

ISLE OF ARRAN FERRY COMMITTEE

Minute of Meeting held on Monday 10th June 2013 at 7.30pm after the AGM at Brodick Castle

Present: Robert Waine (Chair) Cllr. John Bruce (NAC)
Ken Thorburn (NTS) Jim Lees (ACVS)
Iain Thomson (Construction/Haulage) Liz Robertson (NFU)
Jim Henderson (Community Council)

Also present: Russell Duncan and Elaine Parker (Minutes)

1. Welcome & Apologies:

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed all present. Apologies were received from Kenneth Gibson (MSP), Robbie Brown (CalMac), Alistair Dobson and Colin McCort (CalMac). The new Chairman thanked Ken for his great work for the committee over the years and also gave his thanks to Russell Duncan for his services as Vice Chair. Russell also expressed his thanks to Ken and wished the new Chair the best of luck for the future.

2. Minute of Previous Meeting:

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

Proposed: L. Robertson

Seconded: I. Thomson

3. Matters Arising: 3.1 MV Isle of Arran Gangway

The issue was raised regarding a gangway for the MV Isle of Arran. The Chair read out an email that had been received from CMAL explaining that they had not been approached by CalMac regarding this matter, although they would be happy to assist in any way they could should CalMac contact them. There were strong feelings expressed by the Committee about the importance of a suitable gangway and that this issue needed to be resolved. The Committee felt that in the likely event where a suitable gangway would not be sourced in time for this summer, a time scale for getting a gangway needed to be given so that the issue doesn't continue indefinitely. The Chair will contact CMAL and invite Guy Platten to the next committee meeting.

The related issue of foot passengers missing the train because of the lack of gangway was also raised.

3.2 Brodick Pier Development

Iain Thomson raised the issue of the design of the new terminal at Brodick. The general feeling was that the Committee needed to find out the deadline for objections otherwise the opportunity would be missed. The Committee also expressed concern over the plan to have lifts and stairs for foot passengers to disembark. The Chair will raise this concern with CMAL and invite Ramsey Muirhead to the next meeting.

3.3 Summer Timetable

The Committee feel that the Summer Timetable has been well received. The general feedback has been that the Campbeltown routes are also being well utilised.

3.4 Transport Links to Additional Sailings

John Bruce explained that having contacted SPT, they knew nothing about the additional sailings until the press release. Transport Scotland had not communicated with them. Ken Thorburn told the committee that following the meeting held on the 25th March in The Douglas Hotel with representatives from Transport Scotland present, he had emailed Judith Ainsley explaining that the Committee would be happy to agree to the timetable discussed as long as they ensured that there would be suitable bus and train services to meet the additional sailings. She had replied that she would make sure that SPT were aware of the new timetable so that appropriate services could be provided.

The Chair will email Judith Ainsley raising the committees concerns over the lack of communication.

4. Finance As the AGM.

5. Correspondence Nothing to report.

6. Port Managers Report: Port Manager not present.

7. Date of Next Meeting:

The next meeting will take place on the **8th July at 7pm in the Kinloch Hotel.**

8. Any Other Business:

Independent Traveller – Robert Waive

Proposed: Russell Duncan

Seconded: Liz Robertson

Russell Duncan once again thanked Ken Thorburn for his work and hospitality during his time as Chair. This gratitude was shared by the rest of the Committee.

9. Close:

As there was no further business to discuss; the Chair thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 20.15.

Signed:

Dated:

Action Points: CHAIR:

- Contact CMAL regarding gangway issue and new terminal development design. Invite Guy Platten & Ramsey Muirhead to the next Committee Meeting.
- Contact Judith Ainsley of Transport Scotland regarding concerns over poor communication with SPT.