

Coastal Liaison Group

Meeting No. 9

23rd May 2018

CE Conference Room, 4th Floor, County Hall

Minutes

**Representatives
Councillors**

Present
B. Dennehy
B. Martin
P. Mulville

Apologies
D. Healy
A. Henchy

**Representatives
Community**

H. Donovan
P. O'Brien
M. Deegan
C. Sargent
F. Price

Council Officials

K. Halpenny
AM. Farrelly
H. Visser
S. Peppard

Mr. K Halpenny introduced Mr. Chris Caulder & Mr. Adrian Bell from RPS who were attending the meeting today to make a presentation to the members. Mr. Halpenny asked the members to agree to take Item No. 1 and then go to Item No. 3 in order for the presentation to be made. This was agreed.

1. Minutes of Meeting held 21st February 2018 and Special Meeting held 21st March 2018.

The minutes of the previous meetings which had been circulated prior to the meeting were AGREED.

2. Presentation on Consultants Report on Coastal Erosion at Portrane.

Adrian Bell began the presentation and stated that the 2013 report was based on historical data – erosion and accretion at that time. What has happened since has been quite dramatic – Hurricane Ophelia, Beast from the east, Storm Emma etc and the erosion rate is 1m per year. Also because this is an area covered by SPA, SAC and NHA it is more difficult to find solutions. Following on from the presentation a discussion took place. AM Farrelly stated that a meeting took place with the OPW who were very supportive and will attend a meeting that has been arranged with NP&WS. C. Sargent brought up the issue of sandsaver and A. Bell replied that this would have to be checked to ensure that other parts of the beach are not affected.

R Brett suggested that a membrane is put in place then sand, membrane will stay in place. He stated that it was suggested that this work could not be done as you cannot build in SAC area but Sligo Co Co have done this. He also enquired if a submission could be made to Dublin Port for sand. A Bell stated that the sand a Dublin Port was too fine & not suitable, it needs to match the grain size of the sand. AM Farrelly stated that it is better to have the OPW to help influence the NP&WS. They have not seen the analysis yet, but a presentation will be made to them showing past, present and the possible solutions.

F. Price suggested move outside protective area and install breakwater. A. Bell said you can only do this if it does not cause an impact elsewhere. A discussion followed between R. Brett and A. Bell. M. Moynihan asked what can be done while waiting for these meetings and a solution. A. Bell stated that individuals can do works but the Local Authority cannot. P. O'Brien stated that the NP&WS should have been involved in this prior to now and A, Bell agreed but stated they are here now and FCC need to work with them.

Cllr. Mulville thanked RPS for the presentation and stated that this is all natural process & man made due to climate change. A. Bell stated that climate change is a real issue with weather changes and would expect the NP&WS to take this more serious now.

K. Halpenny said the flood report is proceeding and should have Stage 1 maps by the end of July. Reaction form NP&WS and the OPW will set out how we proceed. R. Brett said there were a lot more footfalls and major developments opening up.

AM Farrelly stated that the flood relief and coastal erosion were synchronised. The meeting needs to take place between the various groups and then this can move more quickly depending on their openness to co-operate. K. Halpenny stated that the flood issue is not being forgotten and the audit is to be used as leverage.

AM Farrelly asked the members if they would agree to delay circulating the report until after their meeting with the OPW & NP&WS – this was AGREED.

M. Deegan asked RPS if their brief was particular to Portrane as there are 4 locations. K. Halpenny stated that this was the erosion issue and North Beach was always included in flood relief. H. Donovan stated it was all too little too late as this has been ongoing for 5/6 years. K. Halpenny said that FCC commissioned an audit through the CCMA and that the Local Authority does not need to get involved in private property issues as this is not within the remit of FCC.

At this point, AM Farrelly, A. Bell & C. Caulder from RPS left the meeting.

3. Update on Report on National Coastal Erosion Audit.

K. Halpenny stated that there are 400 properties on the coast under threat of coastal erosion. He circulated the Report on National Coastal Erosion Audit and suggested that the members go through the report for discussion at the next meeting. It was AGREED and this will be placed on the agenda of the next meeting.

4. Date/Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, 4th July 2018 at 4.00pm in County Hall, Swords.