

LYME REGIS TOWN COUNCIL

COASTAL FORUM MEETING

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 24 OCTOBER 2013

- Chairman:** Cllr Ms. S. Holman, Mayor of Lyme Regis
- LRTC:** Cllr C. Clipson, Cllr Mrs. L. Jenkin, Cllr T. O'Grady
- WDDC:** Mr. N. Browning (client project manager)
- Halcrow:** Mr. G. Davis (supervising consultant) and Mr. C. Evans (contract supervisor)
- Dean & Dyball:** Mr. C. Hill (main contractor)
- Guests:** Mr. J. Bragg, Mr. J. Cook, Mrs. I. Etherington, Mr. M. Etherington, M. Furber, Mr. K. Gollop, Mr. D. Hallett, P. Howse, Mr. J. Moseley, Mrs P. Moseley, Mr G. Ottewell, Mrs. G. Peed, Mr. P. Peed, Mr F. Price, Mrs R. Price, T. Sage, Mrs A. Sankey, Mr P. Sankey, Mr J. Sargant, Mr J. Thomas, Mr D. Venes, Mrs J. Waldron, Mr P. Williams, Mr S. Williams, Miss A. Jenkin, Mr L. Irving, Mrs P. Kaxe, Mrs A. Driver, Mr C. Williams, Mrs M. Williams, Mrs G. Whiteley, Mrs J. Bayliss, Mrs C. Clipson, Mr P. Evans

Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs J. Beadle, Mr C. Davies, Mrs S. Davies, Cllr Mrs M. Ellis, Cllr M. Gage, Mr R. Gollop, P. Hawsworth, Mrs M. Hedges, Mrs J. Hedley-Tuffs, Cllr Mrs M. Penfold, Mrs A. Sargant, Mr J. Tesoriere, Mr G. Thomas, Mr B. Thornber, Mr C. Boothroyd, Cllr Miss L. Campbell, Cllr D. Turner, Miss S. Whitemore.

Matters arising from the notes of the previous meeting held on 11 April 2013

Mr S. Williams was concerned about the loss of parking at Charmouth Road car park, which he believed caused a great deal of harm to the town in the busy periods. He asked how many spaces there had been at the maximum and how many spaces there were now. Mr N. Browning responded that he would check on the numbers. He added that measures had been put in place to offset the loss of parking and by summer 2014 the situation will have improved.

Cllr T. O'Grady said there were a lot more heavy plant vehicles travelling through Church Street than expected and asked if the surface was being monitored. Mr N. Browning responded that they walk down the street most days and they would check the condition of the road with Dorset County Council when the scheme is complete.

Phase IV Coast Protection Scheme

Mr. N. Browning's presentation is available from the town council office.

Mr. C. Hill's presentation is available from the town council office.

Alan Kennard from Lyme Regis Museum was concerned about the closure of East Cliff being extended until November 2014 and the impact this could have on the museum's footfall. Mr Browning responded that the formal closure applies to East Cliff, the lane at the top of the cliff, and not Gun Cliff Walk, where limited pedestrian access remains open. He added that they would be meeting county council officers to discuss how the proposed footpath will link with the coastal

footpath. Mr Kennard said he would like to think the museum and others could act as public information points about the natural environment. Mr Kennard also questioned the use of plant seed collected on Portland and measures being taken to protect rare moths.

Mr S. Williams asked when the parking spaces would be available again and when the scheme would be finished. Mr C. Hill responded that they were looking to reduce the Charmouth Road compound and to have most of the main civil works completed in May 2014.

Mr D. Hallett said it was important to protect the rare moths and butterflies. He also thanked the workmen for their hard work and the site managers for handling the project well. This was applauded by the meeting. Mr C. Hill said he would pass this on to the workforce.

Cllr Chris Clipson said he hoped that when the contractors withdrew from Gun Cliff Walk, the state of the fencing and lighting would be dealt with by WDDC as they were in need of repair. Mr Browning said that some lighting repairs had already been done and WDDC will arrange further repair and maintenance to lighting and handrails when the seawall construction work is complete.

Mrs P Moseley said she lives in Charmouth Road and the disruption and noise from the works and traffic had been minimal, for which she thanked the project team, and this was applauded by the meeting.

A member of the public asked about responsibility for the maintenance of handrails, steps and lighting on Gun Cliff Walk, which were part of the Phase I works, completed in 1994/5. Mr Browning said WDDC is responsible for this area, with financial contributions from South West Water, and WDDC would look at it as soon as the Phase IV contract is finished.

Mr D. Venes asked about the foreshore haul road and whether there would be any advantage to leaving it in position. Mr C Hill responded that it is not permitted to leave this imported material on the foreshore and that and most of it will be used as backfill behind the new sea wall.

A member of the public asked if planning permission had been sought and granted for the footpath from Charmouth Road car park. Mr Browning responded that he understands that the footpath does not require planning consent. Mr D. Hallett said there had historically been a path there, which led to the allotments, but it had disappeared during a landslide.

Mrs A. Sankey said work at the churchyard had left quite a drop down and asked whether a fence will be provided. Mr Browning said details of the proposed fence had been sent to the Parochial Church Council. They and WDDC's heritage architect had commented on the proposals and there would be further discussion.

The Mayor, Cllr Ms S. Holman thanked the project team on behalf of the town and said there had been many compliments, particularly with regard to traffic management.

Any Other Business

No items were raised.

Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held in early May 2014, date and time to be confirmed, when the major construction works should be coming to an end.