



Forth Bridges Forum - Meeting 22

28 February 2017

Meeting Room 1.15, FRC contact and Education Centre, South Queensferry

MINUTE

Attendees

Hugh Gillies (HG) (Chair)	Transport Scotland
Lawrence Shackman (LS)	Transport Scotland
Scott Lees (SL)	Transport Scotland
Michelle Russell (MR)	Transport Scotland
Michael Dineen (MD)	Transport Scotland
Miles Oglethorpe (MO)	Historic Environment Scotland
Rebecca Jones (RJ)	Historic Environment Scotland
Campbell Docherty (CD)	BIG Partnership
Craig Bowman (CB)	Network Rail
Sandra Montador-Stewart (SMS)	Fife Council
Graham Malcolm (GM)	West Lothian Council
Mark Arndt (MA)	Amey
Chris Waite (CW)	Amey
Gillian Laurie (GL)	Amey (Secretariat)

1. Welcome & Introductions

- 1.1. The Chair welcomed all attendees to Meeting 22 of the Forth Bridges Forum.
- 1.2. The Chair invited all members to introduce themselves.

2. Apologies, Minutes of Previous Meeting and Actions

- 2.1. Apologies were received from: E Lebida, Network Rail; David Dickson, Network Rail, Ben Edwards, Network Rail; Ewan Kennedy, CEC; Alan Shirley, Transport Scotland; Mark Dunlop, Transport Scotland; Manuela Calchini, Visit Scotland; Ken Gourlay, Fife Council, Ewan Angus, Amey; Mirka Vybiralova, CEC
- 2.2. SMS asked for 2 amendments to the minutes of the previous meeting, held on 29th November 2016. There were made, circulated, agreed and published.
- 2.3. Action points were reviewed and updated as follows:
Action 16.3 – Complete
Action 16.4 – Merge with actions 17.3 & 20.9
Action 17.1 – Partial Competition – action ongoing

Action 17.3 - Closed
Action 17.4 – Closed
Action 19.5 – Closed
Action 20.5 - Closed
Action 20.7 – Closed (*not for Forum*)
Action 20.8 - Closed
Action 20.9 – Presented at mtg – Action closed
Action 21.2 - Ongoing
Action 21.3 - Ongoing
Action 21.4 - Ongoing
Action 21.5 - Ongoing
Action 21.6 – Partial completion – Action ongoing
Action 21.7 – Open action

3. Forth Bridges Forum – Update

- 3.1. Forum Public Meeting – Public Forum event on 8 December 2016 was well attended and successful providing good engagement. LS said feedback from Community Forum members was positive.
HG suggested next meeting should be before the opening of Queensferry Crossing, evening of Tuesday 25th April 2017. All agreed - provide availability asap for 25th April 2017 to GL and start planning this meeting. Items to be discussed to include; Opening of the QC, Maintenance of the existing road bridge and southern location of the visitor centre. Post meeting note – CEC Exhibition room provisionally booked for 25th April 2017.
LS said that the proposed strategy for QC opening can be given and info on which bridge to use. Hard copy and online guides will be available.
MA would present the larger maintenance works ongoing on FRB
CB would provide an update from Network Rail on planning of the Visitor Experience.
SL asked to ensure the public meeting dates do not clash with other meetings such as local community council meetings.

Action – Confirm availability for public meeting on 25th April 2017 to GL - ALL

- 3.2. Events Planner Update – Dates for Queensferry Crossing opening and other events relating to QC to be added to events planner and circulated to forum members and (forum subgroups)? Forum members should be informed of details and dates prior to a public announcement.
- 3.3. HG advised that TS, Amey, FBOC are working on a cycling event on the FRB linked to the opening events for the Queensferry Crossing.
- 3.4. LS spoke about the planned cycle event to promote active travelling. Cycle, walk and public transport promoted over private car use.

Action – Provide QC opening and other events details to GL (forthbridgesforum@amey.co.uk) ALL

4. World Heritage Management Group – Update by MO and RJ

RJ gave an update on World Heritage Day which is on 18th April 2017. A range of activities are planned for this day including Steam Punk Event, afternoon blogger tours and issuing of flyers.

CB advised they are re naming Dalmeny Station for 1 day to “Forth Bridge Station”.

- 4.1. There will be an event at Kelvingrove Museum 1 week earlier on 11th April 2017. There will be a WH stall for each of the six WH sites, with a seventh stall showcasing 3D scanning.
- 4.2. MO will demonstrate 3D Forth Bridge Animations at 41st session of World Heritage Committee in Krakow, Poland in July 2017.
- 4.3. MO asked the Forum for agreement to set up a working group devoted to collections, records and artefacts relating to Forth Bridge. HG had no issues with this proposal
- 4.4. RJ informed the group that all World Heritage sites have a dedicated Coordinator and will pass a brief note of a Coordinators role and cost. CB added that some of this work may be currently undertaken by Network Rail through Maintenance. We need to understand the role and resource implications. HG reiterated why funding to the Forum is important. He asked all Forum members to consider their organisations ability to contribute funding and report back to the next meeting.

