

REPORT ON PDEAT SURVEY OF PEMBROKE DOCK.

On 18th October County Councillor Kate Becton, Mr Simon Preddy and Mr Rhodri Jenkins accompanied by the Town Clerk, Mr Ian Jones, carried out a walking survey of the following parts of Pembroke Dock:-

1. Town Centre area including, Dimond Street, Gordon Street, Queen Street, Park Street, Brewery Street, Wellington Street, Commercial Row and King Street.
2. London Road – TESCO, FOCUS/DO IT ALL, POUNDSTRETCHER/INSTORE, McDONALDS.
3. Waterloo Industrial Estate.
4. Western Way Car Park Area.
5. The Royal Dockyard
6. Llanreath Beach Area.

1. Town Centre Area.

Generally speaking the state of the area could be regarded as just reaching a satisfactory standard, however, there were instances of poor maintenance with regard to weeds on pathways. Comment was made about the improvement to the pavement in Dimond Street where a concerted effort made by the County Council on 5th October had removed 99% of the cigarette butts which had been left on the pavements for months.

When walking within the town there were instances where skips had been left unattended / insufficiently covered or illuminated with some skips being in situ for a very long period. Rhodri Jenkins agreed to arrange for appropriate enquiries to be made to have these removed or properly “looked after”. There were a number of areas where dog fouling was a problem in for example Park Street Lane.



Comment was made about the fact that Park Street and Gwyther Street, which are used by vehicles and pedestrians, to gain access to the town were only swept once a week, whereas, a more frequent sweeping regime may be warranted.

A potential pavement hazard namely a hole in the pavement next door to the cellar entrance to the Flying Boat Public House was noted and Rhodri Jenkins agreed to arrange for it to be “filled in” immediately.

An abandoned vehicle (Reg No H 782 RDW) parked in a lay by in King Street was identified. This vehicle had been there for some time but no attempt had been made to have it removed. Rubbish was being allowed to accumulate in the area to the rear of the Central Garage which had been scheduled for house building. Rubbish including carpet tear offs had also been allowed to accumulate in Harbour Way near to Parfitts Carpet Store.

The old railway line which runs from near to Parfitts to Lower Meyrick Street was in need of a clear as a large amount of refuse etc had been allowed to accumulate. The Town Clerk was asked to make enquiries with the County Council about the ownership of this piece of land.



2. London Road Area.

The group inspected the area adjacent to FOCUS / DO IT ALL, Poundstretcher and McDonalds. There was a great deal of plastic and paper in the shrubbery alongside London Road including two shopping trolleys. The group took the opportunity to discuss the matter of a failure to keep this area tidy with Mr Andrew Cooke who was the Deputy Manager at FOCUS / DO IT ALL. He advised that the store could not deal with items accumulating in the shrubbery area as there was a Health and Safety Risk. Comment was made about the use of “litter picking instruments” which could be used to remove paper / plastic from this area. Rhodri Jenkins agreed to provide FOCUS with some of these tools so that an attempt could be made to reduce the amount of litter accumulating. There was also a discussion with Mr Cooke about the compound and the various skips held by the firm which were perceived to be one of the problems since waste was allowed to escape in the wind when they were not closed. The initial conversation with Mr Cooke was very

defensive but there was some movement when there was a discussion on the use of instruments to help collect paper etc in the area near to the main road.



3. Waterloo Industrial Estate.

The group inspected the above site. It discovered two mattresses abandoned off the main road leading to the Civic Amenity Site together with one tumble drier / washer. It was considered that these items had been abandoned outside the civic amenity site's opening hours because the CCTV operating cameras would have recorded offenders who dropped off items next door to the gates of the site. By depositing these items elsewhere then they would not be caught on the cameras. Rhodri Jenkins agreed to arrange for the Streetcare section to arrange for these items to be collected deposited at the Amenity Site. Another problem with the Estate was the regular use which was made of the turning area near to the Amenity Site by travellers who set up an unauthorised encampment. The length of time it took the County Council to have them removed was a cause for concern as when they left a large amount of litter, refuse etc was left for the County Council to clear. A more proactive approach appeared to be warranted in this case. Generally other businesses operating on the site kept their areas reasonably litter free and tidy.

4. Western Way Car Park Area.

This area is likely to receive more use from the general public if it become the only long term car park in the town. At present the pathways need some attention together with repainting of seating, litter bins, safety barriers etc. Comment was made about the amount of litter which had been allowed to accumulate without being removed. It may be necessary to change litter picking procedures for this area. The Town Clerk stated that the Tank and propeller from a Sunderland were in the process of being renovated. It was important that this area was kept tidy even though part of it was to be developed eventually as a Maritime Area with houses etc.

5. The Royal Dockyard.

The road leading to the Long Term Car Park next to the Captain Superintendent's House appeared not to be maintained – it was a mere track over rubble and earth. The Town Clerk was asked to make enquiries as to whom it belonged. The view of the group was that it should be adopted and upgraded if it was not yet in the hands of the local authority. Note was also made of an area which had been fenced off but there was no indication as to what it was to be used for. In the Dockyard area was a “Dog Area” sign affixed to a tree which was supposed to contain bags for owners to use, however, this was empty. It was not clear who was responsible for erecting the sign and why it was there in the first place. The Town Clerk was asked to make some enquiries with the Port Authority / County Council.

Generally it was believed that the Dockyard Area had been considerably improved by the THI scheme.

6. Beach at Llanreath.

The group finally inspected the beach at Llanreath which was kept tidy by a voluntary group. It was agreed that this had been a success and showed what could be done by a group who wished to make a difference to their area.

7. General Comment.

The group wondered whether questions of litter control, refuse collection, street cleaning etc would be better served by the County Council if there was one chain of command. Perhaps officers / members of the County Council would wish to discuss their current structure with members at a subsequent meeting of the group.

8. Addendum.

Since writing this report the following picture was taken by Simon which seems to indicate that FOCUS / DO IT ALL are still rather complacent about the issue of litter. Despite an assurance from their Deputy manager following our visit litter and other items continue to accumulate in the shrubbery along London Road making it an eyesore for

those coming into the town. I will therefore send a copy of this report to the Senior Management of FOCUS / DO IT ALL so that they are fully aware of the problem.



IAN JONES
15th November 2006