

Date: Fri, 20 Dec 2013 13:06:52 +0000

From: Graeme Watson
Subject: Re: Tyne Slipway Development.
To: Michael Dawson; Principal Planning Officer
CC: Cllr J Anglin; TGA Committee

From: Michael Dawson
To: Graeme Watson;
Cc: cllr.john.anglin@southtyneside.gov.uk;
TGA Committee
Sent: Saturday, 21 December 2013, 14:00
Subject: Tyne Slipway Development.

Michael,
As chair of the TGA I feel it necessary to respond to your various e-mails and seek clarification of certain points.

Graeme,
In response to your mail I shall go through each point you make:

With regard to your e-mail below of Monday at 16:10 to Cllr Anglin, you infer that you have measured the structure down at the boatyard and - as you have stated - appear to have dimensional evidence that the structure is one metre wider than designed.

I have made no inference to measuring the structure I made a statement.

I note in your e-mail of yesterday evening that you appear to have measured the structure from outside the boatyard site, and I am unsure how accurate that could be, especially given that you claim your measurements are to within 5 cm of accuracy.

I did not need access to any boatyard as the method used to measure the structure any boy scout with a couple of badges could do.

You wrote your e-mail on Monday in a fashion which appears to give the impression that you are writing on behalf of the TGA as a group; if this were the case I would have expected you to follow protocol and that committee members would have given their consent to this or at least have been made aware of your new evidence.

I would like to bring your attention to two e-mails, the first from the Vice Chair, 20/11/13. Having given her apologies about attending the November meeting she states 'If possible can those in attendance obtain copies of the evidence the council produces in support of their apparent claim that they have exercised due diligence so that the committee can form a view as to whether we are able to challenge such evidence'

Second e-mail from yourself to the Secretary, 20/11/13 subsequently forwarded to committee members 'I would infer this will be a structured meeting and standard protocols and meeting ethics will apply ' .

I will continue to do my best to obtain evidence as requested by our Vice Chair. My only intention is that the membership of the TGA and in fact any interested resident outside of the TGA, become as fully informed as possible regarding the River Drive development. I will continue to act in the spirit of the TGA 'Mission Statement'.

The TGA could then have ascertained the validity of your findings and agreed to subsequent action; at this point you cannot give any assurance that your measurements are accurate or provide an answer to the Principal Planning Officer as to what method you used to obtain them. As a result your measurements cannot be verified and taken as being accurate.

My findings, as you well know, have been circulated to the TGA committee members for their information. I would be more than happy for validation to occur. May I suggest that the whole matter could be put to bed if

an independent party were allowed on site to confirm or deny my findings. Should my findings be proved to be wrong then I will happily stand down on the matter.

In my opinion the only way to get these measurements with the accuracy stated would be to gain access to the boatyard and physically measure between the various points on the footings. I am therefore concerned that, purporting to represent the TGA as a whole you have somehow gained access to the site without permission and taken these measurements.

I accept that this is your opinion only and one unworthy of your position of Chair of the TGA. Are you accusing me of trespass?

In order to put my mind at ease, can you therefore explain how you have obtained your findings?

Forgive me but I believe it is 'O' level maths.

Also, in your e-mail of Monday at 16:10 you make reference to myself and state that I informed you that the meeting at the Town Hall would be a formal meeting with structured protocols. In fact, I never said that the meeting would be formal as per the e-mail I sent out prior to this meeting. I am not happy to be misquoted in official correspondence you sent out to council officials.

Please see above reference to your mail dated November 20th. I was merely quoting your statement.

If you want to communicate with the Town Hall on a personal basis with your comments and views on the boatyard issue do not use the TGA as a platform to do this. Any official correspondence from the group as a whole is to be done through the secretary, and any new evidence or information is to be presented to the TGA committee as a group. Any such information can then be progressed in structured manner as required.

I will continue to gather information as I see fit, and as requested, as an individual or as a committee member of the TGA. May I remind you that you announced to the Committee that there was nothing further could be done on this matter at this time. I would refer you to the minutes of the last committee meeting, evening 25/11/13, but to the best of my knowledge none were taken.

