

MINUTE

“PUBLIC”

**Special Development Committee
Council Chamber, Town Hall, Lerwick
Monday 29 October 2012 at 11.00a.m.**

Present:

A Cooper	T Smith
M Burgess	S Coutts
B Fox	A Manson
F Robertson	M Stout
A Westlake	

Also in Attendance:

G Cleaver
A Wishart

Apologies

G Robinson

In Attendance (Officers):

P Crossland, Director of Infrastructure Services
N Grant, Director of Development Services
K Duerden, Executive Manager – Ferry Operations
M Craigie, Executive Manager – Transport Planning
J Riise, Executive Manager - Governance and Law
C Anderson, Communications Officer
L Gair, Committee Officer
J Orr, Human Resources Officer
L Adamson, Committee Officer

Chair:

Mr A Cooper, Chair of the Committee, presided.

Circular:

The circular calling the meeting was held as read.

Declarations of Interest

None

67/12 Inter Island Ferry Service Review Update

The Committee considered a joint report by the Director of Infrastructure Services and the Director of Development Services (ISD-10-12-F), which provided an update on progress in relation to the Inter Island Ferry Service Review.

The Director of Infrastructure Services summarised the main terms of the report. He advised that the remit of the Committee included consideration of strategic transport issues, and any questions in relation to the proposals from the Review should be made from a strategic perspective.

The Chair directed Members to the decisions required, in Section 2 of the report, and taking each recommendation in turn, the Committee:

Noted the progress and implementation of the various defined savings measures already in place or in the process of being implemented, as shown in Table A, (Appendix 3), on the motion of Mr Robertson, seconded by Ms Manson.

In response to a question relating to Option 10.1 in Table B (i), the Director of Infrastructure Services advised that he could not give assurance at this time that the centralised ferry booking office would be retained in the North Isles. He explained that a further proposal that the booking service be relocated to the shore staff at Sellaness was to be explored as part of the Review, and the decision would depend on the efficiencies that could be achieved. He added that Lerwick was not being considered as the location for the booking service at this time.

On the motion of Mr Fox, seconded by Mr Robertson the Committee noted the progress and implementation of the various savings measures which will be introduced as soon as possible, shown in Table B (i) (Appendix 4).

In referring to Option 8.6 in Table B (ii), Mr Fox advised that two suggestions had been put forward from the Fair Isle community; to change the descriptive “Introduce a tourist fare for Fair Isle” to read, “Introduce a non-islander fare for Fair Isle” and to introduce a commercial vehicle, non-islander fare at £100 return, which could bring in £1,000–£1,500 p.a., and effectively increase the savings generated to £5,000. The Director of Infrastructure Services advised that he welcomed the proposals put forward from the Fair Isle community, which would be included within the Committee’s recommendations to Council on Wednesday. Mr Stout commended the Fair Isle community for the reactive solutions put forward.

With the inclusion of the proposals put forward in relation to the Fair Isle Service, the Committee approved the implementation of the savings measures shown in Table B (ii) (Appendix 4), on the motion of Ms Manson, seconded by Mr Stout.

On the motion of Mr Robertson, seconded by Mr T Smith, the Committee noted the options that have been discontinued from consideration within this Review, given in Tables C (i) and C (ii) (Appendix 5).

In response to a question as to whether the options put forward from the Fair Isle community in regard to additional revenue generated could offset the proposal in 8.5 to “Discontinue the summer sailing to Lerwick”, it was advised that all options would be considered as part of the Review going forward and subject to further consultation.

On the motion of Mr Robertson, seconded by Mr Stout, the Committee agreed to note the options summarised in Tables D (i) and D (ii) and details in Appendices 6 and 7, which require further detailed appraisal in accordance with the programme given in Appendix 8, prior to a final report to Council on 17 December 2012.

Decision

The Development Committee **RECOMMENDED** that the Council resolve to:

- i) Note the progress and implementation of the various defined savings measures already in place or in the process of being implemented, as shown in Table A (Appendix 3);
- ii) Note the progress and implementation of the various savings measures which will be introduced as soon as possible, shown in Table B (i) (Appendix

4); with the addition that the descriptive for Option 8.6 “Introduce a tourist fare for Fair Isle” is changed to read, “Introduce a non-islander fare for Fair Isle”, and to include the option to introduce a commercial vehicle, non-islander fare at £100 return.

- iii) Approve the implementation of the savings measures shown in Table B (ii) (Appendix 4);
- iv) Note the options that have been discontinued from consideration within this Review; given in Tables C (i) and C (ii) (Appendix 5) and
- v) Note the options summarised in Tables D (i) and D (ii) and detailed in Appendices 6 and 7, which require further detailed appraisal in accordance with the programme, prior to a final report to Council on 17 December 2012.

The meeting closed at 11.15am.

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Chair