



Council

**Shetland
Islands**

MINUTE 'B'

'A' &

**Harbour Board
Port Administration Building, Sella Ness**

Thursday 10 August 2006 at 10.30 a.m.

Present:

J G Simpson	Capt D C Gray
I J Hawkins	G Johnston
E J Knight	W A Ratter
C Smith	J Smith

Apologies:

J C Irvine	N McCracken
W Tait	

In Attendance (Officers):

J T Dickson, General Manager, Ports & Harbours Operations
B Edwards, Operations Manager, Ports
A Inkster, Port Engineer
S Summers, Administration Manager
A Cogle, Service Manager – Administration

Chairperson:

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

Circular:

The circular calling the meeting was held as read.

The Chairperson thanked the Operations Manager Ports for the tour of the facilities around the Harbour, and for the photographic presentation, prior to the meeting.

Minutes:

The minute of meeting held on 1 June 2006, having been circulated, was confirmed.

15/06 – Scalloway Harbour – New Business

In response to a query, the General Manager advised that there remained a high level of interest in the port from several companies, including shipping agencies looking to establish premises in the port, and these issues would be followed up by the Small Ports Working Group in October/November.

18/06 West Pier - Scalloway Harbour

The Board considered a report by the General Manager (Appendix 1A).

Mrs I J Hawkins referred to today's tour of the facilities around the port today, and commented that she had never seen so much activity before, particularly with regard to the number of people and varied use of the pier and its facilities. Mrs Hawkins said that, in this regard, the idea of setting back the project for the West Pier was ridiculous and moved that the Board approve Option 1 of the report, namely to proceed with a replacement of the West Pier in the financial year 2007/08. She suggested that the other facilities being looked as alternatives would be suitable opportunities for SLAP to progress. Mrs Hawkins referred to the letter from Scalloway Community Council (Appendix 1B) which had been tabled at the meeting, and to a letter she had received from Shetland Aquaculture. Mrs Hawkins said that letter referred to the fact that the various companies now using the pier meant that space was severely restricted, and were disappointed that what had originally been promised as a two stage development, was possibly going to be delayed further due to restrictions on the Capital Programme. Mrs Hawkins said that the financial restrictions on the Capital Programme were accepted, but to delay this particular project further was like giving the industries that use the pier a slap in the face. She said the West Pier was fully exposed, and its lack of shelter restricted its full potential. Mrs Hawkins said that improvements to the pier now could only improve and assist the development of new business for the pier.

Mr W A Ratter said he would move the recommendation in the report, namely Option 3, which would defer the West Pier project until 2012/13 but with additional works to maintain the fendering. Mr Ratter said he was extremely glad to have seen around the port this morning, and it was gratifying to see that Scalloway was developing. He added, however, that the Council was still looking into the long term future of Sullom Voe, and the cost that the decline in the industry would bear on the Council's port operations. In addition, Mr Ratter added that the Council had not yet come near to solving the Capital Programme, as the gap between the Council's aspirations and what it was able to carry out was enormous. With regard to the recommendation, Mr Ratter said that this proposal would retain the functionality of the pier for another 5 years or so. Mr Ratter said that the Board should make a responsible recommendation to the Council.

Mr E Knight enquired whether any other capital funding would be available for this project, such as European Funds. However, the Board noted that this was highly unlikely.

The General Manager advised that this was a difficult decision due to the overburdened Capital Programme. However, there would also be a need to seek funding for additional projects relating to the developments at the pier such as the provision of a warehouse and

bigger bunker capacity, and yacht facilities. He said that getting all of this work through the CPMT would be extremely difficult, and it had been balanced against the fact that the condition report on the West Pier had concluded that the pier could be maintained for a further 5 years. The General Manager said that it did come down to choices, hence the need for today's report. In response to questions, he advised that the project itself would be spread over 3 years, including the design phase. He also confirmed that works at Uyeasound and Walls would also have to be submitted to the CPMT for recommendation.

Mr E Knight seconded the motion by Mrs Hawkins.

Mr J G Simpson seconded the amendment by Mr Ratter.

After summing up, voting took place by a shown of hands, and the result was as follows:

Amendment (W A Ratter)	5
Motion (I J Hawkins)	3

Accordingly, the recommendation to approve Option 3 of the report was declared the finding of the meeting.

19/06

Ports Project Monitoring Report

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

Peerie Dock, Symbister

Final approval from Historic Scotland was expected in the near future and, thereafter, the project could be re-costed accordingly today's prices.

Walls Pier

A public meeting had been held in Walls on Tuesday evening, and the final report from AB Associates was awaited. Once the various reports had been finalised, they would be progressed through the Capital Projects Monitoring Team, and onwards to the Capital Programme at some time in the future.

Sella Ness Pier

The General Manager confirmed that funding for this project was coming from the Reserve Fund. It was noted that there had been objections to the outfall pipe, and that the application would require referral to Scottish Ministers for a decision. However, a decision by the developer of the fish meal and oil plant is still awaited and building of the pier could only be progressed after this was concluded.

Tug Replacement Programme

The tender process is still on schedule for completion by end of October.

20/06

Port Operations Report

The Board noted a report by the General Manager (Appendix 3).

The General Manager provided a summary of the damage caused by a lightning strike on 25 July, all of which will be replaced under insurance arrangements. He expressed his thanks to those involved in ensuring that the port was operational within 2 hours, particularly the staff at Sella Ness, and Williamsons in Scalloway for the AIS equipment. The General Manager went on to advise that a specialist electrical survey was being carried out at Sella Ness with a view to minimising the effects of any future lightning strikes on the equipment and operation of the port. Any lessons learned would also be applied at Scalloway harbour office.

Members of the Board commented that consideration should be given to encouraging small cruise ships to the ports. The Board agreed that the matter should be referred to the Small Ports Working Group in the first instance, and with a view to receiving advice on marketing.

CHAIRPERSON