr Berin Jones (LHA) commented that the AECOM Team were focussed purely on Options that were put to Public Consultation and as a Forum that was our initial work but now we have moved beyond that based on the Public's Feedback as to what they were prepared to see. That was an idea generating process and getting that feedback from the Public meant that is the direction that we understood the Public wanted us to go down. Mr Jones added that his concerns still were that the majority of the work still seems to be around the initial concept ideas that we had instead of really driving forward on what the public told us they wanted in the Consultation which is a risk for us if they ignore the feedback we were given.

Mr Dyfed Rowlands (CCBC – ERF) replied to say that AECOM had received all the responses and the questionnaires that we received for north shore and for west shore and they have also had copies of our summary report so that gives an idea of what the public's feelings are for both beaches. Mr Dyfed Rowlands (CCBC – ERF) commented that CCBC had asked the Consultant to have a look at those comments, and to incorporate them within the options that they will take forward for both beaches.

Ms Alison Shields (RoB) asked if the Consultant had all relevant documents that may be in the archives adding that the plans for the original Groyne Field are also there.

Mr Dyfed Rowlands (CCBC – ERF) replied to say that they could direct the Consultants to have a look in the archives for more information. Mr Owen Conry (CCBC – ERF) asked if there was a contact in the archive or reference to additional information that would be useful.

Mr Dyfed Rowlands (CCBC – ERF) added that if they have link to the Coastal Forum Drop Box Facility they could add all the additional documents into there for everyone to see.

Ms Debbie Wareham (Ships' Timbers) asked for further clarification about the archive data pointing out that she had noticed from the list of files sent to AECOM that the monitoring data on the beach started from 1997 and she wondered if there was additional earlier monitoring data, and if that would have a contribution? Ms Wareham added that when monitoring data was previously discussed in the Forum early data was suggested as possibly being incomplete?

Mr Dyfed Rowlands (CCBC – ERF) stated that Conwy started in 1996 and that is why we have the records from that date onwards. Earlier data can be looked at, and shared, but it would have been Aberconwy data.

Ms Wareham (Ships' Timbers) asked what the monitoring data will be used for?

Mr Dyfed Rowlands (CCBC – ERF) replied to say surveys are carried out twice a year to assess beach levels, whether the beach is going up or down. That data will be useful for the Consultant to determine what has been happening in the Bay over a period of years, and the effects of the storms. How stable the beach is.

Ms Wareham (CCBC – ERF) added if storm data would be used and if they wanted local historic data such as that contained in local Coastguard records? Mr Dyfed Rowlands (CCBC – ERF) confirmed that the Consultant will be using such data, and they will ask if historic data is needed as well.

Mr Nigel Treacy (Chair) summarised that this is the last chance to discuss the information that can be sent to the Consultant.

Mr Mike Shields (RoB) mentioned that a few pictures had been put on Facebook showing the north shore following the latest recent storm. A lot of material had been lost from the beach after the northerly wind. Mr Shields (RoB) asked if they will be topped up again, or will stones be cleared from the lower beach as the stones deposited there are covered in a green slime. May people have been asking about this matter.

Mr Dyfed Rowlands (CCBC – ERF) commented that we are monitoring levels of the beach and Conwy's Cabinet agreed that until we had a solution going forward for Llandudno we continue with our existing maintenance regime. Mr Dyfed Rowlands (CCBC – ERF) added that they will look at that.

Mr Nigel Treacy (Chair) introduced the next discussion of timescales for the delivery of the BMP.

Mr Dyfed Rowlands (CCBC – ERF) commented that we would hopefully have something that we would be happy with by the end of this financial year. Then once we agree the options as a Forum we go out to the Public again saying these are options that could work in Llandudno, which ones do you prefer, so that then we can do the detailed design modelling etc, and secure funding to implement it.

Ms Wareham (Ships' Timbers) asked at what point would the public consultation be?

Mr Dyfed Rowlands (CCBC – ERF) replied to say that what they generally do is when they have some detailed options that they are thinking of implementing, we go out and consult with the public, then we get further feedback from the Public on which ones they prefer, and dependent upon the cost / benefit and where the funding is coming from and where they meet all the compliance of the legislation such as the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 where we have to ensure that we have to ensure that we have multi-benefits on everything we deliver. This would be after the Beach Management Plan has been completed.

Ms Alison Shields (RoB) commented that in a previous Coastal Forum Meeting the point was raised about why breakwaters were being included, adding that Geraint had said that some of the options that were not voted for have to be included, because they may attract funding. Ms Shields (Rob) point was that if they are included in another consultation to the Public, the Public are not going to feel that they have been listened to, and will ask what was the point of going to the first Consultation? Ms Shields (Rob) commented that she was concerned about that, and how it makes the Forum, and CCBC look?

