

JOINT COMMITTEE ON CHANNEL DREDGING, NEWPORT

Minutes of meeting held at ABP Offices, Newport, at 09:30hrs Wednesday, 9 July 2014

Representing Associated British Ports

Captain M Chidlow
M.J Elliott
P. Mitchell

Representing Newport Harbour Commissioners

C.P Crick
G Jug
P.H.C Davies

2031 - MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meeting, held on Wednesday, 9 April 2014, were accepted as a true record.

2032 – 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. There had been limited dredging activity since the last meeting, primarily within the enclosed dock but also a small amount at the Bell Mouth. Volumes of approximately 65,000 cubic metres of material above maintenance level were recorded in the area, an increase of approximately 5,000 cubic metres since the last meeting. This remained slightly above the target level of 50,000 cubic metres. A further survey would be undertaken next week, and further dredging work will be arranged if required – a dredger is in the area at present.

It was noted that the channel was becoming somewhat pinched in certain areas – a watching eye would be maintained on potential build-up of material on these banks.

It was further noted that a sluicing campaign would be taking place in August.

2033– CIVIL PROJECTS

Mr M J Elliott reported that the inspection work on dock structures (e.g. Quays, locks, jetties) continued throughout the region.

A lock gate programme for repair/ replacement was also on-going in the region. There is no work planned for Newport this year but there are such plans in subsequent years. In response to a question from Mr G Jug, Mr M.J Elliott and the Chairman explained that, if possible, work would take place around neap tides to minimise any effect on commercial shipping. Locks were unlikely to be closed for more than 1-2 tides. There was a general discussion concerning the construction and delivery of gates, their estimated useful life (c60 years) and ongoing maintenance.

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of this Committee will take place on Wednesday, 8 October 2014, at 09:30hrs.

Date.....

Chairman.....