

**CROUCH COASTAL COMMUNITY TEAM**  
**LOWER CROUCH RIVER CROSSING WORKING GROUP MEETING**  
**TUESDAY 10 JANUARY 2017**  
**AT CHA OFFICE, BURNHAM-ON-CROUCH**

**MEETING NOTES BY JOHN JAMES IN CHAIRMAN'S ABSENCE DUE TO ILLNESS**

**PRESENT:**

- John James, CHA, local architect and chairman for meeting
- Paula Chapman, RDC
- Matt Wilson, MDC
- Keith Powell, Dengie Enterprise Support
- James Vanuffell, CHA [standing in for Susan Harrison CHA Harbourmaster]

**APOLOGIES**

- Doug MacEwen CHA and CCT Vice Chairman
- Jeff Kew RSPB
- Susan Harrison CHA Harbourmaster
- Chris Tyas RSPB
- Cheryl Milton White RDC
- Edwin Buckley CHA Chairman
- Russell Everard MDC
- Cllr Ron Pratt MDC / BTC
- Ken Wickham CCT and CAYF

**1. Welcome and introductions:**

- JJ advised apologies just received from DM who had been taken ill and confirmed he would chair the meeting.
- It was agreed to use the agenda issued for this meeting and the action points from previous meeting of 8<sup>th</sup> December 2016.

**2. Minutes of 8<sup>th</sup> December 2016 meeting:**

- These were agreed.

**3. Matters arising from 8<sup>th</sup> December 2016 meeting:**

- JJ advised that basic design layout had been prepared and passed onto interested parties including CHA, RSPB and the private owner of the existing quayside jetty who had all indicated approval in principle and subject to detailed design and planning approval and other necessary consents [CHA Works Licence etc]. Subject to agreement with RSPB, not presently represented, JJ confirmed that he would

arrange preliminary quotations for the pontoon works from 2 specialist companies who manufacture such floating pontoons etc.

- In EB and SH's absence, JV advised that CHA is presently considering management options for the proposed ferry operation. PC and KP both considered that it was essential that the management arrangements for the ferry operation were clarified and confirmed for any future bid / application for Coastal Community Funding and that some element of "local competitive bidding" for aspects of the scheme would most likely be appropriate. It was agreed DM should look into this further and report at next meeting.
- MM confirmed that following further discussions with Maldon DC officers that council had accepted that the Burnham Town Pontoon was inappropriate for the proposed new ferry operation due to design and construction constraints imposed by disabled and cycle access requirements and that the proposed improvement to the existing pontoon would ensure an excellent future in community interests.
- KP advised that the necessary timeline for the project posed no particular problems and he was presently working up the necessary "business plan" and would present this together with a detailed programme at the next meeting.
- Regarding the necessary "Template Application" for the project KP and PC stated that this was in hand and must include an agreed "business plan" and agreed "match funding" arrangement – this requires further input from RSPB and MDC in conjunction with RDC.
- In respect of planning permissions required PC confirmed that the RSPB pontoon at Grassland Point on Wallasea would be subject to planning permission from Rochford DC and not ECC and for the Burnham side Maldon DC would be the local planning authority – ideally the planning applications for both pontoons should be submitted concurrently to demonstrate the necessary close coordination of the project. JJ will refer this to JK at RSPB to ensure "joined up thinking" on the applications.
- KP stated that he was presently working up the "business plan" for the scheme and did require an independent valuation of the privately owned "jetty" and foreshore on the Burnham side – JJ will investigate and report.
- Due to his absence from the meeting DM was unable to report on the outcome of last full CCCT meeting but it is understood the Crouch Ferry project had been formally adopted as a full "project" for which grant application would be made.
- Likewise, it was not possible to establish the outcome of the Burnham Town Council meeting at which the ferry project was discussed. DM will report at next meeting.
- JJ advised that he had ensured further input into the draft Burnham Neighbourhood Plan in respect of the importance of a new ferry link to Wallasea and RSPB project and that draft plan was now with the Planning Inspectorate pending formal approval. The draft plan is on the www.
- JJ and JK will report on likely planning submission arrangements at next meeting.
- Regarding other potential ferry projects in the Maldon District, MM confirmed that the potential scheme for a Bradwell - West Mersea ferry link was definitely not subject of a Coastal Community Fund bid and he would report further on this at the next meeting. PC expressed satisfaction from RDC viewpoint with this.

**4. Any other business:**

- None
- 

**5. Next meeting:**

- 2pm Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2017 at Dengie Enterprise Support office at Burnham Station House.