Mr Dyfed Rowlands (CCBC – ERF) replied to say that what we would do as a Forum is whatever options we have identified so far, and have consulted on, and the Consultant comes back and says it is not possible to

do that, we need to say that to the Public. We need to say that these options were favourable but unfortunately, they are not possible and give reasons. It is important to give feedback on the work that has been done here.

Ms commented that the Public are looking at the options at lots of different levels, protection being one. But they are looking at Llandudno Bay as an iconic view, worldwide, and everybody knows it as that. So to put those other options back in the running when the Public did not vote for them, when they are not aesthetically pleasing, they are not going to fit into a traditional Victorian Bay. We are protecting the view of Llandudno.

Mr Dyfed Rowlands (CCBC – ERF) commented that it is for this Forum to decide which options we are to present in the future. The Consultant may come back with ideas that are feasible, but at the end of the day it is this Forum and CCBC, who decide what will go back to the Public.

Cllr Dewi Miles (CCBC – ERF) suggested that we need to develop broad shoulders. Not everyone will like what we do, and some will be absolutely against it. Cllr Dewi Miles asked if the costings will be put out with the options, and the costing will have to be found, but that will not be down to us.

The point which was emphasised by Mr Berin Jones and Ms Alison Shields was that it is the options that the Public were totally against are being questioned here as to why they should be redelivered in a second consultation.

Cllr Francis Davies commented that we want the best option for the Town such that it looks like it hasn't been touched. Cllr Davies added that he had just returned from Blackpool and the work on the beach there was fantastic. Cllr Davies emphasised that he wants the best we can do for Llandudno. The current rocks on the beach, was the wrong option, and it is still the wrong option.

Mr Nigel Treacy (Chair) asked the Forum if we need to present our concerns in context of what the end product is going to look like? Do we need to be clearer about that, and present our Terms of Reference to the Consultant?

Ms Debbie Wareham (Ships' Timbers) commented that as she understands, the point that Mr Dyfed Rowlands made about the options, is that the Forum has a lot of dialogue to have with the Consultant. Ms Wareham agrees with what has been said about the Public not wanting these massive offshore breakwaters, for the scour, rip currents etc. When we have this dialogue, and have more technical information to consider, and then consult within our own networks, then those options won't necessarily get to the top of what we present to the Public. But as annoying as it is, to still see them, the Consultants still have to consider them and then when we look at what means of sea defence there are, there are not a huge amount to choose from, groyne field, off-shore breakwater, submerged breakwater. So what do we do, we might have a bit of a pick and mix of all of that to get what we want.

Ms Alison Shields (Rob) emphasised that it is about protecting the iconic view of the Bay which brings in visitors into Llandudno and Conwy County.

Mr Nigel Treacy (Chair) asks if the Terms of Reference of the Coastal Forum need to be specific of that point?

Mr Berin Jones (LHA) suggests that this key discussion is now moved to Item 10: Matters Arising.

This is agreed by Members.

Mr Berin Jones (LHA) asks about timescales and expresses his concerns that the lengthier process may affect getting funding for the next step from Welsh Government.

Mr Dyfed Rowlands (CCBC – ERF) replies to conform that this will not affect funding for the next step as the Welsh Government has a Coastal Risk Management program which covers the whole of Wales and they have timescales for the delivery for different pieces of work and as long as we are within the timescales even if we leave it until the end of the financial year to bid for the second phase of works, the design scale / modelling part of the work we will be okay. We are within those timescales.

Mr Nigel Treacy (Chair) asks the duration of the new works once implemented?

Mr Dyfed Rowlands (CCBC – ERF) replies that fifty years is suggested but he will ask for clarification of why that it suggested.

### 5.3

Mr Nigel Treacy (Chair) asks for feedback from Members about the previous presentation from AECOM and has the circulated PDF of the presentation solved the problem of information needed at this time?

Members were of the opinion that they could not see or hear the Presentation properly at that time. The coverage at that time was not encouraging and felt rushed, and there was not depth. That said this was understandable given that the Consultancy Team had only just started the work, and it was really meant as an opportunity for the Team to introduce themselves.

Mr Owen Conry (CCBC – ERF) confirmed that this is just the start of the work and nothing more.

Ms Alison Shields (Rob) explained that the presentation material was very complicated.

Mr Dyfed Rowlands (CCBC – ERF) commented that he would ask AECOM for a less technical summary of the work they will be doing for circulation and dissemination to the Public.

Mr Nigel Treacy (Chair) suggested that a 'Press Release' or statement may be timely to keep people updated.

