



**Greystones Harbour Community Liaison Committee
Meeting No. 10**

April 30th 2009

Present: Sean Quirke (Wicklow County Council), Marie Burbridge (Redford Park Residents Association), Lynne Bertram (North Beach Residents), Derek Mitchell (Greystones Town Council), Ciaran Hayden (Greystones Chamber of Commerce), Mary Egan (Harbour Residents) Sean Whooley (Rathdown Park Residents Association). Tom Fortune (Greystones Protection & Development Association), Laurence Byrne (St Kevins School)

Sispar: Paraic Keogh, Paddy O'Rourke, Catherine Rogers, Gary Weld, Ger O'Shea Imelda Shanahan (TMS Environment), Seamus Sorohan (Sisk-Lagan JV), Sean Mason (ARUP),

Apologies:, Grainne McLoughlin (Greystones Town Council), Kathleen Kelleher (Wicklow County Council)

1. The meeting was opened by Sean Quirke and the minutes of the last meeting were accepted with the following amendments:
 - (i) Marie Burbridge (Redford Park Residents Association) had queried at the last meeting whether cured blocks could be stored on the beach as opposed to along the cliff walk as there were safety concerns, also whether the green netting being used to hold back the cliff was adequate. Sean Quirke advised that block storage is safe in the current location & the green netting is to prevent sand martins nesting and its function is not to hold back the cliff.
 - (ii) Tom Fortune stated that he has found that any issues or questions he has asked have not been minuted and that this is an ongoing issue. He noted that the minutes of these meeting are a matter of public record & that it appears he is not contributing to the process. Sean Quirke noted same
 - (iii) Mary Egan advised that she had made unsuccessful attempts to contact Catherine Rogers also. In relation to the noise monitors, Mary mentioned she had requested photos of same, these were issued. Mary stated that when she requested to view the monitors on site she was advised that this was not possible due to safety concerns. Mary went on to say that she was aware that Grainne McLoughlin had visited site. Ger O'Shea (Sispar) advised that Grainne was not on site in her capacity as a town councillor but as a professional photographer. Derek Mitchell confirmed this and that Grainne had been safety inducted and had a permit to be on site. Paraic Keogh advised that it is not possible for everyone who wishes to visit site to do so. Mary stated that she has very specific issues about noise hence her request to view the monitors.

2. Code of Conduct

Sean Quirke advised that the code of conduct had been circulated following the unacceptable events at the last meeting; this code of conduct is for the benefit of all and is simply a matter of people behaving in an acceptable manner. If all are in agreement with this code of conduct then all should sign up to same. Tom Fortune stated this is a good idea and he has no issue with signing up to same. He felt since he started attending these meetings there had been an attitude of passive aggression and hopefully this code of conduct would work both ways and apply to all. He strongly believes that all parties should feel free to raise a question without being met with what he feels is passive aggression. Sean Quirke noted Tom Fortune's comments.

3. Programme Development Status

Gary Weld (Sispar) advised that block placement is in progress on both North & South Breakwaters and works to the roundheads is to commence in the next month. Paraic Keogh (Sispar) elaborated on this; good progress has been made over the last few months measured against the programme. At the last meeting programme was 3½ - 4 months behind, Sispar had hoped to recover the programme through more days worked and the introduction of the second shift. Unfortunately due to reduced opportunity to work in March & April the programme is currently 5 months behind. Paraic stated that Sispar will continue to endeavour to make up lost time and will work with the residents to deal with their issues in relation to the second shift specifically. The consequences to the project of this lost time is that the community facilities are required as a lay down area, Sispar had hoped to start works to these facilities on mid summer but that this has now been put back to the autumn.

