

Queen's Harbour Master's Office

Longroom
 RM Barracks
 Stonehouse

QHM/532/3

25 March 2008

NOTES OF THE TAMAR ESTUARIES CONSULTATIVE FORUM MEETING HELD AT 1015 ON THURSDAY 13 MARCH 2008 IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM HM NAVAL BASE DEVONPORT

<u>Present</u>	<u>Representing</u>
Commander S Layland Royal Navy	Chairman and Queen's Harbour Master (QHM)
Lt Cdr R Smith	DQHM
Mr A Winder	Devon County Council (DCC Coastal Officer)
Miss P Hoskin	Cornwall County Council (CCC)
Ms J Perry	West Devon Borough Council (WDBC)
Cllr P Beaumont	Caradon District Council (CDC)
Mr R Toogood	South Devon A.O.N.B. / SHDC
Mr R Swinfen	Wembury Conservation Group (WCG)
Ms K Curry	Coastal Officer (CO)
Captain T Charlesworth	Cattewater Harbour Commissioners (CHC)
Captain T Andrews	Associated British Ports (ABP)
Mrs Newell	Environment Agency (EA)
Miss S Clarke	Devon Sea Fisheries
Mr P Ford	Plymouth City Council
Cllr Fielden	South Hams District Council
Cllr Preston	Cornwall County Council
Mr Whitby	Marine Fisheries Agency
Mrs R Teverson	Tamar Valley AONB
Mrs C Wilcock	Minute Secretary

<u>Item</u>	<u>Discussion and Decisions</u>	<u>Action</u>
1. Introduction.	1. Cdr S Layland welcomed those present to the meeting and introduced himself as the new QHM. He invited members to introduce themselves and identify their respective organisations.	
2. Apologies for Absence.	1. Apologies for absence had been received from Mr G Black – Natural England, Mr P Bromley – Sutton Harbour Company, Cllr Jordan and Cllr Leaves – Plymouth City Council, Dr Salvatore – Plymouth City Council, and Mrs Thomasson – Environment Agency.	
3. Notes of	1. With the exception of <i>2a Miss P Hoskin "offered to be involved;</i>	

Previous Meeting.	<i>not actually facilitate it</i> " the notes of the previous meeting held on 12 December 2007 were accepted.	
4. Matters Arising.	<p>1. <u>Dockyard Port of Plymouth Order</u> DQHM is currently working on the 2008 version. It is planned that it will not be a complete re-write but an amendment which will show what is to be added and deleted. The main changes include the exclusion zone around ships and jetties to be made 100 metres and making the VHF Channel 14 mandatory. The amendments will be promulgated on the website for consultation. Mr Whitby suggested that the fishing regulations be included on the QHM website.</p> <p>2. <u>Diving Areas</u> The designated diving areas off Raveness Point and the Breakwater Fort are no longer exclusively used and have been removed from Admiralty Charts. The area off Fort Bovisand will be retained.</p> <p>3. <u>Conrad Humphries "Blue"</u> CO investigated this environmental initiative and as yet has had no response.</p>	DQHM
5. Management Plan Delivery	<p>1. CO passed out a brief that she had created for all to read.</p> <p><u>Action Plan</u></p> <p>i) The Management Plan is a working document that will be worked on over the next 4 – 5 years. Mr Winder queried whether the implementation of the Marine Bill would be included. CO hoped that it would be covered if not next year then possibly the year after.</p> <p><u>Delivery Plan & Method & Key Activities</u></p> <p>ii) This is a live document which shows what needs to be in place. Where no partners are identified volunteers are requested. Action: All to review document and inform CO of projects / outcomes they will assist in delivering. Any new information to be input is requested to be sent by e-mail and not to be kept until the following TECF meetings. Action: An electronic copy of this plan will be forwarded by the CO by e-mail. Mr Winder commented that it is a good plan and that focus is needed on the critical projects and prioritisation is something that needs to be considered. A suggestion was put forward that another column be made to show the priority of each item. Action: CO to prioritise activities. Q reiterated the need to liaise between meetings in order to keep on top of this and to keep the good reputation of the TECF.</p> <p><u>Sherford</u></p>	All CO CO

