

Minutes

London Waterways Commission

Meeting

Monday, 19 February 2007, Committee Room 4/5

Present: See attached list

Apologies: Richard Rutter, Deborah Leach

Item no.	Item discussion	Action
1	Welcome Murad Qureshi welcomed everyone to the meeting, in particular Simon Robbins of the National Association of Boat Owners at his first meeting. Minutes of November meeting agreed.	
2	Matters Arising DB Asked about the timetable for the London Plan Further Alterations Examination in Public and Publication. KR outlined the table and promised to attach a written version with the Minutes. BE said that following his presentation at the last meeting he would prepare a project proposal for research. MQ advised that the LWC does not have a pot of funding but the Commission could examine a proposal.	KR to attach London Plan timetable with Minutes.
3	Report back on Chairs' activities MQ had prepared a paper detailing his activities since the last meeting. Commissioners thanked the Chair for his efforts and requested copies of the response to DEFRA and the BW Prescott Lock Press Release once ready.	MQ to circulate response letter. British Waterways to circulate Press release.
4	Progress Report on Boatyards Study KR presented a paper on the interim findings of the Study and thanked the Commission for a useful debate which covered the following points. Concern that the research is trying to justify losing boatyards in central London Need to examine boatyards lost prior to 1999 Need to find solutions to land use conflict New facilities could use Safeguarded Wharves Matrix is needed of boat operators needs and types of facilities used Land values are the main block to more investment in the industry A boatyard constitutes many different operations MCA no longer doing inspections on tideway	KR to instruct consultants to contact 5 Commissioners. British Waterways to circulate list of stakeholders

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	<p>Need for emergency blocks/grids but these are not proper facilities</p> <p>Floating dry docks lost from Barking & Ilford Nav Co, Princes Wharf, Hayes Wharf</p> <p>Current yards under pressure are Putney Draw Dock, Robbie Woods, Sunbury Yard</p> <p>Uxbridge Yard on Canal also under pressure</p> <p>Operators would invest today if land values were realistic</p> <p>Agreement that no. of vessels and no. of inspections is increasing</p> <p>In response to questions:</p> <p>KR confirmed that the Consultants have contacted (attempted to) all boatyards in 1999 study and other key organisations and operators. There are only a small no. of yards that can take larger passenger vessels but many more smaller yards carrying out work to leisure craft. It is not the GLA's intention to get rid of any boatyards as this would be contrary to policy 4C.18 of London Plan. The consultants have been specifically asked to compare current situation with that in 1999 for which specific data exists. KR will jointly discuss GLA and BW studies.</p> <p>RR confirmed that the EA are retaining Sunbury boat yard other land at the site is being redeveloped.</p> <p>BW were asked for list of stakeholder involvement in their study.</p> <p>The following people asked to be contacted by GLA consultant:</p> <p>GB, RR, JG, BE, DB</p> <p>It was agreed that the matter would be further discussed at the September meeting</p>	
5	<p>Freight Working Group</p> <p>GH reported that the group met on 16th Feb 2007 and discussed the needs for freight infrastructure from Prescott Lock north to Picketts Lock and beyond. The group would submit a proposal to a future meeting to examine the what, how and who was needed to ensure that the waterways can be used for freight during the construction and Legacy periods for the Olympics.</p> <p>DB commented that lack of dredging often limits tonnages of vessels and that the Lee Navigation is designated a Commercial Waterway. Also could S106 funding from riverside developments be used to dredge the river/canal.</p> <p>KR reported that the planning appeal on the Safeguarded Peruvian Wharf had been rejected.</p>	<p>GH to submit a proposal to a future meeting.</p>
6	<p>Report back on Thames Festival Stakeholder event</p> <p>JL introduced the item which gave an insight into the views of 400 visitors to the Thames Festival thereby covering a wider range of people than most stakeholder events attract. Commissioners welcomed the survey and hoped that it would be done again this year. Ideas for other questions should be sent to JL jose.lapre@london.gov.uk although it was noted that keeping questions the same was important to establishing trends. Positive feedback was that the Thames is safe and well looked after. Negative feedback included the Thames is dirty, badly connected and not a transport route.</p> <p>GN commented that the Festival is getting better every year but getting activities</p>	<p>Commissioners to convey ideas to JL/GN as appropriate</p>

