



Meeting between Cambridge City Council (CCC), Conservators of the River Cam & Camboaters: 18th May 2007

Location: Parkside Pools Meeting Room, 10am to 11am

Present: Debbie Kaye (DK), Alistair Wilson (AW), Julie Durrant (JD), Dr Pip Noon (PN), Adrian Hoyes (AH), Mark Rogers (MR), Zoë Trent (ZT)

Appendix 1: Agenda Items 1 and 2 – mooring licence budget and priorities for expenditure

Appendix 2: Jesus Green Pump-out station improvements. Progress Report

AGENDA ITEM		ACTION
	DK acknowledged receipt of details supplied by Camboaters (sent by Andy Rankin) before the meeting regarding agenda items 1 and 2. This document forms appendix 1 of these minutes	
1 Budget 2007/2008	<p>DK highlighted that the financial arrangements had been verified between the Council and its partners and subsequently formally approved. As such, they do not propose to make changes to them.</p> <p>Waste Collection: DK stated that Street Scene supply a service to the council for collection of rubbish on the commons and that it is an arrangement which has been already been agreed. The council are happy to work with Camboaters to ensure Street Scene are doing what the council are paying them to do.</p> <p>The Council do not have a formal contract with Street Scene</p> <p>MR asked if the pricing of the arrangement was based on two large red bin bags per week.</p> <p>DK said that she would supply details to Camboaters of the collection service that Street Scene is supposed to supply. If the boaters verify how much rubbish they produce then there may be some scope for the council to renegotiate with Street Scene.</p> <p>DK also said she would ask Street Scene to verify what rubbish they are collecting from the boaters.</p> <p>River Bailiff: MR asked why such frequent checks were necessary.</p> <p>DK replied that they needed to be vigilant in making sure everyone is complying with the policy and that the same level of surveillance is necessary as last year as the mooring scheme is only in its second year but that it could be reviewed at the end of the second year.</p>	<p>DK</p> <p>MR/ZT</p> <p>DK</p>
2 Boaters priorities for expenditure	<p>Recycling: DK said that CCC were keen to sort out recycling but JD explained that refuse collection is problematic due to the types of vehicles that were allowed on the commons.</p> <p>DK said she would arrange a meeting with Dave Coventry, which Camboaters could attend, to discuss recycling options. Various options were discussed but it was agreed that it would be best to discuss details at the meeting with Dave Coventry.</p>	DK

	<p>Bank Improvements: MR said that there were some serious concerns about the condition of the bank and showed the meeting photos of some of the worst places.</p> <p>DK agreed that it was an issue of safety and that CCC needed to respond but that it would come from a separate budget anyway.</p> <p>MR said that the boaters would like to see some of the money saved from renegotiation of contracts with Cam Con and Street Scene spent on mooring rings.</p> <p>JD said that there was an issue with mooring rings and the Chris Robertson had looked into this but that it was extremely expensive.</p> <p>MR said that mooring rings were something the boaters would like to see but that it didn't have to happen over night. However, when repairing the bank, in some places it would make sense and be cost effective to put mooring rings in at the same time.</p> <p>DK agreed that they would follow through the issue of bank improvements quickly focusing on the most significant areas of danger and asked PN to suggest firms that could carry out a survey.</p>	DK PN
3 Licence re-application	<p>MR said that many of the boaters were surprised by the re-application process and felt that supplying the same information as last year was unnecessary and time consuming.</p> <p>PN, ZT and MR explained how the navigation licence system worked and that for example in reapplying for an EA or Camcon licence you only have to send in your Boat Safety Certificate if it is new.</p> <p>ZT suggested that if the boat has a valid EA/Camcon licence then they can not have got that without having the other documentation.</p> <p>JD said that the council needed to collect all the information for themselves for insurance purposes and could not rely on a third party.</p> <p>MR asked if it was necessary for it to be annual.</p> <p>AW explained that the licensing had to be done annually otherwise the boaters would have tenants rights and CCC did not want that.</p> <p>DK is willing to look at simplifying the process and making it more convenient for the boaters e.g. by having a Saturday morning where licences can be signed somewhere close to the river. CCC said they would show Camboaters committee the revised form before it is sent out in January 2008</p>	CCC
4 Policy/Pricing Review	<p>ZT stated that it did not seem to be necessary to have a pricing review when the mooring scheme was only in its second year.</p> <p>DK explained that The Executive Councillor requested a pricing review at the meeting (on 7th March) with Camboaters and the Leader of the Council.</p> <p>MR stated that Camboaters position on it was that the mooring licence fee should be equivalent to council tax band A and that should not change.</p>	

	<p>DK said that they will send a questionnaire to all boaters (those with a mooring licence and those on the waiting list). AW added that all stakeholders must be consulted with regards to the pricing review not just licence holders and the waiting list.</p> <p>MR suggested this should be completed by August and the information and results of the survey compiled by then.</p> <p>DK agreed to this. CCC will design a questionnaire, pass to the Camboaters committee to see if we want to add anything and then this will be distributed to boaters.</p> <p>There is a mooring policy review in November.</p>	DK
5 Improvement update	<p>JD handed out Chris Robertsons progress report about the Jesus Green pump out. This is appendix 2 of these minutes.</p> <p>JD said that the water point on Stourbridge Common was ready to be installed but was pending agreement from the Environment Agency.</p>	
6 AOB	<p>PN said that the EA have re-launched Boat Watch for boaters to report boat crime.</p> <p>PN also requested that boaters report any early morning noise from coxes.</p> <p>DK asked if the Camboaters had issues or comment they wished to raise in connection to rowing as they had a meeting with them next. ZT replied that they were aware of the letter sent by Robert Oeffner to candidates during the council elections and that Camboaters had also sent a letter to the candidates to state our point of view. The letters had been made available via the internet and Camboaters have had a number of responses from rowers to say that Robert Oeffner did not represent their views.</p> <p>Camboaters want to work towards harmonious relationships between all river users.</p>	