

Minutes of the Docklands Oversight and Consultative Forum (DOCF)

Meeting, 13th November 2017.

Present

Chairperson: Michael Stubbs

Members:

Name	Organisation
Cllr Christy Burke	DCC Councillor
Martin Colreavy	Dept Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gealtact Affairs
Cllr Gaye Fagan	DCC Councillor
Owen Keegan	Dublin City Council
Frank Masterson	CIE
Paul Molumby	Central Bank of Ireland
Eamonn O'Reilly	Dublin Port Company
Owen Reilly	Docklands SME & Start-up Partnership
Alan Robinson	Docklands Business Forum
Irene Crawley	H.O.P.E Hands Peer Education Ltd
Michael Ingle	Grand Canal Dock Residents Assoc

Name	Organisation
Cllr Claire Byrne	DCC Councillor
Terre Duffy	Waterways Ireland
Gerry Fay	North Wall Community Association
Cllr Dermot Lacey	DCC Councillor
Vincent McCabe	Dublin Docklands Cultural Forum
Catherine O'Brien	Co-operative Housing Ireland
Gina Quinn	National College of Ireland
Mary Lee Rhodes	Trinity College
Charlie Sheil	Docklands Hospitality and Entertainment Assoc
Dolores Wilson	St Andrew's Resource Centre

Non Member attendees:

Name	Organisation
Deirdre Scully	Senior Planner, DCC
Myles Farrell	A/Senior Planner, DCC
Derek Kelly	Administrative Officer, Docklands Office DCC
Robert Gallagher	Staff Officer, Docklands Office, DCC
Chris McGarry	Head of Planning, NAMA
Mary Birmingham	Head of Assets Management, NAMA

1. NAMA Presentation

The Chair opened the meeting by welcoming both Mr Chris McGarry, Head of Planning for NAMA and Ms Mary Birmingham, Head of Asset Management for NAMA to the Forum and invited them to present as first item of business due to their tight schedule.

After the presentation the members thanked Mr. McGarry and Ms. Birmingham and made the following points:

NAMA stated mandate is to maximise return for the State, members made the point that short term financial returns are not the only way to maximise the potential return for the State and NAMA should consider other alternatives such as developing education, start-up and tourism infrastructure.

The members expressed their concerns that developments under NAMA 's influence are not delivering any educational, and limited cultural and community facilities which could lead to an imbalance in the Docklands community needs and requirements and undermine the goal of creating a sustainable and vibrant area to live in.

2. Amendment to Minutes from 10th July 2017 Meeting

The Chair put forward the proposed amended text for the 10th of July 2017 meeting to the members

“The Forum considered it appropriate to await the finalisation of the Poolbeg West SDZ process before a request for a presentation by Dublin Bay Studios be dealt with.

In describing the Dublin Bay Studios request to use Dublin Port Company lands Mr. O'Reilly used the term land grab. Mr. McCabe objected to the use of the term in this case.”

Eamonn O'Reilly responded that his comments were not intended as a slight on Vincent McCabe and Vincent McCabe accepted this.

The minutes and amended text was accepted by the members.

3. Minutes for 11th of September 2017

It was agreed by the members that Dublin Bay Studios be invited to present to the Forum at the next meeting in January 2018.

Minutes approved by the members.

4. Proposed Emergency Motion by Vincent McCabe

An emergency motion was proposed by Vincent McCabe and was briefly discussed by the members and the Chair. The emergency motion was then withdrawn by Mr McCabe.

5. Planning Presentation

Myles Farrell DCC A/Senior Planner, gave a progress report presentation on North Lotts/Grand Canal Dock SDZ & Poolbeg West SDZ.

Main points raised by the members after the presentation were

The density and heights of developments within the SDZ's should be reconsidered as demand in the area is very high.

Possible over supply of office space in Docklands could undermine the sustainable nature of the Docklands during a downturn in the economy.

Options for expanding higher education facilities are reducing as open market prices push cost of property up. A reassessment of the priorities set for NAMA controlled sites is called for.

Gina Quinn requested a letter of support from the Forum requesting that NAMA consider the National College of Irelands proposals for Block 3E, the members agreed that a letter of support should be sent.

6. Sub Committees

The Chair proposed the formation of three sub-committees (Housing, Community and Communication) to examine and develop a strategic approach for the Forum.

The members agreed to form the sub-committees and have a minimum of three meeting before reporting back to the Forum in March 2018.

7. AOB

None

Next Meeting

Next meeting was agreed to be held on Monday 8th of January 2018 at 12 noon at the Docklands Office, Custom House Quay.