

# WORKSHOP 4



# LOCAL FISH MARKET

# WHAT WAS THE BIG IDEA?

## ***This idea was raised by Catchbox Ltd (run by volunteers)***

To consider reinstating the Worthing (local) Fish Market to reinvigorate the fishing economy in the local area by providing a better platform/market for local fishermen that would enable fishing businesses to operate in financially sustainable ways and flourish. It would also attract more visitors to the area through the unique USP of a sustainable local fish market. This could also link to local apprenticeship/employability schemes

- The original site for the old market was on the pedestrianised area in front of the Pavilion/Denton Lounge on the Worthing Pier
- The market would be a significant extension to the current “catchbox” scheme.
- The market could also include apprenticeships covering three areas; sea fishing; preparing fish for consumption and running a market stall.

*Hastings FLAG is a great example of how this could be expanded, especially regarding the apprenticeships*  
<http://www.hastingsflag.org/>

# WHAT WAS DISCUSSED? (PART ONE OF TWO)

This could build on the existing Catch Box scheme and help local small scale fishermen. The model of mass farmed fish is not sustainable, need to go back to 'local'.

There are 13 different species of fish that can be found off of the south coast. There are currently 100 families signed up to the Catch Box scheme, which is volunteer run.

Worthing historically had a Fish Market and ideally the Catch Box scheme would be extended to make it easier to access. 2 boats supply the catch and those signed up to the scheme meet at St. Pauls each week to collect. These fishermen need to be supported before the knowledge and skills are lost. There are less than 10 local fishermen in the area, the others are selling fish not from here.

There are no fresh water taps at seafront pitches.

Skills such as filleting a fish are needed and these are run 2/3 times a year.

Evidence is beneficial and a definite pull factor for the town. In Hastings there is an integrated scheme which includes skills, education and employment. There is a lot to be learned educationally.

# WHAT WAS DISCUSSED? (PART TWO OF TWO)

How can this be achieved? Is one of the problems that it's currently too small? Should there be both a static & mobile facility? What is this? What is the end point? What is the tie in with Shoreham? Could you widen the net?

## **Ideas / wants / needs**

- Fresh water tap at each pitch
- Seasonal information signs relating to catch along seafront
- Conversation needed with IFCA (Sean Anderson)
- No Fishermen, No market – more support for local fishermen
- Grading the waters
- Accreditation
- Set up a Social Business Enterprise
- Business model needed
- Bring in current projects
- Timeline needed
- Straightforward objectives
- Keep it simple – let it grow organically
- Get the word out
- Get kids involved – where does food come from? Not Tesco
- Encourage more local restaurants to use
- Social media forum – upload catch, landing time etc.
- Catch Box not widely known about
- You Tube bank library showing skills and recipes
- Live tweets
- Iconic statement art piece to link foreshore and town
- Bigger picture – to link in with other local produce initiatives such as Food Pioneers

# WHAT IS GOING TO HAPPEN NOW?

EU money is available for heritage fishing – Anne Weinhold of Catchbox is looking to put together a bid.

**Anne to be put in contact with Andy Willems at A&WC to look at this bid.**

Summary, what needs to happen next;

1. Funding (Andy Willems to be linked up and start conversation, as above)
2. Constitution
3. Business Case
4. Marketing (use or lose!)
5. Skills and Education
6. Deprivation
7. Sustainability

But to start, first re-establish connections with local fishermen

# WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

Even if you were not at the Conference or in the workshop, if you like what you have read and would like to find out more or get involved with making this community initiative happen, please email [community.planning@adur-worthing.gov.uk](mailto:community.planning@adur-worthing.gov.uk) and we'll put you in touch with Catchbox.