



## **MINUTES OF THE INNER HARBOUR COMMUNITY LIAISON GROUP**

**Date:** 13 June 2017  
**Location:** Boardroom, Fremantle Ports Administration Building  
**Time:** 5pm to 6.30pm  
**Chairperson** Dr Simon Avenell

### **Community representatives:**

**Maryrose Baker**, Fremantle Inner City Residents' Association (FICRA)  
**Cr Andrew McPhail**, Town of East Fremantle  
**Robert Potts**, Beaconsfield Precinct  
**Eric Wilson**, Port Beach Users Group and Polar Bears  
**Gerry MacGill**, North Fremantle Precinct  
**Cr Jon Strachan**, City of Fremantle  
**Cheryl Greaves**, Fremantle Volunteer Heritage Guides  
**Dennis Claughton**, Flying Angel Club  
**Laurie Apps**, Fremantle Park Association

### **Guest**

**Dr Susanna Castleden**, artist

### **Fremantle Ports' representatives**

**Chris Leatt-Hayter**, Chief Executive Officer  
**Ainslie de Vos**, Manager External Affairs  
**Franco Andreone**, Manager Fremantle Waterfront  
**Jeanette Murray**, External Affairs Coordinator

### **Apologies**

**Ron Davidson**, Fremantle History Society  
**Don Whittington**, Fremantle Park Association  
**Carol Shannon**, Leeuwin Ocean Adventure Foundation  
**Des Snook**, Main Roads WA  
**Ron Kawalilak**, Gibson Park Precinct  
**David Earl**, Fremantle Arts Centre Precinct  
**Gino Valenti**, General Manager Strategy and Planning  
**Helen Elliott**, Community Relations Coordinator

## **1. WELCOME, APOLOGIES AND INVITATION FOR AGENDA ITEMS**

Dr Avenell welcomed all, especially Susanna Castleden, Laurie Apps and Franco Andreone, who were attending their first meeting or who had not attended for a while. He announced apologies and called for additional agenda items. Minutes of the previous meeting on 14 March 2017 had been circulated and were accepted. (Note: A change had been made to the original minutes on request of Eric Wilson. Original minutes stated re: port beach rocks that regular beach users were not complaining. Changed minutes said that some occasional beach users and a few regular users were unhappy with situation, but long-time regulars accepted the situation for what it was.)

**Action from previous meeting:** Ainslie de Vos to provide Rob Harrison (at the apartments near the Roundhouse and adjacent to the bend in the railway line) with details about a contact person in the PTA. Ainslie has visited the site of the fence realignment and spoken to Natasha Guerinoni, from the PTA; Ainslie has provided her contact details to Rob Harrison.

### **Additional agenda items:**

Ron Davidson (who rang before the meeting): Has Victoria Quay planning been advanced? Will there be public consultation/involvement? Reminder of discussion recorded about 8-10 years ago.

## **2. TRADE UPDATE**

Information provided by Chris Leatt-Hayter:

At the end of June, trade is expected to be about the same as previous financial year. Generally, all trades are subdued. This is mirrored in ports around Australia although some growth is expected globally.

## **3. NEW GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES**

Information provided by Chris Leatt-Hayter:

The new State Government will not be selling the port, an Outer Harbour taskforce will be announced by the Minister for Transport and a platform of the government was to encourage more tourist development at Victoria Quay. Fremantle Ports is keen to see opportunities developed in the western end of Victoria Quay (D Shed and west) but the eastern end of Victoria Quay is required for port operations. With Roe 8 not going ahead, the government will be looking at road and rail links to the port, with an emphasis on encouraging greater use of rail to transport containers by increasing the rail subsidy per box.

Discussion: Cr Jon Strachan said the City of Fremantle was keen to work cooperatively with Fremantle Ports and move forward to find common ground on Victoria Quay development. He said the City was working with Main Roads WA on the High Street upgrade (Stirling Hwy to Carrington St). Chris Leatt-Hayter said Fremantle Ports was also keen to work cooperatively with the City of Fremantle. He said, in answer to Ron Davidson's questions, that VQ planning had not been advanced yet in any formal way and there would be consultation when it occurs.

