

Port Edgar Marina - Berth Holders Association

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at 7 pm on Monday 7th November 2011 at Port Edgar.

1. Attendance: Frank Pullen (Chairman)
Murray Carmichael (Vice-Chairman)
Colin Scott (Hon Treasurer)
Brian Smellie (Hon Secretary)
Doug Ross (PEYC Liaison)
Pete Sykes (Dinghy Rep)
Ken McLeod (Power Craft Rep)
John Laurie (Membership Sec)

2. Apologies: Doug Auld & Karl Weibye.

3. Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the previous meeting held on the 8th August 2011 were approved. Grateful thanks were conveyed to Murray Carmichael for taking the minutes of this meeting in the absence of BS.

4. Report from the “Project Group” set up to consider the options for the future of Port Edgar Marina following the recent announcement by Edinburgh Leisure.

The most recent meeting of the Group was held on 27th September and one of the main points for discussion was to consider if the Group was capable of mounting a realistic bid to take over the running of Port Edgar Marina. Edinburgh City Council is still in the process of finalising its strategy for seeking bidders so there is still a degree of uncertainty about what is on offer. The consensus view was that, on its own, the Group was unlikely to be able to raise the finance to make the necessary investment in Port Edgar and there was unease about taking on the ongoing management of the Marina.

The Group has since received communication from the Council asking for it to clarify its position and posing three possible scenarios:

- 1) The Group is seeking to make a bid as a Community based initiative to take over the running of the Marina before the Council seeks commercial bidders.
- 2) The Group will participate alongside other Commercial bidders and make a full bid to run the Marina.
- 3) The Group will hold back to see who comes through the Council's selection process as the preferred bidder and offer themselves as a backstop if that falls through.

The Group felt that of the three scenarios put forward, Option 3 was the only realistic response that could be given and this has now been conveyed back to the Council.

The BHA Committee discussed these proposals and confirmed its agreement with the response that had been made by the Group.

5. Matters Arising

- a) Membership Renewal: The Marina has promised that 2012 Berthing Renewals shall incorporate the BHA membership dues on an "opt out" basis.
- b) Weather Station: The Chairman reported that this was proceeding. It has been agreed the monitoring equipment would be installed in the radar building on the west wall. Graham Scott of PEYC is assisting with the technical requirements.
- c) Pontoon Maintenance: New brackets have been fitted to some of the pile guides and a nylon grid overlay is being considered for the main pontoon walkway. Pontoon planking is still only being replaced on an ad hoc basis.
- d) Dredging: The western approach is being dredged to a minimum depth of 2 metres and once this is completed the other channels and finger areas will receive attention.
- e) Gangway: The child protection mesh has now been fitted.
- f) Beamer Lighthouse: North Queensferry has made a bid to secure the Beamer Lighthouse and to re-construct it on-shore. Since the cost of rebuilding will be considerable it was agreed that the BHA should not pursue matters any further.
- g) Toilets at Shed 4: These are still closed and await maintenance by City Council staff.
- h) Marina charges: The Chairman reported that the Marina is proposing to increase the Berthing Charges this coming year by 3%. It was unanimously agreed that in the current circumstances, with staff salaries frozen and the continuing deterioration of the