I am aware that I am not the only member of the committee who has serious reservations about what we have been told. As Chair you have determined that the next official platform to present information will not occur until mid January. Therefore I will continue to present the information available to me as it occurs, by circulating such to the membership. I must add at this point that it is a major concern that the wider membership of, I believe, some 80 members, are not being kept up to date with TGA activity.

Please revert with a full explanation of the method used to measure the width of the structure so that we, as the TGA can be satisfied of their validity. See notes above.

As you are aware I have continued to request information from the Principal Planning Manager regarding plans of the slipway structure. He has now sent me an e-mail telling me not to e-mail him again.

I can only assume that your e-mail and the one from the Principal Planning Manager is a clumsy attempt to silence me. I sincerely hope you can reassure me that I am wrong in my assumption.

Graeme

Regards, Mick

----- Original Message -----

From: Peter Cunningham

To: 'Michael Dawson'

Sent: Friday, December 20, 2013 9:17 AM

Subject: RE: TGA - Town Hall Meeting 25 Nov [PROTECT]

Mr Dawson - once again - I have measured this on site and have copied the 1996 plans across to you twice already (attached again for your use) and I have explained during our meeting that the base and height of the structure are compliant...this is the end of the matter as far as I am concerned

Please do not email me again

Regards

Peter Cunningham

Principal Planning Officer

South Tyneside Council, Development Management, Planning Group,

Development Services

Unless otherwise stated, opinions, conclusions and other information expressed in this message are personal, and not those of South Tyneside Council.

From: Michael Dawson [<mailto:daw50nmdj@hotmail.co.uk>]

Sent: 19 December 2013 21:29

To: Peter Cunningham

Cc: Cllr John Anglin; Graeme Watson; davidroutledge@btinternet.com; Anne Connolly; Melanie Todd; matthewburge1@me.com; Alan & Elva Freeman; ken@hbhydraulics.co.uk

Subject: TGA - Town Hall Meeting 25 Nov

Dear Peter,

I have sufficient skills in surveying to be able to measure the width of the structure without access to the site and can say with confidence that it is 13.20m wide give or take 0.05m. The towers are vertical and it would seem to me that it is reasonable to assume that the footings, laid in 2001, are the same width.

We still need to receive a copy of the date stamped approved drawing from 1996.

regards

Michael Dawson

From: Peter.Cunningham@southtyneside.gov.uk

To: daw50nmdj@hotmail.co.uk

Date: Mon, 16 Dec 2013 16:47:07 +0000

Subject: RE: TGA - Town Hall Meeting 25 Nov [NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]

Mr Dawson - when did you get access to measure the structure on site ?

Regards

Peter Cunningham

Principal Planning Officer

South Tyneside Council, Development Management, Planning Group,

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From: Michael Dawson [<mailto:daw50nmdj@hotmail.co.uk>]

Sent: 16 December 2013 16:10

To: Cllr John Anglin; Peter Cunningham

Cc: Graeme Watson; davidroutledge@btinternet.com; Anne Connolly; Melanie Todd; matthewburge1@me.com; Alan & Elva Freeman; ken@hbhydraulics.co.uk

Subject: TGA - Town Hall Meeting 25 Nov

Cllr John Anglin,

Inappropriate Developments on the Riverside.

Thank you for the summary of the meeting of the 25th Nov. I agree that this is a reasonable record of the meeting. However, the TGA Committee members were made to understand by the current Chairman, Graeme Watson, that this would be a formal meeting 'standard meeting with structured protocols'. So far details of the meeting have been word of mouth only, as you say no records exist, which makes the dissemination of information to the wider membership difficult.

I would like to comment on your first point about drawings seen and have attached three images to help make this clear. First a sketch of the plans I think we were discussing at the meeting (image on the left) and second, a detail from the drawing, date stamped 5th Sept, provided by Peter Cunningham. The photo of the structure completed in early September speaks for itself.

