



Greystones Harbour Community Liaison Committee
Meeting No. 5
May 26th 2008

Present: Grainne McLoughlin (Mayor Greystones Town Council), Kathleen Kelleher (Wicklow County Council), Ciaran Hayden (Greystones Chamber of Commerce), Niall Ferns (Harbour Users Group), Sean Whooley (Rathdown Park Residents Association), Marie Burbidge (Redford Park Residents Association), Tom Fortune (Greystones Protection & Development Association), Emer Singleton (Friends of Historic Rathdown), Laurence Byrne, (St. Kevin's School), Wesley Galloway (St. Patrick's National School).

Sispar: Brendan Sheehy, Aiden Cameron, Paddy O'Rourke, Olympia O'Dea, Imelda Shanahan (TMS Environment), Sean Quirke (Wicklow County Council), Niall Brady (ADCO).

Apologies: Ciaran Demery (North Beach Residents), Derek Mitchell (Greystones Town Council), Dr Chris Smal (Friends of Historic Rathdown), Paraic Keogh (Sispar).

1. **Minutes of meeting 1ST April 2008**

Meeting minutes agreed.

2. **Project development programme status**

Brendan Sheehy of Sispar informed the meeting about the project progress to date. At this juncture 70 blocks have been cast. The first blocks were due to be placed in the water on 26th May; however this was rescheduled and are now likely to be laid within the next week. Works are within one week of the target programme.

Exploratory works are currently taking place on the harbour wall/South breakwater. The area had to be made safe prior to the commencement of the actual works. It is likely that the major demolition works will not commence fully until August. A licence has to be issued by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government before any further works can commence. It is envisaged that the current wall will be left in place until part of the replacement wall is constructed so as to provide protection from the elements.

Niall Brady from the Archaeological Diving Company informed the meeting that the survey on the Gap Bridge has been completed and that the Department are currently processing his report on same. The demolition licence will be issued accordingly when the report is approved. A request to retain the bridge was put forward by Emer

Singleton. Sean Quirke reiterated that the Gap Bridge has to be demolished as it is a requirement of the planning permission for the development.

3. Environmental Monitoring

Olympia O’Dea, Public Liaison Officer, gave a presentation on the environmental monitoring regime which is currently in place. A vast range of monitoring is ongoing including dust, noise, vibration, surface water, ground water, bathing water etc. Results to date were presented.

Exceedances of guideline values for dust were recorded along the haul road and harbour area of the site during March and April. Photographic evidence provided by the laboratory that analysed the samples shows the presence of sand and dust in these samples. Dust control measures for the site were outlined. These corrective actions are being monitored and enforced by Sispar and representatives from the environmental consultancy firm TMS Environment.

Ciaran Hayden raised the issue of the security of the dust monitors. It was reported that many of the dust gauges which are placed along the inside of heras fencing which is erected along the cliff walkway are being interfered with. Some gauges were damaged or removed and have been replaced on numerous occasions to date.

Emer Singleton raised the issue of asthma sufferers in the St. Crispin’s area and stated a cloud of dust could be seen from the harbour on occasion. Brendan Sheehy of Sispar disagreed with this remark. Olympia O’Dea stated that all complaints lodged are taken seriously, followed up and investigated to our satisfaction. Emer Singleton also enquired about bathing water results. All environmental monitoring results are filed and stored in the Public Liaison Office for public viewing.

Continuous noise and vibration monitoring have been ongoing for some weeks now. Community measurements are also taking place.

Ecologist, Brian Madden visits site on a regular basis to monitor Sand Martin activity on the North Beach. Sand Martins are currently nesting 400m North of the Gap Bridge. The nesting areas previously used by Sand Martins within the construction area have been covered by netting to avoid the possibility of construction activities interfering with nesting activities

4. Questions and answers

Grainne Mc Loughlin raised the issue of dog litter along the cliff walkway. Sispar are not responsible for clearing such waste; nor are they responsible for providing dog litter bins. Marie Burbridge stated that dog owners should be responsible for cleaning up after their dogs.

The dry stacking of boats was raised again by Ciaran Hayden from the Chamber of Commerce. Ciaran Hayden stated that boat owners bring much revenue to Greystones. He does not want to see boat owners being turned away during the season due to a lack of mooring spots. It was stated that if dry stacking is to be implemented at the development up to 60 additional boats could potentially be accommodated at the harbour.

Ciaran Hayden thanked Sispar for the wonderful presentation delivered to the members of the chamber. All present were impressed with the animation of the

construction process displayed. A commitment was made by Sispar to upload the aforementioned animation to the website for the development.

The question of how the marina berths are to be allocated was raised. Paddy O'Rourke stated that a certain quantity of apartments will be leased with marina berths as part of the package. Mr. O'Rourke assured all present that a full report on the matter would be available at the Autumn Public Liaison Committee Meeting.

The issue of parking at the harbour was raised and it was stated that Parking is strictly prohibited outside residences on the North Beach Road. 'No Parking' signs are to be erected along the hoarding along the North Beach Road and on the sailing club fencing.

Emer Singleton requested that a copy of Dr. Brady's report be issued to the Friends of Historic Rathdown. She asked whether anything of significance had been found in the casting yard since January. Niall Brady responded that nothing of archaeological significance had been discovered there.

Marie Burbridge who represents the Redford Park residents raised the issue of the Gap Bridge and requested that the culvert there is not overlooked. If it gets blocked it will affect local residents. Sispar assured her that Arup, Consultant Engineers, are currently preparing plans and designs in relation to same.

Grainne Mc Loughlin informed the meeting that the festival will not be taking place in Greystones this year; however it is likely to take place next year. She requested that a note be taken that the cancellation is not in any way connected to construction activities at the Greystones Harbour Development.

The issue of the accident free hours board at the site entrance was raised. The hours are updated on a monthly basis. A set of numbers have been ordered for the board which will enable Sispar to update the accident free hours more easily.

The meeting was informed that 6th Class pupils from St. Kevin's National School are scheduled to visit the site in early June.

Kathleen Kelleher enquired as to whether the ivy under the railway bridge had been cut back as per her request at the last meeting. Sean Quirke informed her that this had been done.

5. Date and location for next meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled to take place on 15th July 2008 at 6p.m. on site at Greystones Harbour Development. The Harbour Users meeting is scheduled to take place before this meeting.