Members agreed to this suggestion.

Mr Nigel Treacy asked for a statement from CCBC and AECOM

Mr Dyfed Rowlands (CCBC – ERF) commented that as the project develops momentum CCBC want to share information with people when there is something to say. That could be on the CCBC or LCF websites. And they will provide that information. The aim was to do that before Christmas for comments, which can then be amended.

Mr Berin Jones (LHA) suggests regular updates on both websites.

This was agreed.

Ms Debbie Wareham (Forum Secretary) asked about the question and answers sent further to the AECOM presentation

Mr Dyfed Rowlands (CCBC – ERF) commented that if Members wanted to have any further clarification to get in contact. It was confirmed that the other locations of where fish tail groynes had been used successfully would be sent.

#### 5.4

Mr Dyfed Rowlands and Mr Owen Conry (CCBC – ERF) explained that AECOM are working very hard on the Llandudno BMP. It was suggested to meet informally on the north shore with the AECOM Team to ask questions. And the next update will be around Christmas time.

This was agreed by Forum Members. Dates and times would be circulated.

## 6. NORTH SHORE INTERIM WORK

### 6.1 July 2016 works – Movement of heritage item on the north shore

Ms Debbie Wareham (Ships' Timbers) explained that during the interim works in July 2016, one of the heritage items had been moved. Ms Debbie Wareham (Ships' Timbers) commented that she only became aware of this at the end of the summer. After contacting the Contractor, the piece was put back to its original location. Ms Wareham expressed her concerns that despite having walked the site with the Contractor before works started she felt that should not have happened.

Mr Dyfed Rowlands (CCBC – ERF) apologised that this had happened adding that he would look in to this to make sure it did not happen again.

Ms Wareham (Ships' Timbers) suggested that walking the site at the end of the works might be a good idea when the interim works take place next time. This was agreed.

## 6.2 Interim works for 2017

Mr Dyfed Rowlands (CCBC – ERF) visited Llandudno Town Council to ask for funding to remove stones from the beach. The Town Council asked for a breakdown of costs to do this. This information has been provided. To date they have not replied to say if they will fund this. Proposed works for 2017, would be in the same area as 2016. Cabinet have agreed to interim works being done subject to funding. All options considered can be taken forward if money is made available. Re-using / replacing migrated stones back to the upper foreshore is usual during interim works. If any works are needed doing now to re-profile the upper foreshore further to the recent storms that will be done.

Mr Berin Jones (LHA) asked about contacting Tourism for a contribution to costs suggesting that it is important to have this work done.

Mr Dyfed Rowlands (CCBC – ERF) commented that once confirmation of funding had been given if there was a shortfall he would look into that alternative costing option.

## 7. LLANDUDNO COASTAL FORUM LOGO

Ms Wareham (Secretary) pointed out that as membership of the LCF had altered since formation, the footer used with group member logos on it, e.g. as the RNLI are no longer members of the Forum, needed changing to reflect that.

Mr Nigel Treacy (Chair) agreed to address that.

## 8. WALES AUDIT OFFICE REPORT RE:LLANDUDNO NORTH SHORE COASTAL DEFENCE WORK 2014

8.1 To consider the findings from the Audit and Governance Committee Meeting of Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2016. Feedback from Cllr Frank Bradfield, and Cllr Dewi Miles.

Cllr Frank Bradfield (CCBC – Elected Representative) explains there was nothing to report to the Forum on this document about the restoring the beach. It was an Audit to examine the tendering process, and how the money was spent, and not a report to scrutinise the reason for that.

## 9. COSTS OF USING COUNCIL CHAMBER FOR COASTAL FORUM MEETINGS AFTER 1<sup>ST</sup> APRIL, 2017

Ms Wareham (Secretary) explained that following 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2017, LCF would have to pay for use of the Council Chamber.

Mr Dyfed Rowlands (CCBC – ERF) confirmed that he would mention this to Geraint.



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

10.1 Mr Mike Shields (RoB) mentioned that Mr John Farrell pays for the LCF Website Hosting but did not wish to continue with this. Mr Farrell will email the Forum Chair about this matter.

Options for funding were discussed.

10.2 Members discussed the numbers of representatives from Friends of West Shore. It was agreed that this should remain as one, and that representative will continue to be Mr Peter Byron.

10.3 Members discussed whether the Forum needed their Terms of Reference to be more concise to protect the iconic view of Llandudno of the Bay. It was agreed to emphasise this at the next meeting with the Consultant on the North Shore.

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

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

To be agreed at the next meeting.

**PLEASE ADVISE ANY APOLOGIES IN ADVANCE**