Lynne Bertram (North Beach Residents) questioned the hours of the second shift. Paraic Keogh (Sispar) responded that the hours are 4.30pm to 2am. Lynne Bertram stated she is sleep deprived and that only 5 hours sleep is being allowed to residents. Lynne stated that there is very prominent safety signage in the area and by allowing residents such a small window of opportunity to sleep they are at risk of having an accident due to tiredness. Lynne stated that she has telephoned each night she has been disturbed and that while she has always received a call in acknowledgement of this she does not feel anything is being done for the residents. She has called WCC Planning Enforcement to lodge a complaint but that this has not been acknowledged nor has her call been returned. Lynne advised that she cannot teach her classes and her work is suffering as a result of this second shift. Lynne advised that she had raised the possibility of a night shift and the effects of weather and tides on progress at the oral hearing and she was assured that this would not happen. Lynne asked where she needs to take these issues and advised that she will go down the route of an injunction. Paraic Keogh advised that Sispar had met with WCC to discuss the 2am finish. All personnel will now have left site by 2am as opposed to ceasing operations at 2am. Noise created during this time is being monitored to ensure it is within limits established by the EIS. There were 2 no. breaches at 10pm since the introduction of the second shift which are being dealt with. Paraic acknowledged that noise under the limits is still disturbing residents. Lynne Bertram requested that works stop at a reasonable hour. Paraic Keogh (Sispar) suggested a separate session to discuss any other possible measures. Lynne Bertram reiterated her request for works to stop at night. Paraic Keogh (Sispar) stated this is not an option as the reality is work to the breakwaters is dependent on the swell of the sea, when the swell is between 600mm and 1m work cannot proceed. Work already started is at risk if a cycle is not completed. Lynne Bertram

queried whether Sispar were aware of this at the oral hearing, Paraic Keogh advised that Sispar were not aware of this at that time. Sean Quirke noted there was a provision for such works in the planning permission. Lynne Bertram stated that she was not aware at that time that this would occur every night.

Mary Egan supported Lynne Bertram's position, and stated that night works, lighting and noise are causing considerable disturbance until 2am nightly. Regarding health & safety Mary stated that people are in danger of developing long term sleeping disorders and or dependency on sleeping medication. Mary Egan also added that she would like to see the harbour completed as soon as possible. Sean Quirke queried what this issue with lighting was, Mary stated that some of the lighting is intrusive and that light left on at the hoarding is far too bright. Seamus Sorohan (Sisk-Lagan JV) advised that he would investigate this but that any lights that are left on are for safety reasons as security are patrolling the area. Mary Egan questioned why a torch cannot be used. Seamus Sorohan (Sisk-Lagan JV) stated that this would be impractical.

Regarding noise Mary Egan stated that the buzzing was like a microwave at best. Sean Quirke advised that the belief was that this was a generator which had been silenced. Mary advised that the noise is still ongoing. Seamus Sorohan advised that he would investigate further in order to resolve.

Lynne Bertram raised the issue of machinery passing before 7am. Paraic Keogh stated that a meeting had been held with all operatives and that in future no machinery will start up before 7am and that no access to site will be available before 6.15am. Lynne noted that this early morning activity had occurred previously and that residents were assured at that time that this would not reoccur, her fear is that both the early start and night works will become a matter of precedent. Seamus Sorohan stated that night works are limited to critical areas and would be finished up by year-end at latest. Paraic Keogh recognised that this is a major issue for residents and would like Sispar to challenge themselves to overcome this. Lynne Bertram advised that she will seek legal advice. Sean Quirke stated that the solution is on site. Lynne Bertram requested that the board at the site entrance be changed to reflect the extended working hours. Paraic Keogh agreed. Derek Mitchell suggested Sispar might consider insulating the homes experiencing difficulties or that a rental property could be made available. Lynne Bertram stated she would not be happy to relocate.

4. Environmental Monitoring

Imelda Shanahan gave a presentation on the environmental monitoring to date:

Dust: Dust levels are low and well within limits.

Noise: A summary of noise data was given with details included in a handout. Imelda explained the two different types of continuous noise measurements and explained there had been an issue at the beginning of February with weather which has had an impact on the measurements. There had been a small number of incidents where site related activity was attributable to exceedances and that these are clearly marked on the graphs on the handouts issued. Imelda reiterated that it had been agreed to analyse the L1 readings in instances where the L_{Amax} had been exceeded, this too is marked on the graphs in the handout.

Lynne Bertram questioned why the scale of the L_{Aeq} and L_{Amax} is not the same and why these are not both represented in the larger scale. Imelda explained that the scale is different as these are two different measurements each taken at a different level. Different limits apply as the L_{Amax} represents an average noise level and the

L_{Amax} is the highest level recorded, these readings are plotted on a scale that captures the numbers measured.

