

Minutes

London Waterways Commission

Meeting

Monday, 10 November 2008, Cttee Room 4-5

Present: See attached list

Apologies: George Nicholson, Cllr Brian Haley, Michael Mainelli, Archie Galloway, Tony Denton, Keith Gardner, Jonathan Rosenberg, Simon Robbins

Item no.	Item discussion	Action
1	<p>Welcome, Minutes & Matters Arising</p> <p>Murad Qureshi (MQ) welcomed everyone to the meeting and agreed the Minutes of the previous meeting, subject to 2 corrections.</p> <p>Matters Arising</p> <p>Item 2 DB commented that there is no wharfage at Kings Cross and very little for the active use of the canal. MQ agreed to take up with Roger Madelin of Argent next time they meet.</p> <p>Item 4 no further information about volumes of sewer discharges has been received – KR to chase</p> <p>Item 7 no further information about the LRA has been received – KR to chase</p>	<p>MQ to contact Roger Madelin</p> <p>KR to chase Tony Denton & George Nicholson</p>
2	<p>Report back on Chairs' activities</p> <p>MQ reported back from his activities from the last meeting with a focus on freight issues. – Paper attached with minutes. In particular he has been pursuing the continuation of the Commission with the new Mayor.</p> <p>A number of Commissioners had felt that there was little specifically about the river Thames at the Thames Festival in September. Discussions revealed that many river organisations were present but there was no common "badging". MQ agreed to consider using some of LWC budget for improved marketing.</p>	
3	<p>Cruise Liner Facilities in London</p> <p>RE introduced Paper 3a and explained the background issues.</p> <p>Following discussions it was clear that a reasonable level of information had been gathered by PLA, LDA and TfL although much of this was out of date.</p>	<p>KR to commission study with involvement of LDA, PLA and TfL and include</p>

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	<p>KR informed the meeting that he expected the project to cost between £20k-£30k. The general feeling was that this sounded expensive and KR should involve LDA, PLA and TfL to share existing information and keep costs down.</p> <p>James Jegede from the audience commented that a cruise facility on its own was unlikely to be financially viable and integration with other uses should be considered. This was agreed.</p>	<p>examining integration with other uses.</p>
4	<p>Update on New Mayor and London Plan</p> <p>KR informed the Commission that the Mayor has been very positive about the role of waterways, especially the Thames for passenger and freight transport. He has continued the River Services Concordat Group and selected Kulveer Ranger to chair it. That group has investigated pier provision and will publish a pier plan in the near future. KR recommended that the Commission receive a presentation from the Concordat group at the next meeting.</p> <p>KR also informed the meeting of the Mayor's consultation document "Planning for a better London". Whilst the document says little about waterways this is not surprising as the policy coverage is already comprehensive and no significant change is being proposed. Consultation ended on 10th November 2008.</p> <p>The GLA held three planners training events to be held in summer 2008. These were attended by around 40 people in total, whilst aimed at local authority planners, they also attracted a wider audience. The GLA was encouraged to hold similar event next year.</p> <p><u>Post meeting note:</u> KR confirmed that the invites to the Workshops were not sent to LWC member but were sent to over 250 local authority and private sector planning contacts</p>	
5	<p>Thames Strategy East</p> <p>Jill Goddard reported on the publication of the document which contains a wide range of policy and practice recommendations for the Thames from Tower Bridge to Gravesend. 22 organisations were involved in the preparation of the document.</p> <p>JG said that she would ensure that anyone who commented on the draft document would get a copy</p>	
6	<p>Update on Sewer Overflows</p> <p>None received</p> <p>KR informed the group that the Planning application for the first phase of the overflow tunnel from Abbey Mills in the Lee Valley to Beckton and associated capacity increases at Beckton Sewage treatment Works were lodged by Thames Water in the summer and that LB Newham and the London Thames Gateways Development Corporation were requesting further information. A decision is expected in early 2009. Thames Water are also carrying out further investigations and</p>	

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	consultation on the main leg of the tunnel from approx Hammersmith to Beckton with the intention of submitting a planning application in 2010.	
7	<p>Update on Desalination Plant KR informed the meeting that the Mayor has withdrawn the threat of legal action over this project although he wasn't sure if any construction was yet underway.</p>	
8	<p>ODA Update /Olympic Working Group Richard Jackson informed the meeting that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Olympic Waterspace Masterplan had been produced in March 2008 and approved in July. • Prescott lock is available on a limited basis and will be fully operational in March 2009 • The repairing of river walls is 60-70% complete • 2 freight wharves will be available Bow East and Waterworks River • New design for river edge involve less steep sided banks & improved access • Passenger transport in games mode is being considered • <p>Commissioners had some questions about Legacy arrangements but RJ commented that the LDA is leading on Legacy Masterplanning. Del Brenner commented that the canals can't be used until they have been dredged. Simon Bamforth stated that only spot dredging was required. Howard Davidson reported that he had secured £2m to carry out dredging to address historical polluting silts which contribute to poor water quality. MQ asked Tom Bogdanowich to contact Jim Walker to re-convene the Olympic sub group and report to next meeting.</p>	<p>TB/JW to convene Olympic sub group</p>
9	<p>Freight Working Group Had not met since the last meeting MQ asked Gerry Heward to re-convene the Olympic sub group and report to next meeting</p>	<p>GH to convene Freight sub group</p>
10	<p>Water Framework Directive Howard Davidson introduced the EU WFD and outlined the proposals for the River Basin Management Plan. It was clear that this is a large and complex project affecting many organisations with a role in the management of waterways. The document will be published in December for a 6 month consultation period.</p>	
11	<p>AOB Concern was expressed that the ODA Chief Executive was quoted saying that road transport is cheaper than water transport. MQ agreed to table a question on this. Commissioners welcomed the Chair's acceptance of points from the floor.</p>	

Item no.	Item discussion	Action

Future LWC Meeting:
 January 2009 – date tbc.

January Agenda Items:
 Thames Water to give an update on desalination plant
 River Passenger Concordat Group
 Progress report on Cruise Liner Terminal
 Budget

London Waterways Commission

10th November 2008 Meeting

Commission Members Attendance

Name	Initials used	Tick for attendance
Murad Qureshi (Chair)	MQ	✓
Kevin Reid GLA	KR	✓
Organisational Representatives		
Simon Bamford, British Waterways	SB	✓
Howard Davidson, Environment Agency	HD	✓
Richard Everitt (part)/James Trimmer Port of London Authority	RE JT	✓
Keith Gardner, Transport for London	KG	Apologies
Michelle Washington, London Dev Agency	MW	✓
Gary Beckwith, Visit London	GB	
Deborah Leach, Thames21	DL	✓
Peter Finch, River Thames Society	PF	✓
Ron Bingham, 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	
Cllr Peter Goody, London Councils	PG	
Tony Denton Thames Water	TD	Apologies
Individual Representatives		
Del Brenner	DB	✓
Gerry Heward	GH	✓
Jonathan Rosenberg	JB	Apologies
Lindy Kelly	LK	✓
Jim Walker	JW	
Tom Bogdanowicz	TB	✓
Michael Mainelli	MM	Apologies
Simon Robbins	SR	Apologies

