Coastal Liaison Group

Meeting No. 15

26th June 2019 – 4pm

Room 3A6, County Hall, Swords

Present Apologies

Councillors Adrian Henchy Paul Mulville

David Healy

Representatives Henry Donovan Michael Deegan

Michael Moynihan Raymond Brett

Fintan Price

Charles Sargent

Pat O’Brien

Council Officials Kevin Halpenny Eamon Lynch

Hans Visser

1. Minutes of last Meeting.

The minutes of the previous meeting held on the 17th April 2019 which had been circulated prior to the meeting were AGREED.

1. Update on Emergency Works/Relocation of SeaBees at Burrow Beach and briefing on long-term approach to dealing with erosion in Rogerstown Estuary.

HV stated that RPS were unable to attend the meeting and he would be presenting the report on their behalf. The report was on assessments carried out to date and analysis. This is looking to the future, trying to predict and remedy. HV stated that timelines given in the report may change due to climate change. Discussion took place regarding erosion and flooding. During the presentation FP stated that people have actually taken land into their back gardens so the models shown may not be correct. HV stated some information in the report needs to checked and amended if necessary, then FCC look at structures at risk and evaluate. RPS will now look at defence options for erosion and flooding. The report is expected in August 2019. FP enquired about the options and HV stated that RPS will have to do assessments and then consider the viability of options.

1. Update on Fingal Coastal Monitoring programme

KH stated that FCC are in discussions with the OPW who will take the lead on this and have requested a meeting. There is no update and is awaiting advice on same. DH enquired when this will happen. KH stated that FCC are still waiting to hear from the OPW since February. It is a National Programme and Fingal will be the pilot scheme. The OPW will state what is to be measured and what is to be monitored.

1. Briefing on Brook End former Landfill.

KH stated that Environment has appointed the main consultants to carry out analysis and FCC are at present procuring others to do the actual measurements and testing. This is a 6 month programme which began in May 2019. This programme involves a number of sites. Discussion took place among the members regarding the location and history of the former landfill.

1. Update on Report on National Coastal Erosion Audit.

KH stated that this report was commissioned by MAREI Institute & UCD. KH read out 2 Parliamentary Questions & Answers which were raised. He stated that there is limited statutory remit for this and this is why the audit was sponsored by FCC. There is no dedicated entity and no policy. Discussion took place regarding the OPWs responsibility/involvement. The works relate to the wider peninsula not to the houses. The focus is on agreement on works within the SCA and funding. DH quoted S’66 of Local Government Act stating that local authorities have the power to carry out works they consider necessary. KH stated that all other relevant permissions were needed also. The members stated that if the OPW is not willing to become involved, the Mayor should write to them and also the CCMA should get other local authorities involved. KH stated that it was disappointing that there was not more coming from the Government. AH enquired as to who exactly the members should lobby? DH asked can members agree to get the Mayor to write to the OPW. KH stated that it should be the Minister. It was agreed that “the Liaison Group would like to have the Mayor briefed on this issue of coastal erosion with a view to raising this with other counties.” KH agreed the set up a meeting with the Mayor.

CS enquired about the relocation of the SeaBees. KH informed the members that on advice from RPS the SeaBees would not be moved at present, that they were doing better than expected. If further work is required, FCC are ready to begin. Further discussion took place regarding the SeaBees and KH reminded the members that this was only interim intervention.

1. AOB

DH stated that erosion is taking place on Burrow Beach & Claremont Beach due to people walking on the dunes. He asked if signs or fencing could be placed to prevent walkers. HV stated that FCC does not know who owns this land and would be unable to place anything on property that is not ours. Further discussion took place and KH stated this can be looked into but would need to ensure that FCC are not doing anything illegal. CS stated that the Community Council can canvass that area also. KH stated that the matter will be brought to Management and back to the meeting with a recommendation.

1. Date of next meeting.

The date was set for the next meeting to be held on Wednesday 11th September 2019 in Room 3A6 County Hall Swords.