## **4. INNER HARBOUR WORKS UPDATE**

Information provided by Franco Andreone:

- Additional Fremantle Rail Bridge protection: An underwater rock mound will be built in the north-eastern corner of the Inner Harbour to protect the rail bridge from vessel collisions; Piers 6 and 7 only require protection as Wongara Shoal prevents large port vessels from getting close to the bridge; PTA has installed 'dolphin' structures to protect remaining

piers from ferry/recreational vessel impacts; installation starting early July; works 7am – 7pm Mondays – Saturdays; completion August.

- North Mole seawall repairs: Part of North Mole seawall routine maintenance; new limestone armour rocks being installed at specific locations; works began late May 2017; completion expected end of June.

Discussion: Question about whether there would be plume in water due to rock mound works. Answer: There shouldn't be much plume because the limestone rocks will be a minimum of 20cm in size and pre-washed. Installation expected to take place over a relatively short period of a couple of weeks.

## 5. PORT BEACH UPDATE

Ainslie de Vos provided a background to the Port Beach issue. She said there had been several complaints over the summer and autumn about rocks on the beach and beach erosion; two people had complained a number of times and they had met with Fremantle Ports' Acting CEO and Chairman. When the harbour was built in the 1890s, about 8 million cubic metres of rocks were deposited on the shoreline plus there is believed to have been unauthorised dumping of building materials historically. Recent investigations showed there was no material escaping from the Rous Head seawall. Eric Wilson said the beach was looking worse than two months ago. He said the solution was to take the sand, screen it to take out rocks and replenish it. He said the sand had been disappearing and not coming back. He said the City of Fremantle and Fremantle Ports should work together on replenishing the sand. Gerry MacGill agreed that the sand needed replenishing. **Action:** Chris Leatt-Hayter said Fremantle Ports would meet with the City of Fremantle to determine any further action.

## 6. CRUISE SHIPPING

Information provided by Ainslie de Vos:

Carnival Australia decision: Disappointed in Carnival Australia's decision to cease 'homeporting' P&O and Princess cruise line services out of Fremantle from 2018; decision relates to WA regional ports; positive feedback about Fremantle Passenger Terminal received from Carnival over years; well over \$2 million spent refurbishing the heritage-listed Fremantle Passenger Terminal; further upgrading planned; Fremantle Ports and Tourism WA will continue to work with cruise line operators to ensure high service levels in Fremantle and to grow cruising business.

Discussion about tourism services provided to cruise ship passengers to encourage them to visit Fremantle instead of getting on buses for day trips. **Action:** Presentation at next meeting about initiatives/actions taken by Fremantle Ports, the City of Fremantle, Tourism WA and others to assist cruise visitors and disembarking passengers and promote Fremantle as a destination.

Question about how many ships were Carnival ships and number of scheduled cruise ship visits. **Action:** Cruise ship call statistics to be provided in minutes. (Answer: 60 ship calls in 2016-17; 45 scheduled so far for 2017-18.)

## 7. COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION

Information provided by Ainslie de Vos:

- RV *Sonne*, one of the world's most high-tech research vessels, attracted 3200 visitors (a record for the ship) when it was open to the public at Victoria Quay on the WA Day public holiday on 5 June.
- 3 Indian naval ships will be open to the public 10am - 4pm Wednesday 14 June, C & D Berths, Victoria Quay
- Dolphin research: Fremantle Ports has supported dolphin research for a number of years. This current three-year study is looking at foraging behaviour and the effects of underwater noise on dolphins in the Fremantle Inner Harbour. Intensive fieldwork starting for a month.
- Finance Branch cooked for a Biggest Morning Tea to raise funds for breast cancer research. Raised \$800, matched by Fremantle Ports, total = \$1600.
- Recent education visitors: Kulbardi Aboriginal Centre, Murdoch University bridging students (visit to port, mentoring and presentations by staff on their careers); Halls Head College (career information) and All Saints College Year 10 Geography students (to learn about economic, social and environmental change and management; topics are a focus of Year 10 Geography in the Australian curriculum).
- Dismantle's BikeRescue program with Fremantle Fast Track - North Lake Senior Campus students: 9 students (2 bikes each: one to give away and one to keep), 8 program sessions. BikeRescue aims to empower and enable at risk and disengaged young people through engagement in a program that encourages healthy social interactions in a safe and supportive environment. Strong mentorship is used to build relationships and create positive and sustainable change amongst youth participants.
- Rockingham Senior High School: Fremantle Ports scholarship winners; students are in the school's maritime program.
- Spare Parts Puppet Theatre: photo of Coolbellup Community School students attending a performance; one of eight schools able to send 3 classes each to performances in 2016-17 due to Fremantle Ports funding and matched Commonwealth funding.
- Rous Head Industrial Park has been rated 'Excellent as Built' by the Infrastructure Sustainability Council of Australia; the first port project in Australia to be given an infrastructure sustainability rating.

