

ISLE OF ARRAN FERRY COMMITTEE

Minute of Meeting held on Monday 8th July 2013 at 7pm in the Kinloch Hotel

Present: Robert Waine (Chair) Jim Lees (ACVS)
Iain Thomson (Construction/Haulage) Liz Robertson (NFU)
Alistair Dobson (Taste of Arran) Robbie Brown (CalMac)

Also present: Simon Richmond (CalMac), Ramsey Muirhead (CMAL) and Elaine Parker (Minutes)

1. Welcome & Apologies:

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed all present. Apologies were received from Kenneth Gibson (MSP) and Cllr. John Bruce.

2. Minute of Previous Meeting:

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

Proposed: J. Lees

Seconded: I. Thomson

3. Matters Arising: 3.1 Transport Links to Additional Sailings

The Chair reported that, following discussions at the previous meeting, he had emailed Judith Ainsley from Transport Scotland, but has yet to hear back from her. The committee expressed their wish for the Chair to write to her again to try to get a response.

3.2 MV Isle of Arran Gangway

Ramsey Muirhead (CMAL) explained that the issue of a gangway for the Isle of Arran was in fact a CalMac issue, as transport Scotland had not asked CMAL to provide a gangway. Robbie Brown explained that there was now a gangway available at Ardrossan and a gangway for Brodick had been ordered. He also believed that the issue of a gangway at the Irish berth was also being addressed. Ramsey went on to explain about the problems experienced the previous week with the gangway at Ardrossan. The damage to the gangway, meant that spare parts had been needed. The contractor's carrying out the work then had problems with their generator so were unable to complete the repairs over the weekend. A meeting was being held the next day to discuss this unsatisfactory situation to try and prevent a similar problem occurring in future. Ramsey confirmed that common parts would be held as spares in future to help alleviate such issues.

3.3 Brodick Pier Development

Ramsey was invited to explain to the committee the updates on the development. Iain asked what approval procedures were required for the new building. Ramsey explained that they would get a Harbour Development Order, for which bodies such as SEPA, NAC and the Crown Estates would be consulted. There is no "planning permission" for the development as such although Ramsey explained that they would be open to input on the external aesthetics. It was also reported that there was a possibility of it being a Phased development, which

both CMAL and CalMac were very uncomfortable about as they felt it would not be practical. The committee also expressed that they would be very uncomfortable with a Phased development.

Ramsey explained that although the redevelopment is marginally behind schedule, the project as a whole was still on track, and he hopes that surveys would begin to take place at the end of the Summer.

Regarding the interior design Ramsey gave a description and explanation of the use of lifts and stairs in the design. The design would encourage people to use the wide stairs and the lifts would be used for the less able and those with luggage. The lifts had been given an "Excellent" rating for passenger flow and would be capable of moving 123 people in five minutes. The ramps had been replaced with the lift/stair combination after the overwhelming feedback received from the public meetings, and also to save considerable space.

There are 3 building design options and the committee expressed that their preference was strongly towards the sandstone design as they felt this would be more in keeping with the surroundings and the use of natural product was preferable. Ramsey noted this preference.

Alistair explained that he had been asked by Guy Platten to facilitate a meeting with NAC to discuss the wider economic impact of the development. Alistair asked the committee for their suggestions and thoughts on the economic benefit to be reported to him in time for the next meeting which was taking place on the 2nd August.

Ramsey also reported that there would be new fenders and a water supply being added to the Lochranza pier at the end of the month, and that the repair for the wall was awaiting tender.

Alistair asked about the possibility of a fuel tanker using the second berth of the new development to refuel the onshore tanks. Ramsey said that this may be a possibility, but it would need to be discussed at a later stage.

4. Finance Financial statement handed out at meeting.

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 **12th August at 7pm in the Kinloch Hotel.**

8. Any Other Business:

Robbie Brown explained that he felt the wording of the constitution should be amended, so as not to exclude other, non-ferry operating bodies (such as CMAL).

Robbie went on to explain that he would be leaving his post at the end of the month and that Simon Richmond would be taking his place. Robbie thanked the committee and wished them the best of luck for the future. The Chair expressed the Committees thanks to Robbie for his hard work over the years and extended a warm welcome to Simon.

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:

- Re-contact Judith Ainsley of Transport Scotland regarding concerns over poor communication with SPT.

ALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

- Report all economic benefits that would come from the port redevelopment to Alistair Dobson before **2nd August.**