	<p>Cllr Fielden notified TECF that there is to be a site visit to Sherford on Mon 14 Apr 08 and it would go before South Hams District Council on Wed 23 Apr 08.</p>	
	<p><u>Coastal Supplementary Planning Document</u></p> <p>It was suggested that Teignbridge District Council be informed of the work being done regarding the Coastal SPD. Action</p> <p><u>Weir Quay</u></p> <p>Mrs Teverson stated that there had been a large public consultation and a vote was taken. There is a very strong opinion that they wanted nothing to be done. The Management Plan identified this area as a restricted area. The steering group asked for the Silver Mine car park to be resurfaced. There is no steering group now but it will re-form if required.</p>	CO
6. Financial Statement & Funding	<p>1. The financial position is included in the CO brief. She apologised for not getting this out sooner. It has been requested that CO produce the formula that is used to work out the costing of the levy on new houses. Action: CO to circulate formula.</p>	CO
7. Memorandum of Agreement	<p>1. See attached brief by CO. The changes were discussed. These changes include the removal of the inflation rate which will now be an agreed market rate to be applied each year, clarification on liability limits and clauses on negligence and the liability now being pro-rata. These changes were seen as reasonable. CO would like any comments by 21 Mar 08. Hopefully the document will then be completed just after Easter. Nil returns will be taken as an agreement.</p>	CO
8. Rame Head Disposal Site	<p>1. Cllr Beaumont stated that Caradon District Council are aware that there is local concern. QHM stated that any concerns will be noted and that the various bodies of TECF need to keep a watch on it and that any conditions are complied with. Mr Whitby stated that Marine Fisheries Agency would be working to ensure that all regulations regarding dredging are complying with.</p>	
9. Foreshore Dumping of Garden Waste	<p>1. A letter has been received by e-mail about dumping of garden waste. DQHM read out paragraph 10 of the Dockyard Port Order which states that QHM has the power to prosecute individuals. Cllr Beaumont said that he would inform Caradon District Council and the local residents of QHM powers to prosecute and this should discourage any future dumping. QHM said that he will respond to the letter and also mentioned that fly tipping was a problem at Jennycliff.</p>	SL

10. E-Mail Distribution	1. QHM has stated that from now on the TECF minutes will be forwarded by e-mail and a hard copy would be made available to those who require it. He re-iterated the point that the best way to progress was to liaise with each other between meetings.									
11. Any Other Business.	<p>1. Phillipa Hoskin reported that it is proposed that the new unitary authority for Cornwall will have a new Maritime Service which will benefit TECF. There will be better co-ordination but will be disruptive for the next year. There will be 13 significant ports coming under the auspices of the new authority.</p> <p>2. Rosemary Teverson reported that the Tamar Valley AONB is consulting on the next management plan. They are currently carrying out a Touring Exhibition. The website address for any comments is www.tamarvalley.org.uk Action: ensure input from TECF</p> <p>3. DQHM provided an update on events for 2008:</p> <table border="0" data-bbox="386 842 1114 982"> <tr> <td>11 May</td> <td>TRANSAT</td> </tr> <tr> <td>14-15 June</td> <td>Power Boat Race</td> </tr> <tr> <td>21-22 June</td> <td>Round Britain Power Boat Race</td> </tr> <tr> <td>27 July-3 Aug</td> <td>PPSA Regatta</td> </tr> </table> <p>All events can be viewed in the Water Events Diary on the QHM website. The website address is www.qhm.plymouth.org.uk</p> <p>4. CHC are completing the bed levelling exercise to regain depths. The Barbican Landing Stage will be open in May and the Sutton Lock Gate works are now complete.</p> <p>5. Mr Winder stated that there will be a Devon Maritime Forum on 15 May 08.</p> <p>6. Mrs S Clarke informed TECF that a new officer, Andy Watton had been appointed. The patrol boat would be around more now that the lock gate works are complete.</p> <p>7. CO mentioned that the EU Commissioner for Fishing would be coming to Devon 28 Apr 08. The sponsor for this event is the South West Regional Development Agency and the South West UK Brussels Office. CO will provide a brief on TECF to show the benefits of a committee on maritime matters.</p> <p>8. Mr Whitby asked if there are any links to similar Estuaries Associations around the UK. CO replied that there is a Coastal Partnership Forum which is being held next month which she will be attending.</p>	11 May	TRANSAT	14-15 June	Power Boat Race	21-22 June	Round Britain Power Boat Race	27 July-3 Aug	PPSA Regatta	CO
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	9. QHM informed TECF that there will be a large submarine move during early summer which would mean a control of waterspace and parts of the port will need to be shut.									
8. Proposed Date/Time of next meetings	1. Dates for future TECF and PPMLC meetings as follows: <table data-bbox="342 405 1289 548"> <tr> <td data-bbox="342 405 1084 443"><u>PPMLC</u></td> <td data-bbox="1084 405 1289 443"><u>TECF</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="342 443 1084 480">12 June 2008</td> <td data-bbox="1084 443 1289 480">17 July 2008</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="342 480 1084 518">16 October 2008</td> <td data-bbox="1084 480 1289 518">13 November</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="342 518 1084 548">2008</td> <td data-bbox="1084 518 1289 548"></td> </tr> </table>	<u>PPMLC</u>	<u>TECF</u>	12 June 2008	17 July 2008	16 October 2008	13 November	2008		
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Enclosures:

1. Coastal Officer Brief.

Coastal Officer Briefing for TECF

March 2008

European Marine Site

1.2 Monitoring

An application has been made to Natural England for £38,000 towards monitoring the site during 2008/9. This includes following actions to monitor the eelgrass, saltmarshes and reedbeds as well as developing the recreational and scientific information management systems. Response awaited.

Coordination of Management Framework

2.1 Memorandum of Agreement (see item later on agenda)

The Memorandum of Agreement was recirculated prior to Christmas and some comments and responses have been received. Up to last week, of the funding partners 6 were happy to sign (albeit with some minor alterations), 1 was unwilling and 6 were unknown. Of the non-funding partners, 1 was willing, 2 were unwilling and 1 was unknown.