Action – RJ to provide a brief note of Coordinator role and cost

Action – All Forum member organisations to report back on their ability to contribute to funding.

- 4.5. MO presented slides of the making of the bronze plaques. All members agreed they are very well presented. One will be placed at the Viewpoint at Contact and Education Centre and the unveiling will provide a publicity opportunity. Potential for theft of plaques discussed, possibly not an issue.
- 4.6. Jacobs ladder footpath – MO thanked Amey, Network Rail and the local community for help improving this area.

5. Tourism Project Group – Update by SMS

- 5.1. Tourism strategy – 9 tenders returned, interviews with top four will be held Friday 3rd March 2017. An update will be given at next Forum meeting.
- 5.2. Digital Experience – Touchscreen at CEC and digital information one of which is sited at Railway Station. Looking potentially to having one in car park at CEC which would include new branding, relevant business from North and South sides and point to other websites i.e FBF, City of Edinburgh Council, Fife Council. Application to Heritage lottery for funding for this. SMS suggested bringing a portable digital kiosk to next Forum meeting.

Action - SMS to bring portable digital kiosk to next Forum meeting

- 5.3. SL advised members that a camera will be positioned at side of CEC building within next 2 months with panoramic views of all 3 bridges, live weather / view feed and the ability to look back at a certain date. Pin overlay at certain areas for info linking to view.
- 5.4. Digital Counters – MA advised that Amey have been investigating and progressing digital cycle counters positioned at 4 ends of FRB and for touchscreen to include info on current ongoing bridge works. Pedestrian counters ready to be installed within next 2 months. Short term plan is WIFI at viewing platform, longer term WIFI on whole of bridge. HG asked SMS to see how this links to the tourism strategy

Action - SMS asked to map all associated tourism activity and initiatives and present to next Forum meeting

- 5.5. LS advised that a downloadable app is being developed demonstrating construction of new crossing and could tie in with the above. HG asked that this can all be captured, mapped and shared. CD asked that consideration is given for maintaining this resource, who will be the owner. HG noted that this should be discussed further.

Action – The Forum to consider the future ownership and maintenance of tourism initiatives such as bespoke apps etc.

6. Communications Group – Update by CD

- 6.1. Communications group met on 17th February 2017. The group are considering the Jacobs Ladder Project, potential for similar work at North side.
- 6.2. 3D Scans – a successful media promotion. Comms plan worked out for output of data. QC had a ‘quirky’ # on Valentines day which showed a desire for online community to be involved. It launched well and a good partnership approach involved all partners.

Action –CD to discuss with RJ and MO World Heritage day events

- 6.3. CW gave a presentation on branding for The Forth Bridges. One website which will promote and integrate 3 Bridges from 3 centuries. Objectives for new branding logo is to be iconic, friendly, instantly recognisable and to showcase 3 bridges. The branding is to work across all media following a huge growth in people using social media rather than website for information. All members agreed they liked the branding therefore approving identity graphic. Typography to be finalised and launch preferable in advance of QC opening. HG and SL asked that careful consideration of launch is given, especially timing and how/who it is shared with prior to launch. All relevant people to be sufficiently briefed especially those involved with QC opening. CW will meet with communications people at QC. GM and SLS happy with note to circulate rather than a briefing. CB raised link to Forth Bridge may need to feed into Scotrail? Trademark branding, SL had received legal advice and will provide post meeting note. CW will seek advice on trademark from Avian.

6.4. Quarterly report was issue prior to meeting, stats show a positive upward continuous trend with the spike in January due to an overturned lorry.

7. Network Rail – Update by CB

7.1. Visitor Experience – A meeting with the Deputy Leader of Fife Council was held, a positive meeting where explanation was given for not progressing with North side. The initiative for South Queensferry was welcomed with support shown for something to progress at North side. It was noted that the Deputy Leader of Fife Council was keen to see the progress of a North Queensferry Visitors Centre, while recognising Network Rails current finding restrictions. She called for a multi-agency approach. HG noted this but the meeting agreed it's not remitted or resourced to take forward this type and scale of project at present. Forum members agreed that it would need a change in remit and for suitable funding to be identified.

7.2. Purchase of property progressing at South Queensferry Forts area.

7.3. Planning process – public consultations planned meetings with local councils in March then timescales should follow.

7.4. CB pleased with the progress being made and this will accelerate as we move to summer.

Actions - Network Rail meet with Edinburgh Council and other key stakeholders.

8. AOB

8.1. MO spoke about Tam Dalyell's recent passing, he campaigned in 1990's to paint Forth Bridge and without this support would not have achieved World Heritage status

9. Date of next meeting – **Tuesday 9th May 2017 11am**– Contact & Education Centre, Queensferry