

# Minutes

## London Waterways Commission

### Meeting

Monday, 11 February 2008, London Living Room

**Present:** See attached list

**Apologies:** Michelle Washington, George Nicholson, Cllr Brian Haley, Cllr Barry O'Mahoney, Jim Walker, Michael Mainelli, Archie Galloway, Mark Bensted

Item no.	Item discussion	Action
1	<p><b>Welcome, Minutes &amp; Matters Arising</b></p> <p>Murad Qureshi (<b>MQ</b>) welcomed everyone to the meeting and agreed the Minutes of the previous meeting, subject to a correction of the tonnage of good per day through Bow Locks.</p> <p><b>GB</b> agreed to discuss river issues in Visit London meeting March.</p> <p>Under discussion of item 5 commissioners raised concerns about the TFL cycle superhighway being along canals and gave examples of accidents that have happened. <b>KG</b> stated that these were outline proposals to be consulted on.</p> <p>Following item 8, commissioners questioned the operation of some combined sewer overflows notably on the Isle of Dogs, and suggested that they operate even in times of no rainfall.</p> <p>Commissioners to note that the Passenger Boat Association Conference is on Thursday the 6<sup>th</sup> March.</p>	
2	<p><b>Report back on Chairs' activities</b></p> <p><b>MQ</b> reported back from his activities from the last meeting with a focus on freight issues.</p> <p><b>DB</b> was pleased to hear of progress with Kings Cross developers "Argent" and raised the issue of opening the second lock chambers west of Kings Cross.</p> <p><b>PF</b> stated that the Powerdays wharf is not fully utilised. <b>GH</b> said that the wharf is an early phase and some limited traffic such as plasterboard is being taken there by barge.</p>	
3	<p><b>Olympic &amp; Freight Working Group</b></p> <p><b>KR + SR</b> reported back from the Freight/Olympic meeting and the ODA meeting in early February. <b>KR</b> explained that the river walls had been set back for a more open view, two freight wharfs, east and west of the main stadium are proposed and commissioners impressed upon the ODA the opportunities for delivering goods all around the Olympic site by barge.</p>	

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	<p><b>KR</b> felt that generally plans were moving in a positive direction regarding the treatment of the waterways but it was regrettable that there is still no intention to restore Pudding Mill River and concern that there's no proposals to renovate City Mill lock and Carpenters Road lock.</p> <p><b>SR</b> stated that the ODA are formulating new ideas and working towards a March target of completing a Master Plan, ready for consultation.</p> <p><b>JT</b> mentioned that the PLA are examining opportunities for moorings and noted that boats often have to wait for the tide in the lower river Lee.</p> <p>Two barge operators in the audience (Green Barge Company and Smart Barge) both expressed an interest and ability in moving freight by water in relation to the Olympics.</p> <p>ODA have committed to produce a plan showing where barges could navigate and moor.</p> <p><b>DB</b> raised the issue of dredging which is not currently being addressed.</p> <p>After the end of March the ODA will be consulting on the Waterspace Master Plan.</p>	
4	<p><b>Update on Sewer Overflows</b></p> <p><b>TD</b> said that the data on monthly overflows is still very difficult to interpret, but there are approximately 60 events per year with a total discharge of 32 million m<sup>3</sup>.</p> <p>Phase 1 (lower Lee to Beckton, including Becton STW) of the tideway sewer tunnel is progressing well and will lead to a planning application in May 2008 with construction starting in 2009 with the completion date at 2014.</p> <p>Phase 2 (Hammersmith to Becton) to start 2012, with the completion in 2019/2020.</p> <p>Thames Water are holding a series of public exhibitions as below:</p> <p>Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March, St. Marks Community Centre, Tollgate Road, Beckton, E6 5YA 10:30am –7.30pm</p> <p>Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> March, Stratford Library, 3 The Grove, Stratford, E15 1EL, 10am – 4pm</p> <p>Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March, Barking Learning Centre, No.2 Town Square, Barking, IG11 7NB, 11am – 7.30pm</p> <p>Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March, St. Marks Community Centre, Tollgate Road, Beckton, E6 5YA, 11am-4pm</p> <p>Commissioners asked for the item to remain on the agenda and if the 29 page report could not be summarised then to see the full report.</p> <p><b>JG</b> informed the commission of a London Port Health Authority report into illnesses of rowers due to water quality (November 2007) and that there will be a presentation on the Thames Tideway Sewer at the Thames</p>	<p><b>TD</b> to produce either summary or full report of discharges.</p>

<b>Item no.</b>	<b>Item discussion</b>	<b>Action</b>
	<p>Estuary Partnership Forum on the 16<sup>th</sup> of October 2008.</p> <p><b>TD</b> mentioned that since the launch of the two new Thames Skimmer boats, at least one has been operational every day.</p>	
5	<p><b>Update on GLA Issues</b></p> <p><b>KR</b> informed the Commission that the revised version of the London Plan is available on the internet from the 19<sup>th</sup> February and that it will be officially launched on the 21<sup>st</sup>. A meeting of the River Services Concordat Group will be held on the 7<sup>th</sup> of March 2008, KR to report progress to a future LWC meeting.</p> <p>GLA currently tendering for three planners training events to be held in late March/early April. In response to commissioners questions <b>KR</b> clarified that the general thrust was to improve knowledge of borough officers about the blue ribbon policies in the London Plan.</p>	
6	<b>Questions to Commission - none</b>	
7	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <p>Commissioners asked what had happened to the LRA.</p> <p>Commissioners asked for a presentation on the water framework directive.</p> <p>Dido Berkeley felt that the Mayor is open to legal challenge as she feels there is a lack of appropriate stakeholder engagement in relation to the Thames.</p>	<p><b>GN</b> to update the LWC on LRA status.</p> <p><b>RR</b> to arrange presentation for next meeting.</p>

**Future LWC Meeting:**

Won't be arranged until after the Mayoral elections, however it is most likely to be in June.

**June Agenda Items:**

Thames Water to give an update on desalination plant

Environment Agency Presentation on Water Framework Directive.

# London Waterways Commission

## 11<sup>th</sup> February 2008 Meeting

### Commission Members Attendance

Name	Initials used	Tick for attendance
Murad Qureshi (Co Chair)	MQ	✓
Kevin Reid GLA	KR	✓
Jose Lapre GLA	JL	✓
Lizzy Mallett	LM	✓
<b>Organisational Representatives</b>		
Richard Rutter, British Waterways	RRu	Apologies
Rob McCarthy, Environment Agency	RM	✓
James Trimmer, Port of London Authority	JT	✓
Stephen Steele, Transport for London	SS	✓
Michelle Washington, London Dev Agency	MW	Apologies
Gary Beckwith, Visit London	GB	✓
Deborah Leach, Thames21	DL	✓
Peter Finch, River Thames Society	PF	✓
Roger Squires, Inland Waterways Assoc	RB	✓
Jill Goddard, Thames Estuary Partnership	JG	✓
George Nicholson, London Rivers Association	GN	Apologies
Archie Galloway, London Councils	AG	Apologies
Cllr Brian Haley, London Councils	BH	Apologies
Cllr Barry O'Mahony, London Councils	BOH	Apologies
Cllr Peter Goody, London Councils	PG	✓
Tony Denton Thames Water	TD	✓
<b>Individual Representatives</b>		
Del Brenner	DB	✓
Gerry Heward	GH	✓
Jonathan Rosenberg	JB	✓
Lindy Kelly	LK	✓
Jim Walker	JW	Apologies
Tom Bogdanowicz	TB	✓
Michael Mainelli	MM	Apologies
Simon Robbins	SR	✓