

# ISLE OF ARRAN FERRY COMMITTEE

Minute of meeting

Held on

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> August 2015.

At 7.30p.m. In the

Arran Mountain Rescue Centre.

Present: Robert Waine (Chair) Liz Robertson (NFU)  
Iain Thomson (Haulage) Jim Lees (ACVS)  
Jim Henderson (ACC) Colin McCort (Cal Mac)  
Kenneth Gibson (MSP) John Bruce (NAC)  
Sheila Gilmore (Tourism) David Cameron (NTS)  
Simon Richmond (Cal Mac)

## 1. Welcome and Apologies

- 1.1 The chair welcomed all to the first meeting following the AGM. Apologies were received from A Dobson

## 2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

- 2.1 The minute of the previous meeting was approved subject to two minor amendments. Adoption of the minute was proposed by Sheila Gilmore and seconded by David Cameron.

## 3. Matters Arising

- 3.1 Robert Waine agreed to remain as chairman until the proposed meeting with Transport Scotland, CalMac and CMal had taken place. Robert tendered his resignation as representative of the Independent Traveller with immediate effect and the meeting agreed to co-opt a suitable candidate after the vacancy had been advertised.
- 3.2 The Action List was discussed and amended accordingly.
- 3.3 Transport Scotland had confirmed that there would be no extension to the two boat service beyond September due to the re-fit programme.
- 3.4 Transport Scotland had suggested that the proposed meeting be an open meeting. The committee had differing views of the benefits of an open meeting and Robert Waine agreed to discuss this further with Brian Gordon at Transport Scotland. The majority of the committee were in favour of a public meeting and this will be discussed further at the next committee meeting following RW's discussions with Transport Scotland.
- 3.5 Robert Waine has spoken to Alan Stout who has agreed to join the Ferry Committee as the NHS representative.

## 4. Early Sunday Sailing

- 4.1 Simon Richmond stated that if an early Sunday sailing was to be proposed, consultation with the travelling public would be required to establish demand and the possible loss of the 1920 sailing from Brodick on Saturday evening. SR to confirm if boat drills can take place on Saturday evening or early Sunday morning prior to an 0820 sailing.

**5. Working Group Report**

5.1 There was no report from the working group

**6. Finance**

6.1 There was no change in the finances since the last meeting.

**7. Correspondence**

7.1 A letter was received from John Salton of CMal confirming that alterations to reduce windage on the Caledonian Isles would not take place as Marine Management can see little benefit. However the MCS system would be upgraded during the 2017 re-fit.

7.2 An invitation has been received from Alan Malone at Scottish Government for a member of the Ferry Committee to join the Procurement Panel. Robert Waine will attend on behalf of the Ferry Committee.

**8. Port Managers Report**

8.1 White lining was taking place at Ardrossan and queues which occurred were often for the car park and not the ferry traffic. Staffing levels for car marshalling etc are at an all time high.

8.2 Regarding the unfortunate breakdown of the Isle of Arran on Highland Games day, additional sailings were organised at Lochranza to assist in clearing traffic. All passengers were cleared by Caledonian Isles 1920 sailing which was running approx 1 hour late (2020) and all remaining cars were cleared by the Isle of Arran which came back into service at 2030. It is unfortunate that the Isle of Arran suffers the occasional breakdown but this is due to its age and there will be no replacement vessel available before 2017

**9 Date of Next Meeting**

9.1 The next meeting will be held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2015 at 7.30pm at Arran Mountain Rescue Centre.

**10. Any Other Business**

10.1 A number of questions were presented by JH on behalf of Arran Community Council which were answered as far as possible

10.2 SG raised the matter of the train connection to the 1515 sailing from Ardrossan. SR advised that this was a Transport Scotland issue.

10.3 Liz Robertson raised an issue with loading at <sup>Claonaig</sup>~~Lochranza~~ which was causing frustration. SR advised that the marshalling area was being re-lined and that should cure the problem.

10.4 The condition of the toilet facilities at Claonaig was raised which is a matter for Argyll and Bute council.

**11. Close**

11.1 There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 9.15pm

Signed .....

Robert Waine  
Chairman