

**Harbour Board
Council Chamber, Town Hall, Lerwick
Thursday 25 September 2008 at 10.00am**

Present:

A T J Cooper	L Boswell
A T Doull	I J Hawkins
R S Henderson	J H Henry
R C Nickerson	F A Robertson

Apologies:

E L Fullerton	A Polson
C Smith	

In Attendance (Officers):

B Edwards, Operations Manager, Ports
A Inkster, Port Engineer
R Moore, Operations Manager, Marine
S Summers, Administration Manager
L Geddes, Committee Officer

Chairperson:

Mr A T J Cooper, Chairperson of the Board, presided.

Circular:

The circular calling the meeting was held as read.

Declarations of Interest:

None.

Minutes:

The minute of the meeting held on 29 May 2008 was confirmed.

Members' Attendance at External Meetings – Update

The Chairperson advised that, along with the General Manager, he had attended a meeting in Aberdeen with representatives of Chevron to discuss the West of Shetland drilling programme. It was hoped that the oil would come through Sullom Voe Terminal, and it had been agreed to continue the dialogue with Chevron and to meet with them on a regular basis over the next three years.

26/08 Fair Isle, North Haven Harbour

The Board considered a report by the Operations Manager, Ports (Appendix 1).

Mr J H Henry moved that the Board approve the recommendations in the report, and Mr A T Doull seconded.

Mr R C Nickerson said that whilst he appreciated it was not an issue for this meeting, he had concerns relating to the causeway to the harbour as if something happened to breach the road, it would have a significant impact on harbour activities. He advised that he would be raising this issue at the Inter Islands Ferries Board, but said that something urgently needed to be done regarding coastal protection measures to protect the road.

27/08 Port Project Monitoring Report

The Board noted a report by the General Manager, Ports and Harbours Operations (Appendix 2).

Dock, Symbister – RCM 2309

The Port Engineer advised that it had been agreed to incorporate this project into the Council's capital prioritisation programme, and that he would be meeting with the Whalsay and Skerries Community Council in October. He had met Arch Henderson and they were of the view that the dock could not be left in its present condition and that barriers would have to be erected.

The Chairperson said that he understood the community would be opposed to barriers across the mouth of the dock and would wish to keep it operational. He questioned if there would be any money available to carry out a stability repair.

The Port Engineer said the he would be meeting again with Arch Henderson and would raise this. However there was not much money available and it would be necessary to be careful about carrying out any remedial measures at this point as safety was the major concern. In response to a query, he went on to say that he felt that Historic Scotland appreciated that a 'do nothing' approach would result in the dock crumbling into the sea, and that to restore it would now mean rebuilding something to resemble the original.

Tug Replacement Programme – RCM 2313

The Operations Manager, Marine advised that the programme was on schedule.

Uyeasound – RCM 2314

The Port Engineer advised that the project was slightly ahead of schedule and that he was happy with the progress to date.

Plant, Vehicles and Equipment – PCM2101

The Board noted that the budget would be fully utilised this year.

Navigational Aids – PCM 2104

The Board noted that the radar investigation was ongoing.

Sullom Voe Terminal Jetty Maintenance Contract

The Port Engineer advised that the tendering process had commenced, and that the new contract should start in early 2009. There had been 16-17 expressions of interest and the shortlisting process would begin soon.

Warehouse, Scalloway

The Board noted that there was no further progress on this item.

Scalloway Dredging

The Port Engineer advised that the project still had to be costed and approved by the Council before it could be prioritised on the Capital Programme. However the survey work had now been completed and consents were being progressed.

The Chairperson advised that the Infrastructure Committee would be discussing the Capital Programme, and that there would be a report to the next meeting. He understood that all harbour projects would have to be prioritised within the Capital Programme structure by the Infrastructure Committee, and that the

recommendations would then be presented to the Council for decision before going to the Capital Programme Review Team for evaluation.

In response to a query regarding whether all projects would be presented on a common template to all Committees, he advised that there had been nothing to indicate that there should be a common standard. However he acknowledged that it would be appropriate that there was a common standard for all Committees.

Walls Pier

The Board noted that it had now been five years since the initial survey of Walls Pier had indicated that the structure was starting to fail, and it had been suggested that a load restriction should be put on the pier. Concerns had been expressed that the imposition of load restrictions and putting the pier out of commission to carry out repairs would severely affect the aquaculture industry in the area.

The Port Engineer advised that the survey had not been updated recently, but that it had not yet been necessary to put a load restriction on the pier. It would probably be necessary to restrict it to pedestrian access at some point over the next two years, but deterioration had not progressed as quickly as expected. However he acknowledged that there would be significant difficulties for pier users.

The Chairperson advised that the issue could be considered at the next meeting of the Board. In response to a query, he advised that the Council had a duty of conservancy within the harbour area that required it to ensure that operations were conducted safely within harbour confines. If the structure was not safe, remedial action would be required, however these works would also have to be prioritised within the overall Capital Programme.

28/08

Port Operations Report

The Board noted a report by the General Manager, Ports and Harbours Operations (Appendix 3).

The Operations Manager, Ports, summarised the main terms of the report. In response to a query regarding whether dues were being charged on cages being constructed at Scatsta, he confirmed that he would look into this matter further as the Council would be entitled to receive dues if the harbour was being used.

In response to a further query regarding resurfacing at Cullivoe Pier, the Port Engineer advised that the DLO had now been given the order to go ahead with the works, and that they were proposing to carry out works in a few weeks.

The meeting concluded at 10.00am.