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	on the river is difficult and invited Commissioners to contact him if they had suggestions to help this GNicho6499@aol.com	
7	<p>Proposal for questions to the Commission</p> <p>KR introduced the paper which is aimed at making the Commission more open to Stakeholders. Commissioners welcomed the proposal and advised that for some matters Commissioners could arrive 30 mins early to give answers, that the answers could be posted on a website and that a 2 week cut off should be used for the submission of questions. MQ clarified that he did not expect to be answering questions on planning applications.</p>	KR to invite questions for next meeting via Minutes.
8	<p>Report on Olympic sub group</p> <p>JW introduced the paper on the Olympics Transport Strategy. The sub group had met in January to discuss this and had produced a draft letter for the Chair to send. It was agreed to send the letter subject to some minor amendments even though the deadline had passed.</p> <p>KR introduced paper 8a as information received from the ODA following the submission of 3 planning applications on 6th February. It was agreed that a meeting of the sub group be arranged before 17th March to form an initial response on the application for MQ to send to ODA. ODA Environment Manager, Construction Manager and Soft and Wet Modes Manager to be asked to present details of water aspects at next meeting to enable a fuller response. The ODA are seeking to determine the applications on 10th July 2007.</p>	<p>MQ to send Transport letter.</p> <p>JL to arrange Olympics sub group meeting 12/3/07 11am at City Hall</p> <p>ODA to attend and present at next meeting</p>
9	<p>Update on Sewer Overflows</p> <p>KR reported that Thames Water completed their research and reported to the Minister Ian Pearson MP at the end of December 2006. The Minister was having a series of meetings through January and February, including with the Mayor, and intends to make an announcement around the end of March 2007.</p> <p>RR commented that the EA supported the full tunnel solution rather than the two tunnel solution as being the only way to deliver a comprehensive solution.</p> <p>BE repeated his concern from the previous meeting regarding Modgen Sewage Works and RR confirmed that Mogden is already programmed to be upgraded the in next 5 years.</p> <p>DB circulated a copy of a news item on sewer overflows from the Evening Standard dated 2nd May 2006 (p18). This is not available electronically.</p>	

Future LWC meetings:

TUESDAY 22 May 2007 City Hall 18:00 – 20:30 – Main subject Olympics Planning Applications and TfL Olympics Walking and Cycling Plans

Monday 3 Sept 2007 City Hall 18:00 – 20:30 - including Boatyards

Monday 19 Nov 2007 City Hall 18:00 – 20:30

Upcoming agenda items

Olympics Planning Applications and TfL Olympics Walking and Cycling Plans
Progress Report on Boatyards Study
Update on Freight Working Group

London Waterways Commission

19th February 2007 Meeting

Commission Members Attendance

Name	Initials used	Tick for attendance
Murad Qureshi (Co Chair)	MQ	✓
Kevin Reid GLA	KR	✓
Jose Lapre GLA	JL	✓
Organisational Representatives		
Richard Rutter, British Waterways	RRu	Apologies
Robert Runcie, Environment Agency	RR	✓
Richard Everitt, Port of London Authority	RE	✓
Stephen Steele, Transport for London	KG	✓
Michelle Washington, London Dev Agency	MW	✓
Gary Beckwith, Visit London	GB	✓
Deborah Leach, Thames21	DL	Apologies
Barry Edwards, River Thames Society	BE	✓
Rogers Squires, Inland Waterways Assoc	RS	✓
Jill Goddard, Thames Estuary Partnership	JG	✓
George Nicholson, London Rivers Association	GN	✓
Archie Galloway, London Councils	AG	✓
CLlr Brian Haley, London Councils	BH	Apologies
CLlr Barry O'Mahoney, London Councils	BOH	
CLlr Graham Eustance London Councils	GE	
Tony Denton Thames Water	TD	
Individual Representatives		
Del Brenner	DB	✓
Gerry Heward	GH	✓
Jonathan Rosenberg	JB	✓
Lindy Kelly	LK	✓
Jim Walker	JW	✓
Tom Bogdanowicz	TB	✓
Michael Mainelli	MM	✓
Simon Robbins	SR	✓