

Minutes of the Docklands Oversight and Consultative Forum (DOCF)

Meeting (held via video link over MS TEAMS), Tuesday 6th of July 2021.

Present

Chairperson: Michael Stubbs

Members:

Name	Organisation
Clr Ray McAdam	DCC Councillor
Owen Keegan	Dublin City Council
Bernard Sheridan	Central Bank of Ireland
Tony Mc Donnell	North Port Dwellers Association
Owen Reilly	Docklands SME & Start-up Partnership
Cormac Kennedy	Dublin Port company

Name	Organisation
Alan Robinson	Docklands Business Forum
Mark Fay	North Wall Community Association
Michael Ingle	Grand Canal Dock Residents Association
Clr Joe Costello	DCC Councillor
Dolores Wilson	St Andrew's Centre
Gina Quin	National College of Ireland

Apologies:

Name	Organisation
Vincent McCabe	Dublin Docklands Cultural Forum
Máirin Ó Cuireáin	Waterways Ireland
Frank Masterson	CIE Property
Clr Claire Byrne	DCC Councillor
Clr Kevin O'Donoghue	DCC Councillor
Charlie Sheil	Docklands Hospitality and Entertainment Association
Prof Ciaran O'Neill	Trinity College Dublin
Ms Catriona Ryan	Dept Housing, Planning and Local Government
Sueann Moore	Ringsend Community Services Forum

Non Member attendees:

Name	Organisation
Derek Kelly	Senior Executive Officer, Docklands Office DCC
John Downey	DCC Planning Enforcement Manager
Myles Farrell	DCC Senior Planner
Robert Gallagher	Staff Officer, Docklands Office, DCC
Tadgh Daly	DCC Assistant Planner

- 1. Minutes from 12.04.21 Agreed by the members**
- 2. Presentation and discussion with John Downey DCC Planning Enforcement Manager**

John Downey DCC Planning Enforcement Manager spoke of the role and function of planning enforcement but due to a technical issue, his link with MS Teams dropped and he was unable to reconnect to take question from the members.

Tony Mc Donnell questioned the rationale put forward for a reduction in building construction complaints and suspects the reduction is mainly due to Covid-19 restrictions in place for building sites.

Tony also pointed out that monitoring equipment for dust and noise levels for sites near New Wapping Street have gone missing at times and that this should be taken in to consideration by DCC enforcement in its response that it has no recorded exceedance in dust and noise levels.

Tony asked how many warning notices have been issued and how many proceeding have DCC taken for planning and environmental breaches against the sites on the North side of the Docklands.

During the discussion the Chair Michael Stubbs advised the members that the function of the Forum is to consider and advise in the formulation, development and review of Council policy on many issues as it relates to the Docklands and that some of the issues raised are best put directly to the DCC planning enforcement section or other relevant sections on a case by case basis.

Tony Mc Donnell took issue with the Chairs interpretation on what issues he could raise through Forum questions with DCC Officials and he stated he could back up all his concerns with evidence taking place on the ground in his area of representation.

The members present then discussed and debated what should be the scope of appropriate and relevant Forum questions considering the Forum functions and how agenda items are selected.

It was agreed to form an agenda sub- committee with a representative from each of the members sub group to meet and agree Forum meeting Agenda.

It was also agreed to request regular planning enforcement updates on actions taken within the Docklands.

Owen Keegan offered to arrange a meeting with DCC planning enforcement officials and community representatives to address any concerns they have and this was accepted.

3. Docklands Planning update presentation by Myles Farrell DCC Senior Planner

Members thanked Myles for the presentation and expressed general support for the proposed Grand Canal storm water out fall extension project.

Concerns were raised on the proposed relocation and upgrade to the Docklands Rail Station, the increase in pedestrian footfall could have a negative effect on local communities housing fronts with no defensive pavement space allocated to them and the potential of another major construction project taking place in an area that has endured constant large scale construction projects for the past several years is a serious imposition on local communities.

The lack of affordable accommodation for local communities and general shortage of premises for small and medium sized business and their staff was raised and it was asked was there now an opportunity due to new office/home working arrangement because of the Covid emergency, that many of the office spaces could be repurposed for accommodation and new business usage.

4. Discussion on DCC Draft Anti –Social Behaviour Strategy tabled by Alan Robinson Dockland Business Forum

Alan Robinson stated the current Dublin City Council Draft Anti- Social Behaviour Strategy document was very welcomed and believed the Forum could help improve it and proposed the Forum officially make recommendations to it, the members agreed and the Chair proposed arranging a special meeting with DCC Anti-Social Behaviour unit to help the Forum develop its position on the matter.

AOB

The Chair informed the members that Forum member Mr Vincent McCabe had not attended the Forum since 12th of November 2018 and proposed to the members that he will request Mr McCabe's resignation from the Forum, the members agreed.

Next Meeting

To be agreed.