Imelda went on to say that in addition to the continuous noise monitoring, community noise monitoring is also undertaken. Again this data is analysed in detail. Personnel take a note of anything they hear and where this is as a result of site activity this can be remedied. Imelda showed a graph demonstrating the impact the DART has on the noise data particularly at monitor N2. This graph showed readings taken while DART services were suspended (a two week period) compared to readings taken while DART was operating. Laurence Byrne queried whether the Dart was represented at the weekends; Imelda responded that the Dart / Mainline services are reduced over weekends. Paraic Keogh queried whether there would be a difference in the L_{Amax} when the dart is in operation. Imelda replied that there would be a difference of around 20Db, in the case of the Dart and that mainline trains are noisier. Mary Egan stated that the noise of the Darts is much less intrusive than construction noise. Imelda advised that all reports show that the Dart/mainline trains are impacting on the noise readings and that she wanted to demonstrate this considering that an opportunity to do so had presented itself due to the suspension of services.

Mary Egan stated that she had raised an issue with noise on 12th and 14th February, but had not received a response and would like to see how this was represented.

Imelda showed the data on 14th and noted that there was piling activity at that time but nothing significant on 12th. Tom Fortune agreed the piling activity would be significant. The L_{Aeq} was shown but this was within limits. Sean Quirke asked Mary whether this noise was continuous; Mary advised that it was a vibration coming through the floor for around 10 – 15 minutes. Imelda advised that vibration and noise under the permitted limits can be heard/felt, Mary stated that it was very disturbing. Imelda advised that she would check with site to see if there is any correlation between piling activity and what Mary experienced. Paraic Keogh noted that piling is usually a quick bang as opposed to a prolonged vibration. Paraic also stated that when something that dramatic occurs residents can report this to security who can try to identify a cause straight away. Imelda stated that data is reviewed and issues are addressed weekly, typically when an issue is reported the data is requested.

Tom Fortune left the meeting and requested a response would issue to his letter that had been submitted to Sean Quirke.

5. Questions & Answers

Lynne Bertram stated that the storm drain that had been taken into site had an overflow that needs to be reinstated due to the risk of flooding as had occurred previously. Sean Quirke stated that the overflow is not covered over; Lynne questioned whether the drain would be able to take water. Sean advised that the flooding that occurred previously was exacerbated by a blockage at another development. Paraic queried whether this was a storm drain or a gully and advised this would be looked at.

Lynne advised that Ciaran Demery requested she notify the committee of his concerns regarding erosion. Sean Quirke noted this.

Lynne also mentioned the issue of erosion & poor access at the gap bridge. Marie Burbridge commented that some work had been carried out in this area but only in the past week.

Lynne Bertram also advised that plastic from the blocks is causing an issue with litter, and raised concern over the location of a storage container labelled as "dangerous chemicals", very close to the public footpath. Seamus Sorohan advised that there was nothing particularly dangerous located on site. Paraic Keogh advised that this will be investigated and if necessary moved.

Ciaran Hayden raised the matter of lights on the jib of one of the cranes; these are very high and may be the source of lighting Mary Egan is experiencing. Ciaran went on to say that the Chamber of Commerce would like to see local companies involved more particularly in the provision of plant & equipment hire, the Chamber would like to offer their services should any assistance be required.

Laurence Byrne queried whether the time set back will impact on the club facilities. Paraic Keogh advised that the start date for the club buildings is now some time in the autumn and that the proposed month 28 completion will not now be possible.

Laurence Byrne requested a site visit for St Kevin's School, Paraic agreed to this. Mary Egan questioned why the schools could visit site and she could not, Paraic extended this invitation to Mary. Mary stated that the manner in which she had been previously refused a visit was upsetting. Paddy O'Rourke suggested that a site visit could be organised for the Liaison Committee, Paraic agreed and stated that this could be arranged for mid / end of next week.

6. Date and location for next meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled to take place on Tuesday 14th July at 6p.m. on site at the Community Liaison Office, Greystones Harbour Development. The Harbour Users meeting is scheduled to take place before this meeting.

