

# ISLE OF ARRAN FERRY COMMITTEE

**Minute of Meeting  
held on  
Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2013  
at 7.30pm  
in  
Brodict Castle**

**Present:** Russell Duncan (Independent Traveller) (Chair)  
Jim Lees (ACVS) Cllr. John Bruce (NAC)  
Liz Robertson (NFU) Robert Waine (Visit Arran)  
Iain Thomson (Construction/Haulage) Colin McCort (CalMac)  
Jim Henderson (Community Council) Robbie Brown (CalMac)

**In Attendance:** Kenneth Gibson (MSP) Elaine Parker (Minutes)

## 1. Welcome & Apologies:

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed all present.  
Apologies were received from Ken Thorburn.

## 2. Minute of Previous Meeting:

With amendments noted, the Minute of the previous meeting, held on Monday 11th February 2013, was adopted as a true record.

**Proposed: R. Waine**

**Seconded: J. Bruce**

## 3. Matters Arising:

### Campbeltown Ferry

Kenneth Gibson explained that the pilot of this service is to be extended from 2 to 3 years.

Russell Duncan enquired as to the status of the timetable for this service, as it was understood from the last meeting that it was to go to print by the 25<sup>th</sup> February. Robbie Brown explained that CalMac had heard nothing further from Transport Scotland so he was unsure of what stage the timetable was at. Kenneth Gibson shared the Committee's concern regarding this issue and will follow this up and report back his findings.

There was general discussion regarding the Committee's feedback on the timetable. Liz Robertson felt that having different timetables for different days would cause unnecessary confusion. The general feeling was that the timetable meant disproportionate travel times compared to time available at the destination.

The committee expressed their wish to have the opportunity to see the timetable before it is published so that their feedback can be given.

Kenneth Gibson will speak to CalMac regarding this issue. It was agreed that, should Kenneth get a copy of the timetable, it would be distributed via email by ACVS to the committee members.

**Gourock**

Russell Duncan asked for clarification on CalMac's policy on berthing at Gourock. Robert Waine agreed and added that he felt that members of the public would be more amenable to cancellations if they knew the current policy of when Gourock could and could not be used.

**Fares**

Liz Robertson enquired if the 2.8% increase in fares was applicable to day trip tickets. Robbie Brown confirmed that this was a uniform increase across all ticket types. Liz Robertson felt that this was an acceptable increase and expressed her concern with regard to past fare increases which primarily impacted on day trip tickets which she felt had had a detrimental impact on tourist numbers to the island.

**4. Finance: Nothing to Report**

**5. Correspondence: Nothing to Report**

**6. Port Managers Report:**

Colin McCort reported that there had been some on-going repairs since the last meeting.

There had also been a number of security exercises undertaken – 1 at Ardrossan and 1 aboard the Caledonian Isles.

In response to an incident brought to the Committees attention by John Bruce, Colin McCort explained the reasoning and procedures undertaken during the exercises.

The exercises were carried out to see the procedures to be undertaken should the security level be increased from Level 1 to Level 2. Should this happen, 40% of passengers and vehicles need to be searched and should a person refuse to comply, they can be refused boarding.

Russell Duncan expressed his feeling of reassurance that security procedures were in place for the ferry service, should they ever need to be implemented.

**7. Date of Next Meeting:**

The next meeting will take place on the **8<sup>th</sup> of April 2013**, at **7.30pm** at **Brodick Castle**.

**9. Any Other Business:**

Iain Thomson brought a plan of the new ferry terminal at Brodick and raised an issue regarding access to the car parks. Colin McCort explained that these plans were not finalised and he would raise this concern at the meeting he is attending next week.

**10. Close:**

As there was no further business to discuss; the Chair thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 8.15pm.

**Signed: .....**

**Dated: .....**