

ISLE OF ARRAN FERRY COMMITTEE

Minute of Meeting
held on
Monday 13th May 2013
at 7.30pm
at
Brodict Castle

Present: Ken Thorburn (Chair) Cllr. John Bruce (NAC)
Jim Lees (ACVS) Robert Waine (Visit Arran)
Iain Thomson (Construction/Haulage) Colin McCort (CalMac)
Jim Henderson (Community Council) Liz Robertson (NFU)
Kenneth Gibson (MSP)

1. Welcome & Apologies:

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed all present. Apologies were received from Robbie Brown (CalMac), Russell Duncan (Independent Traveller) and Alistair Dobson.

2. Minute of Previous Meeting:

The minutes of the previous meeting were adopted as a true record.

Proposed: R. Waine

Seconded: J. Lees

3. Matters Arising: 3.1 Summer Timetable

There was discussion regarding the late Saturday evening sailing from Ardrossan. Transport Scotland insisted on this service as it was noted in the ferries review that the late sailing had to be included in the summer sailing programme from Ardrossan to Brodict.

Concern was raised about the lack of a gangway at Brodict for foot passengers travelling on the MV Isle of Arran. Passengers currently have to board and disembark via the car deck. The Chair will write to CMAL regarding this issue. It is understood that luggage is to be transported by van onto and off the MV Isle of Arran at Brodict. It was also suggested that more information should be given to passengers prior to the vessel arriving at Brodict.

Regarding the summer timetable, it was noted that Kenneth Gibson would contact Transport Scotland to see if the summer sailing programme could commence from Friday 02 May 2014, given that 05 May is a bank holiday.

Both John Bruce and Kenneth Gibson confirmed that they had been in discussion with SPT on the possibility of train and coach connection to the late Saturday sailing from Ardrossan.

3.2 Brodict Pier Development

CMAL are to be congratulated for their engagement with the public and the various draft developments that they have proposed.

4. Finance Nothing to Report.

5. Correspondence Nothing to report.

6. Port Managers Report:

Colin reported that there was good use being made of the 0700 sailing from Brodick. Without the MV Isle of Arran departing Brodick at 0700, the Caledonian Isles would not have been able to take all the traffic on the 0820 sailing. It was also reported that all passengers with mobility problems will be assisted.

7. Date of Next Meeting:

The next meeting will take place on the **10th June**, with the AGM starting at 7pm in the Castle Tea-room, followed by the normal business meeting in Ken's office at 7.30pm.

8. Any Other Business: 8.1 Ardrossan Car Park

Kenneth Gibson highlighted the difficulties of car parking at the Ardrossan terminal on busy weekends, and as such he will discuss re-configuration of the parking space with Clyde Port. This is especially important with the introduction of RET in the Autumn of 2014.

8.2 Industrial Action

TSSA met with a cross-party group of MSPs and Kenneth Gibson agreed to try and secure a debate if the matter remained unresolved. Calmac had not replied to correspondence on this issue.

8.3 Committee Changes

It was confirmed that Robert Waine would be the new Chair of the Ferry Committee, effective from 13th June 2013. Iain Thomson would be the new Vice Chair.

R. Waine – Proposed: I. Thomson Seconded: L. Robertson

I. Thomson – Proposed: L. Robertson Seconded: J. Lees

The independent traveller will be elected at the AGM.

It was agreed that the Chair would put an announcement in the Banner notifying the date and time of the AGM.

9. Close:

As there was no further business to discuss; the Chair thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 20.30.

Signed:

Dated: