

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Glasgow, Scotland 30 September 2016

Govan Docks Maritime Park

The Clyde Docks Preservation Initiative (CDPI) are pleased to announce the successful registration of Govan Docks Maritime Park (Scottish registered charity no. SC046875) as a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) with the charity regulator OSCR.

This represents a significant step forward in our bid to secure the future of Govan Graving Docks as a maritime heritage asset for future generations and for the benefit of the community in Govan and Glasgow.

The aim is for Govan Docks Maritime Park as an independent, dedicated charity, to eventually secure ownership of the A-listed historic site and raise funds for its restoration.

This will guarantee the long-term protection and stewardship of the only remaining significant dockland site in Glasgow that has not been lost to redevelopment and the only opportunity to create a major maritime heritage centre that befits the significance of our great city's shipbuilding past. It will also ensure that benefit to the local community, the City of Glasgow, the Clyde region and the West of Scotland's visitor, tourism and maritime potential is put before commercial gain and speculative property development.

The exact formation of the maritime park will be influenced by ongoing consultation. It is likely it will include a diverse range of attractions, activities, social enterprises, educational facilities, nature reserve, etc that will operate different aspects rather than the entire park being run as a single corporate entity.

The intention is to create independent/cooperative social enterprise franchise opportunities with a particular focus on young and unemployed people from the local areas and to engage a range of relevant third-party support agencies to assist them in the process of setting them up. We expect that major chains - e.g. fast-food outlets, etc will be excluded entirely.

It will be an evolutionary process that will enable the franchise tenants and the community to shape the development of the maritime park through the types of micro-businesses they choose to set up.

We have previously estimated that capacity for up to 250 or more permanent jobs and micro-business / social enterprise opportunities could potentially be created.

However before any of that can happen major restorative work will be required. This will take several years to complete and require millions of pounds in funding (on top of acquisition costs) which the charity aims to raise via heritage/conservation grants and other sources.

Restricting the addition of permanent buildings to the edge along Govan Road will ensure the rest of the quay space (including the cobbled surfaces) is kept intact. Use of the space will be able to change and adapt over time by use of only free-standing structures on the quays and floating installations in the dock basins. We would also like to see restored ships berthed in the docks and aim to provide a facility for at least part of the Cutty Sark 2 replica build.

CDPI aims to continue to provide project management and administrative services to the Govan Docks Maritime Park SCIO and we have just appointed a management consultant with a background in civil engineering to our board of directors.

We wish to thank OSCR for their guidance and efficient processing of the application and of course everyone else who has assisted with the process so far.