

**Minutes of Ilfracombe Harbour Community Forum  
20<sup>th</sup> March 2008  
7.30 p.m, The Sandpiper Pub, Ilfracombe**

**Present:**

Bob Thompson - Chair  
Paul Crabb - Vice Chair  
Bert Gear  
Colin Knill  
John Barbeary  
Paul Barbeary  
Lawrence Raybone  
Dudley Jenkins

Peter Dymond  
Rob Lawson  
Suzanne Brown  
Geoff Fowler  
Chris Howard  
Tim Cox  
Colin Wright

Minute taker - Janine Whapham

1.	<p><b>Apologies</b> Gary Smith, Kevin McLintock, Daun Marshall, Steve Ashton, Jack Stocks, John Swan, John Brown, Paul Yabsley, Cat Jones.</p>
2.	<p><b>Minutes of last meeting</b> Correction to minutes of 28<sup>th</sup> Feb 2008 - No: 5 South Quay , 'Paul Yabsley reported' not Geoff Fowler as noted. The Chair ran through the remainder of the minutes of the previous meeting and these were accepted as a true and accurate record.</p>
3.	<p><b>Matters arising</b> The Chair welcomed Chris Howard of Greener Ilfracombe to the forum, Chris or his colleague Trisha White will be the direct contact and will attend meetings.</p>
4.	<p><b>Minutes of Board meeting</b> The Harbour Board minutes of 13<sup>th</sup> Feb 2008 had been previously sent out and were reviewed. The next meeting has yet to be set. J Whapham will liaise and advise forum members.</p> <p style="background-color: #e0e0e0;"><b>Action:</b> J Whapham to advise forum the date of the next Harbour Board meeting.</p>
5.	<p><b>Agenda items from Stakeholders group</b> S Brown referred to the previous meeting when the proposal of reversing the traffic flow up Fore Street was discussed. T Cox informed the group that there are two phases, one of which is to explore transport planning, this being a major study and would look at traffic flow including Fore Street. TC suggested that S Brown and anyone else interested, contact Cllr Paul Yabsley with their questions.</p>
6.	<p><b>Webcam</b> P Crabb said that the camera would be simple to implement but a full costing needs to take place. He believed that a minimum cost would be approximately £2,000 and District Council would be able to assist with its setting up. Members agreed that they were in favour and believed it would be beneficial for both harbour users and visitors alike. Once details have been gathered, this request would be tabled at the next Harbour Board meeting. S Brown said being online would be very beneficial and perhaps businesses and others could be asked for a nominal contribution. G Fowler agreed that the webcam would be a great promotional tool for Ilfracombe. B Gear suggested people look at the Tenby webcam site. He stated that the images are inviting with businesses advertising</p>

themselves. He suggested that the forum ask Tenby where they purchased their camera from. Woolacombe's webcam is believed to have been paid for by Parkin Estates. D Jenkins suggested that funds may be available through the Tourism Association. General discussion took place about the best location for the camera. B Gear suggested the top of Lantern Hill. R Lawson was not happy for the Harbour Board to fund the camera and suggested the business owners/yacht club should pay for the installation.

**Action:** P Crabb to investigate and provide further information and feedback to the forum.

7. **Harbour Master's Update**

R Lawson confirmed that all boats had been successfully put in the harbour with some issues i.e boats/ropes not always being checked. He reported that following the storms of two weeks ago, the harbour got off lightly with regards to damage. £1,500 of damage had been caused to the North End and stone bench as well as to a bollard.

Change in prices of Diesel

RL has free copies of the magazine 'Boat'- March 2008, copies can be collected from the Harbour Masters Office. There is an article about red diesel prices doubling as of 1<sup>st</sup> November 2008. This follows the loss of the EU derogation, which allowed UK boaters to refuel with rebated diesel at a duty of 9.7ppl. The fuel is dyed red to distinguish it from road diesel which carried a maximum duty of 56.7 ppl. Commercial users will be unaffected by the changes, but all private pleasure craft will have to pay the full road duty on all propulsive diesel from the end of the year. Fuel used for the boat's domestics, however, will still be charged at the rebated rate even though it is often drawn from the same onboard tank. Boaters will be allowed to 'self declare' how much of their fuel will be used for heaters and generators and how much will be used for propulsion. The HMRC has published an impact assessment report, which can be found on their website [www.hmrc.gov.uk](http://www.hmrc.gov.uk)

P Crabb informed the group that he had been looking at the flooding emergency plans as there is weak provision of sand bags and their location. G Fowler asked R Lawson did he have storage capacity. RL said he did not. PC told members that he has bags currently stored in his yard and Cllr Albert Furber has some stored at his residence. G Fowler said it was imperative to have a central point. L Raybone offered space in the north alley to the Aquarium building and if Ilfracombe Town Council considers there's a flood risk, LR will liaise with them to allow collection of bags to distribute accordingly.

**Action:** All Members to advise change in sand bag arrangements.

8. **Action Sheet**

Nos: 6 & 7 are complete.

No: 2 provision of additional marina point - R Lawson reported that this job is being costed.

9. **AOB**

Tim Cox asked if there were any objections to take a vehicle and trailer onto the beach to collect seaweed to use at the compost bin in the communal gardens. R Lawson gave approval, providing proper safety precautions will be taken.

S Brown raised a query on behalf of Kevin asking if funds are available to notify respective groups of the information from the meetings. B Gear suggested the Focus Magazine but obviously there were deadlines in advance of publication. The other suggestion was to use Erica Castle's weekly column in the North Devon Journal. She can be contacted at the Volunteer Centre on Tel: 01271 866300.

There is also the Ilfracombe Town Council newsletter.

10.	<b>Date of next meeting</b> To be advised.
11.	<b>Future items for Agenda</b> Please send items to Janine Whapham - Email <a href="mailto:janine@transform.org.uk">janine@transform.org.uk</a> or post to Transform Neighbourhood Management, 51 High Street, Ilfracombe, EX34 9QB or Tel: 01271 867131.  Meeting closed at 8.20 p.m.