I have measured the structure concerned and it is a meter wider than the date stamped plan provided. Therefore the footings placed in 2001 must have been set a meter wider as well. An image was forwarded to Peter Cunningham showing that the current structure is too short to accommodate the Nexus Ferry; not suitable for purpose?

I maintain that the existing construction has not been built to the plans as circulated by Peter Cunningham. I am therefore requesting a copy of the plan presented at the November meeting as represented by my sketch. I am concerned that the planning department is about to allow a building that is not being constructed to an approved plan an occurrence of which I have personal experience.

This is an important issue to residents of the Riverside who need to be kept fully informed, particularly as it is understood that Mr Wilson or his representatives are currently in the pre-planning stage with the council regarding further works.

I believe therefore that any future meetings regarding this matter should be formal and recorded.

Yours sincerely
Michael Dawson.

From: cllr.john.anglin@southtyneside.gov.uk
To: daw50nmdj@hotmail.co.uk
Date: Sun, 1 Dec 2013 18:37:40 +0000
Subject: RE: TGA - Town Hall Meeting 25 Nov

Michael

I took no minutes as is customary at these informal meetings.

For your record I am sure all would agree :

The Exec representatives of the Group accepted that the construction had been made legally as per drawings seen.

2.The Exec representatives accepted that Items 3 and 4 which had not been complied with by the building company previously had now been properly addressed.

3.Concern was expressed that the building as approved would be unfit for purpose (eg not big enough to take in the Ferryboat) but this was accompany problem until/ or if, additional construction was made.

4.Concern was expressed as to the fact that there had been rumours that the Company was preparing to apply for further Planning Permission for at least one more building of about the same size.

It was agreed that until Planning Permission was requested no other action or re-action could be made by the Council. Indeed, that if a request was made the final decision could end up being made by persons from outside the Borough.

Best Regards

John

From: Michael Dawson [<mailto:daw50nmdj@hotmail.co.uk>]
Sent: 28 November 2013 19:01
To: Cllr John Anglin
Subject: TGA - Town Hall Meeting 25 Nov

Dear Councillor

Thank you for arranging the meeting of Monday 25th, please could you send a copy of the minutes.

regards

Michael Dawson

From: Peter.Cunningham@southtyneside.gov.uk
To: daw50nmdj@hotmail.co.uk
Date: Wed, 27 Nov 2013 13:04:52 +0000
Subject: RE: TGA - Town Hall Meeting 25 Nov [NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]

Hello – I attach a copy of the plan and a copy of the grant of planning permission to which this drawing refers

I was invited to attend this meeting so I did not take any minutes

Best regards

Peter

From: Michael Dawson [<mailto:daw50nmdj@hotmail.co.uk>]
Sent: 27 November 2013 10:52
To: Peter Cunningham
Subject: TGA - Town Hall Meeting 25 Nov

Sorry Peter, I meant to ask you to send me a copy of the minutes of Monday 25th meeting, could you forward them along with the requested drawing please.

regards Mick Dawson

From: daw50nmdj@hotmail.co.uk
To: peter.cunningham@southtyneside.gov.uk
Subject: RE: TGA - Town Hall Meeting 25 Nov [NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]
Date: Tue, 26 Nov 2013 18:31:12 +0000

Hello again - the large one, A2 possibly, that you showed to the representatives from the TGA.

regards Mick Dawson

From: Peter.Cunningham@southtyneside.gov.uk
To: daw50nmdj@hotmail.co.uk
Date: Tue, 26 Nov 2013 16:18:37 +0000
Subject: RE: TGA - Town Hall Meeting 25 Nov [NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]

Hello Mr Dawson - thanks for the photo - in terms of the drawing that you want copying which one was it ?

Best regards

Peter Cunningham

Principal Planning Officer

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From: Michael Dawson [<mailto:daw50nmdj@hotmail.co.uk>]
Sent: 26 November 2013 15:30
To: Peter Cunningham
Subject: TGA - Town Hall Meeting 25 Nov

Dear Peter

Please find attached a copy of the picture showing the ferry protruding out of the structure on River Drive, mentioned yesterday at our meeting.

Please send me a copy of the drawing you referred to yesterday.

Regards

Mick Dawson