

R.E.T. It has been confirmed by the Minister that there will be no slippage, and R.E.T. will arrive in 2014.

Second Ferry and Timetabling: Russell Duncan stated that a resolution is required with regard to the two ferry issue, for timetabling next year's service. Timetables ought to be published by Christmas. Robert Waine said it is vital that the Ferry Committee writes to CalMac.

Ferries Review: Kenneth Gibson reported that this will be out at the end of the year. CalMac has been given a 3 year contract in the interim until the tendering process is completed. He read a press release regarding Unbundling of services. This release had not been printed in full in newspapers. RMT have indicated that there is no industrial action being contemplated.

Sunday Sailing: Russell Duncan stressed the importance of the schedule being included in timetables. Liz Robertson mentioned that this service was to benefit the people of Arran, and not only tourism.

Fares Increase: It was stated that, as the island has suffered this year, such a large increase in fares could not be sustained again.

Customer Care: Ken Thorburn will seek a written response from CalMac with regard to customer care.

4. Finance:

4.1 Bank Balance

The Secretary reported a bank balance of **£ 501.73** at 30.9.12

4.2 Expenditure Approval

5. Correspondence: 5.1 A press release was circulated with regard to a Single Clyde and the Hebrides Ferry Contract (from Kenneth Gibson).

6. Port Manager's Report:

No report was given this month.

8. Date of Next Meeting: The next meeting of Isle of Arran Ferry Committee will take place on **Monday 12th November 2012 at 7.30pm in Brodick Castle.**

9. Any Other Business:

9.1 Concessionary Fares: Kenneth Gibson and John Bruce confirmed that people travelling to Arran via Scotrail would not be affected by timescales.

9.2 NFU/ CalMac Liaison Meeting: Islay is not happy about RET. The one-off journey saving is £36. Kenneth Gibson said that this needs to be put to Judith Ainsley. Jim Lees stated that the 40% reduction was always based on single journey prices. Liz Robertson said that the public must be made aware of the effect on fares of RET, vis a vis 6 journey tickets.

9.3 Food Sourcing: John Bruce asked why CalMac did not use local produce on the Caledonian Isles.

9.4 Disruptions: It was reported that the Caledonian Isles had an oil leak, which resulted in a one hour delay to sailings.

9.5 Staff: Liz Robertson asked why 6 people are needed to tie up the vessel at Brodick Pier, when only 2 are needed at Kennacraig.

9.6 Stagecoach: There are problems with the 3.15pm and 6pm services at Lochranza. The bus times are as they are to permit passengers to make the connection at Brodick. Kenneth Gibson will progress this matter with CalMac at the next meeting.

10. Close: As there was no further business to discuss, the Chair thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 8.45pm.

Signed:

Dated: