

Harbour Board
Port Administration Building, Sella Ness
Thursday 12 January 2006 at 10.30 a.m.

Present:

J G Simpson I J Hawkins
J C Irvine E J Knight
W A Ratter C Smith
W Tait

Apologies:

Capt D C Gray N McCracken
J Smith

In Attendance (Officers):

J T Dickson, General Manager, Ports & Harbours Operations
B Edwards, Operations Manager, Ports
R Moore, Operations Manager, Marine
A Inkster, Port Engineer
S Summers, Administration Manager
D Haswell, 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 10 November 2005, having been circulated, was confirmed.

Members' Attendance at External Meetings

There was nothing to report.

- 1/06 **Member/Officer Working Group - Small Ports Marketing Group**
The Board considered a report by the Deputy Port Operations Manager (Appendix 1) and, after hearing him briefly introduce the report, approved the recommendation contained therein.

The Chairperson said he had heard a programme on Radio Orkney which had commended the good work being done on the marketing of small ports in Shetland.

- 2/06 **Attending Norway Fish & Aqua International**
The Board considered a report by the Deputy Port Operations Manager (Appendix 2) and, after a brief discussion, approved the recommendation contained therein, on the motion of Mrs I J Hawkins, seconded by Mr W Tait, and agreed that the Chairperson

and either the Operations Manager, Ports or the Piermaster – Scalloway should attend the Fish & Aqua Exhibition.

3/06

Small Ports Marketing Group – AB Associates Report

The Board considered a report by the Deputy Port Operations Manager (Appendix 3).

The Chairperson said that the report contained a lot of information. The Operations Manager, Marine agreed and said there was a lot of background information and detail in the report. It was proposed that the 10 points identified as priorities for action, as detailed in section 5 of the report, should be taken forward by the Member/Officer Small Ports Marketing Group. The Board agreed with this proposal.

The Operations Manager, Ports said Officers were looking to develop more contacts. Also, Officers wanted to demonstrate to people that issues were being addressed. The Operations Manager, Marine said that the Chief Executive had commented that this should not be considered in isolation and should be combined with the work of other groups throughout Shetland.

Mrs I J Hawkins said it was very important that this issue was pursued and stated that Blacksness Pier was still the main industrial site in Scalloway. Mrs Hawkins commended the report.

Referring to recommendation 26 in the report by AB Associates, Mr J C Irvine agreed with the recommendation and said it was vital to have a key person. Members noted that the Operations Manager, Ports had over all responsibility for developing and marketing small ports and progressing the recommendations and priorities.

Mr W Tait asked what work was being done at the moment to raise awareness in Scalloway to attract business from the West of Shetland oil developments. The Operations Manager, Marine advised that Officers had been in contact with oil companies that operated West of Shetland. Whilst no definite commitment had been received from these companies, the Foinaven moorings project that Ports and Harbours had secured was bringing in a lot more work than had been anticipated. He went on to explain that Officers hoped to be able to offer something new to potential customers.

In relation to the restricted bunker availability problem at Scalloway, the Operations Manager, Marine advised that Ports and Harbours had received an expression of interest from a company and this was being followed up.

After a brief discussion about craneage at Scalloway Harbour, the Board otherwise noted the report.

4/06

Ports Project Monitoring Report

The Board noted a report by the Deputy Port Operations Manager (Appendix 4).

Extension to Sella Ness Pier, Sullom Voe

The General Manager advised that the Planning Application for the fishmeal plant and extension to the pier had been submitted to the Council and would probably be considered by the Planning Sub-Committee next cycle. Tender documents for the 5 companies who expressed an interest in the extension of the pier would be issued next week and it would be made clear in the documentation that the extension would not be built until confirmation was received from SVN that the fishmeal plant was going ahead.

Dock Symbister

The Port Engineer advised that approval in principle had been received from Historic Scotland. Historic Scotland had requested that Officers should meet with the consulting engineers who did the work at Hay's Dock to discuss the methods used there. This meeting would take place as soon as possible.

5/06

Port Operations Report

The Board noted a report by the General Manager (Appendix 5).

The General Manager advised that since the report had been written, one first class pilot had retired and, therefore, there were now 14 first class pilots.

Tabled at the meeting were graphs showing up-to-date statistics for Sullom Voe, Scalloway Harbour and Small Piers. The graphs are attached as Appendix 5A. With regard to the figures for Sullom Voe for 2004, the General Manager said that these were a lot better than he had expected. In 2004, a total of 236 tankers had visited Sullom Voe, whilst in 2005, 221 tankers had visited. These figures included all crude/LPG exports, Schiehallion crude imports, STS imports, bunker imports and other tanker arrivals. This was slightly down on the figures for 2004 but was due to the double shutdown of Schiehallion.

The General Manager advised that the Anglian Sovereign was now back in service and the oil pollution incident that had occurred off and within Scalloway Harbour was the biggest since the Braer. It was anticipated that the Marine Accident Investigation Board draft report on the incident at Scalloway would be released soon.

Members were pleased to note that overall, fish landings in Scalloway had increased from 2004 but were still only half what they were in 2001.

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