

MINUTE

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Harbour Board
Port Administration Building, Sella Ness
Thursday 28 September 2006 at 10.30 a.m.

Present:

J G Simpson	Capt D C Gray
I J Hawkins	J C Irvine
E J Knight	W Tait

Apologies:

N McCracken	C Smith
J Smith	

In Attendance (Officers):

J T Dickson, General Manager, Ports & Harbours Operations
A Drummond-Hunt, Asset & Properties Manager
B Edwards, Operations Manager, Ports
P Gray, Superintendent Engineer, Marine
R Moore, Operations Manager, Marine
S Summers, Administration Manager
L Gair, 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 August 2006, having been circulated, were confirmed. It was noted that the meeting took place at the Scalloway Harbour Office, Scalloway and not at the Port Administration Building, Sella Ness, as minuted.

21/06

Ports Project Monitoring Report

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

Extension to Sella Ness Pier

Mr J Simpson advised the Board that this project was now on hold as a complaint against the proposed extension to the Sella Ness Pier had been received as part of a wider complaint against Council aid to industry. He advised the Board that the complaint may take some months to resolve, but the situation would be clearer after meetings had taken place with Messrs Brodies, next week.

Mr W Tait asked whether this would have an effect on the Capital Programme and if the Sella Ness Pier would be likely to take a set back. Mr Simpson said that until the position was clearer, he would not be able to answer. Mr J C Irvine was of the opinion that the Council should keep the Monitoring Group aware of what happens and stated that no one would like to see projects held up. Mrs I J Hawkins said she would support bringing Scalloway Harbour forward if other projects are held up.

Mr J Dickson said that Messrs Brodies should be made aware of the importance of timing to commence the construction works in early Spring. All necessary design work had been done and paperwork/consents were in place. Mr Simpson said that the Council would be getting the best advice, from next week and acknowledged the amount of work involved for the Economic Development staff.

Walls Pier

Mr J Dickson advised the Board that this project was moving forward.

Tug Replacement

Mr J Dickson advised that a lot of work had been done and this was now out to tender to 5 shipyards, with 1 shipyard withdrawing. In response to a query from Mr E J Knight, Mr Dickson confirmed that there were no UK shipyards involved in the process, as the only interested UK shipyard had not met the financial assessment requirements.

22/06

Port Operations Report

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

Mrs I J Hawkins commented on the Scalloway Pier activity stating it was good to see it so busy. Mr Dickson said this was a result of the face-to-face meetings with prospective clients help earlier in the year. Barry Edwards, Colin Smith etc. are due to return to Aberdeen in November to follow up new clients and also visit prospective new users of Scalloway harbour.

Mr Dickson advised that there was a problem with the pipe at Jetty 3, which should be resolved by 11 October, therefore ship-to-ship transfers of Schiehallion crude were taking place. Mrs Hawkins asked if there was any new ship-to-ship trade. Mr Dickson advised that he had been approached by groups concerned with possible ship-to-ship transfers in the Forth and advised them that ship-to-ship transfers should only be done with the mother ship safely secured alongside a jetty as was done at Sullom Voe. He explained that ship-to-ship transfers made fast to a jetty would be safer as the ships are not moving and more accessible to emergency fire/ pollution control services. Mr J Simpson was of the

opinion that the environmental issues in the Firth of Forth could be used to our advantage.

In order to avoid the possible disclosure of exempt information, the Board resolved, on the motion of Mr J G Simpson, seconded by Mr J C Irvine, in terms of the relevant legislation, to exclude the public during consideration of the appendix to the following item, and during consideration of the remaining items of business.

23/06

Use of Building at Blackness Pier

The Board considered a report by the Head of Legal and Administration.

(Mrs I J Hawkins declared a non-pecuniary interest in this item and left the room.)

After hearing the Asset & Properties Manager summarise the terms of the report, and following considerable discussion, Mr J C Irvine moved the content of paragraph 3.2 and recommendation 6.1.2.A as amended to read “Ports and Harbour Operations in consultation with the Asset & Properties unit review the future development of the site with a view to build warehousing for lease to commercial users. SLAP would be the most appropriate developer of the Site rather than the Council itself.” The motion was seconded by Capt. D C Gray.

CHAIRPERSON