

An Bord Pleanála,
64, Marlborough Street,
Dublin 1.

Planning ref: 61.PA.0033

24th February 2014

Dear Sirs,

We wish to record our strong support for the visionary plan to expand and develop Galway Port which we have seen in the local and national press and on-line at www.galwayharbourextension.com

My group own the historic Old Dock harbour on Long Walk and we are enthusiastically developing the harbor as a Maritime Heritage quarter.

Part of our business plan involves the hiring of locally built classic Currachs to the public. The harbour is also the base for the Galway Heritage boat association where the public can visit or charter Gleoiteogs or Bad Mórs 'Hookers'. We have floating tourist accommodation and resaurant boats and have plans to bring the iconic ship M.V. Naomh Eanna to our Harbour as a major tourist attraction.

Needless to say, we are probably the closest neighbour to Galway Port and the Port expansion is something we are very excited about.

One doesn't need to point out the potential of the maritime tourist industry and the historic lack of its exploitation in Ports across the Nation.

The vision shown by Galway Harbour Company is inspiring and the potential to bring a new, untapped (and expanding) type of tourist business to the City, via the Ocean liner terminal is very exciting. Needless to say we expect our Harbour, with its unique attractions, to benefit enormously.

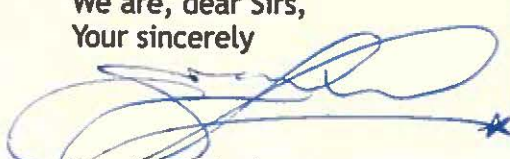
Additionally, it must be noted that a considerable percentage of Cruise ship passengers choose to take day vacations via busses to widspread County attractions, which in Galway's case are likely to include Connemara and the Islands.

Furthermore, with the removal of commercial traffic from the inner Dock there is further potential to develop this area by facilitating more private and attraction/interest vessels. We feel the Volvo Ocean Race was a brilliant example as to the level of public interest in maritime affairs. The Ocean Race also excited local business's whom I heard had previously not been supportive of the event.

It is my groups solid belief that Galway should exploit her maritime heritage, that there is a genuine public interest in getting the City to face the sea again.

The harbor expansion plan must surely be seen as a natural evolution to embrace this untapped revenue and employment opportunity (which will benifit the whole County) and we support it entirely.

We are, dear Sirs,
Your sincerely


Sam Fild Corbett 0868304444
Heritage Harbor Holdings
Old Dock
Long Walk
Galway

AN BORD PLEANALA
Received: 26/2/14
Fee: €50
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