## 8. . LOSS MANAGEMENT

Information provided by Franco Andreone:

Communication of significant incidents, complaints and improvements relating to Inner Harbour operations, and that may be of interest to Community Liaison Group members.  
Information for the period March - May 2017:

- Incident 24/6/17: Contractor working at height without current licence - Routine workplace inspection identified electrical contractors working at height at Fremantle Passenger Terminal without a current working at heights certificate; licence two years out of date. Response: Contractors directed to stop work; Fremantle Ports supervisor contacted; electrical contractors advised a Working at Heights Certificate required for working in scissor lift; Fremantle Ports' working at heights procedure distributed; request that all contractors make it a toolbox topic; signage to be fitted to scissor lift; electrical contractor requested to provide details of how they will ensure employees have current up-to-date licences.
- Incident 21/5/17: Person inside fenced Rous Head fairy tern sanctuary - Port Services Officer (PSO) returning from mooring job at North Quay saw member of the public inside sanctuary taking photos. Repeated requests by PSO for man to leave sanctuary were ignored and met with aggression. PSO suggest signage be reviewed.
- Incident 13/5/17: Asian Green Mussels (biosecurity risk) found on cruise ship hull - Department of Fisheries detected AGMs on cruise ship hull in Inner Harbour and advised that risk was being assessed while also aiming to avoid disruption to vessel's schedule.

Comprehensive inspection and assessment planned. Response: Subsequent inspection determined hull very clean with some AGMs in niches; 17 removed; reproductive status confirmed as immature. Overall risk considered low and will be eliminated as vessel is scheduled to dry dock in July 2017.

- Complaints 19/5/17: 'Diesel engine' noise throughout night - Two complaints received from Fremantle residents in relation to a loud 'diesel engine noise' throughout the night; one person indicating it was different to typical noises associated with port activities. Response: Investigation of port activities determined there were no noisy or unusual operations being undertaken overnight. It was suggested that the continuous diesel engine noise may be associated with dewatering activities on nearby large construction sites.
- Complaints 1 & 4 March, 12 April and 2 May - Port Beach rocks - Complaints from Beach users about rocks on the beach (item covered earlier in meeting).
- Complaints 1, 4, 12 & 15 March: Four complaints about faulty parking meters on Victoria Quay. Response: Fremantle Ports asked Wilson Parking to do a full inspection of parking meters to repair any faults and to provide assurance of previous and ongoing maintenance program; Wilson Parking confirmed that spot maintenance was completed and that all minor faults were rectified; ongoing monitoring of parking machines will continue.

## 9. GENERAL BUSINESS

- Maryrose Baker said the J Shed issue was back; Sunset Events had applied to the City of Fremantle for a one-year extension of the lease commencement. The Council officers' report recommends that the council reject the request.
- Ainslie de Vos said Rosslyn Hill Mining intended to resume containerised lead shipments with the same strict controls through the port. Timing not yet decided but decision on when the shipments will resume is likely to be made in October.
- Dennis Cloughton provided information about how the Flying Angel Club has compassionately supported crew and families of crew in need, including the young daughter (travelled from Europe) of a chief officer who was flown from Port Hedland in a coma and eventually died, and a livestock crewman who had a broken arm.

## ACTIONS

- **Action:** Chris Leatt-Hayter said Fremantle Ports would meet with the City of Fremantle to determine any further action on the Port Beach issue.
- **Action:** Presentation at next meeting about initiatives/actions taken by Fremantle Ports, the City of Fremantle, Tourism WA and others to assist cruise visitors and disembarking passengers and promote Fremantle as a destination.
- **Action:** Cruise ship call statistics to be provided in minutes. (Answer: 60 ship calls in 2016-17; 45 scheduled so far for 2017-18.)

**Conclusion:** Meeting concluded at 6.30pm.

**Next meeting:** 5pm Tuesday 12 September 2017, Fremantle Ports Administration Building