

MINUTE 'B'

'A' &

**Harbour Board
Meeting Room, Port Administration Building, Sella Ness
Thursday 15 April 2004 at 10.30 a.m.**

Present:

J G Simpson	Captain D C Gray
J C Irvine	E J Knight
C Smith	W Tait

Apologies:

G Johnston	J Smith
R Watt	

Invited to Attend:

B J Cheyne

In Attendance (Officers):

J T Dickson, General Manager, Ports & Harbours Operations
S Summers, Assistant Finance Services Manager
H Tait, Management Accountant
L Geddes, Committee Officer

Chairperson:

Mr J G Simpson, Chairperson of the Board, presided.

Circular:

The circular calling the meeting was held as read.

Minutes:

The minute of meeting held on 2 March 2004, having been circulated, was confirmed on the motion of Captain D C Gray, seconded by Mr J G Simpson.

The Chairman advised that he had contacted HM Coastguard regarding the broadcasting of forecasts to small boats, and had been assured that there would be no change in the current practice.

9/04

Ports Project Monitoring Meeting

The Board noted a report by the Deputy Port Operations Manager (Appendix 1).

The General Manager referred to paragraph 3.3, and advised that there had been delays due to the discovery of asbestos. A specialist contractor would be arriving to remove any dust, and the money had been carried forward to the current financial year.

In response to a query regarding Mid Yell Pier, the General Manager said that a meeting had taken place with the Member for the area and pier users. They had requested a larger working area at the shore end of the pier, some lighting and a small amount of dredging to be carried out. This work had been costed and a report was being drawn up for presentation to the Capital Project Management Team at the end of April.

He went on to say that a report on the Peerie Dock in Symbister would also be presented to the Capital Project Management Team, and that he was pleased to report that matched funding had been received from the Scottish Executive.

The Board noted that all projects had been within budget at the end of the previous financial year.

10/04

Port Operations Report

The Board noted a report by the General Manager (Appendix 2).

In response to queries, the General Manager advised the Board that the new weather forecasting arrangements had started on 1 April, and they seemed to be working very well. As well as receiving daily forecasts, access to information was available through the website and the forecaster could be contacted by telephone.

He went on to say that an agreement had now been reached with HM Coastguard and Bristow regarding use of Oscar Charlie for winching marine pilots. Whilst search and rescue operations would have priority, the helicopter would otherwise be available for daylight operations. A member of staff would be on standby, should refuelling be required at Scatsta in the event of an emergency out of hours. The agreement that had been reached would run for one year up to 1 May 2005.

Following a very constructive meeting with "Fender Care", it was hoped that ship-to-ship transfer of oil at Jetty 4 would commence in the near future. Whilst BP insured the jetties, the Council had agreed to cover the insurance excess at a small cost.

In referring to the "Sullom Voe Port Statistics", the General Manager advised that they were now back to normal as the Brent and Ninian pipeline systems had reverted back to normal capacity. He went on to speak about Shetland Towage and said that the Head of Development Resources was intending to present a report to the SIC at its next meeting in May.

A Member enquired whether it would be possible to adopt a similar system to the Flotta Terminal, where the port controllers did not

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require to hold a pilotage certificate. The General Manager replied that he felt any such proposal would be a retrograde step due to the confines of the inner Sullom Voe Harbour area, the weather conditions and size of vessels up to 400,000 tons deadweight.

CHAIRPERSON