

JOINT COMMITTEE ON CHANNEL DREDGING, NEWPORT

Minutes of meeting held at ABP Offices, Newport, at 09:30hrs Wednesday, 14 January 2015

Representing Associated British Ports

Captain M Chidlow
P. Mitchell

Representing Newport Harbour Commissioners

C.P Crick
S.P Davison

Apologies

Mr M Elliott (ABP) has apologised for non-attendance.

2038 - MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meeting, held on Wednesday, 8 October 2014, were accepted as a true record.

2039 – REPORT OF THE DREDGING MANAGER

Mr P Mitchell presented the report of the Dredging Manager. He referred to the latest survey of the River which had recently been completed (12 November). Another survey, covering approximately 2/3rds of the Channel had been undertaken yesterday (13 January) but the results thereof had yet to be formulated. Dredging work had occurred in late December, around No5 buoy and the Bellmouth. The November survey had indicated retained material of 35,000 cubic metres above maintenance level. A general dredging campaign is usually arranged when this is over 50,000 cubic metres.

It was also noted that areas of the channel which were deeper than maintenance level had deteriorated from previous surveys. Whilst not affecting navigation, the total volume of retained material was now 65,000 cubic metres. It was agreed that a watching brief would be maintained.

The meeting discussed the level of information available generally. It was noted that the dredger itself gave usual data to the Dredging Manager, and this supplemented the details gleaned from the surveys. The vessels visiting Newport were also in close contact with the Port.

2040– CIVIL PROJECTS

In the absence of Mr M Elliott, Captain M Chidlow reported on civil projects. Much work was being undertaken on the dock gates in South Wales ports. The new inner gates at Cardiff had now been installed and work was now underway on the outer gates at Port Talbot. Following this, work will occur in Barry. It was noted that the Newport dock gates were functioning well. The meeting was very pleased to note such an investment in the Ports of South Wales and in the Welsh economy generally.

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of this Committee will take place on Wednesday, 8 April 2015, at 09:30hrs.

Date.....

Chairman.....