Financial Statement & Funding

Category	Budget 07-08	Spent to date
Salaries & on-costs	45,975	26,999
Recruitment	0	3,688
Training	0	4
Printing & Stationery	0	579
Travel & Subs	652	492
Computer	0	909
Projects	873	0
Total Exp	47,500	32,671
Income	-47,500	-48,280
Net Balance	0	-15,609

There will be an anticipated surplus of c£12,000 at the end of the year due to savings on salaries since TECF was without a Coastal Officer for most of the summer and autumn. It is suggested that this be rolled forward and part of this be put aside for contingency and part be used for projects and any training required by the CO. Alternatively, funding partners may wish to keep part of it as a reserve to fund any redundancies or other liabilities.

Invoices will be issued early in the new financial year and prompt payment will be appreciated

2.3 Management Plan & Work Programme

Work has been carried out on programming actions in order to ensure the implementation of the Management Plan. In the attached document, 31 projects have been drawn up that

deliver key actions of the Management Plan and most importantly, the timing of key actions have been identified. This will be a working document and will be the key tool for prioritising actions, and monitoring progress of Management Plan delivery.

There are gaps so partners will need to look at the table, and fill in actions in the appropriate box and send back to CO. The Plan will be kept on the TECF website.

2.5 *Planning Obligations and Section 106s*

Work is still ongoing and the formula is being refined. The costs of managing the recreational impacts on the EMS have been adjusted to include the Yealm. Confirmation is being sought for the length of period for which contributions should cover and the population for which the costs should be spread over.

This will be applied to both the Planning Obligations for all new developments within Plymouth, but also to Sherford (5,500 dwellings) and Plymstock Quarry (1,650 dwellings).

2.7 *Marine Bill*

Draft Marine Bill expected early April. CO to prepare briefing paper once Bill released.

3 Information Management

3.1 *Integrated Monitoring & Research Programme*

Establishment of monitoring group scheduled for April – June 08. **Anyone willing to take part – names to CO please.**

4 Landscape & Biodiversity Conservation

4.1 & 4.2 *Actions from partners please*

4.3 *Marine Conservation Zone*

Meeting of key partners scheduled for 14th March. Project proposal being refined, and potential funding sources identified. Task for next couple of months will be to finalise brief and apply for funding. Key challenge will be to ensure process follows that of Finding Sanctuary with full user involvement and consultation.

5 Historic Environment

5.1 *Improving management*

CO was due to attend training conference in Plymouth on this matter, but event was cancelled at very short notice.

PCC are to complete their Historic Environment Record database; completion date as yet not known.

6 Water Quality

6.2 *Preventing non-toxic contamination*

Review of Consents: Environment Agency have completed the review of all consents in the Tamar and Yealm.

7 Waterfront & Marine Development & Commerce

7.1 *Coastal Supplementary Planning Document*

Meeting held for all local authorities to share knowledge. Recognition that Plymouth's Local Delivery Framework is further ahead than other authorities; others agreed to keep watching brief.

For Plymouth, timetable is to prepare draft by summer so this will form a major part of the CO's work over the coming months. Plymouth's Coastal Planning SPD will:

- Amplify the policies in the Core Strategy relating to coastal planning matters, explaining how they can be implemented within the context of ensuring the sustainable development of Plymouth's waterfront.
- Address the impacts of additional recreational use in the area. In particular ensuring that development is delivered in a way that avoids adverse impacts on the integrity of the Natura 2000 sites.
- Set out coastal planning application considerations
- Provide guidance on coastal and marine consents and consultation procedures.

Longer term:

Plymouth will work with its TECF partners towards developing a Marine Spatial Planning approach for the Port of Plymouth area, which integrates with the current Local Development Framework process, providing a comprehensive management approach to the area and reflects the anticipated objectives for increased marine spatial planning to come in the Marine Bill.

Coastal Development – General

EA has called meeting with key licensing organizations to discuss issues regarding enforcement and to help ensure co-ordinated approach for Plymouth. Planned to be a quarterly meeting. Need to consider whether similar approach is needed for Caradon and West Devon.

7.2 *Shoreline Management Plan*

Work currently being undertaken on data collection for the Shoreline Management Plan for Durlston Head to Rame Head – this is an update on the previous Plan, however, this time it will extend up the estuaries to the tidal limits for the first time. Teignbridge are the lead authority and information will be supplied to them on all the data held by TECF. Key time will be October when they start to draw lines on maps.

9. Navigation

9.1 *Dredging*

Still awaiting latest guidance from DEFRA. Once officially released, will ensure the brief for the piece of work is compliant with guidance. Can then go ahead and put brief out for quote and secure funding.

10. Public Access, Recreation & Moorings

10.1 *Upper Tamar Estuary*

Meetings shortly to take place to identify next steps for Weir Quay following the public consultation.

11. Awareness & Understanding

12. *Estuary Education Programme*

Names please for the Estuaries Educators Group please.

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