

**APPENDIX I to the minute of meeting of  
the Communities Committee of 1 March  
2016 (Article 3(iii) refers)**

MINUTE of MEETING of the **ARBROATH HARBOUR JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE**, held in Room 4, Bruce House, Arbroath, on Friday 4 December 2015 at 3.00 pm.

**Present: Council Representatives**

Councillors BOB SPINK (Chairman), MARTYN GEDDES, ALEX KING and EWAN SMITH.

**Harbour Users' Representatives**

ALEX SMITH (Fare-Paying Passenger Boat Owners); LYNN CAMERON (Boat Builders/Repairers); RON CHURCHILL (RNLI); CLARK ROSS (Leisure Craft Owners); and PETER ANELLI (Arbroath Sailing and Boating Club).

**In Attendance:** WALTER SCOTT (Angus Council, Interim Service Manager (Roads)); BRUCE FLEMING (Angus Council, Harbour Manager); and ANDREW WILSON (Angus Council, Legal and Democratic Services, Committee Officer).

COUNCILLOR SPINK, Convener, in the chair.

**1. APOLOGIES / SUBSTITUTES**

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors David Fairweather and Sheena Welsh; and Paul Simpson (Boat Builders/Repairers), Lynn Cameron substituting.

**2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST (ELECTED MEMBERS ONLY)**

No declarations of interest were made.

**3. MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minute of meeting of this Committee of 4 September 2015 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

**4. ARBROATH HARBOUR WINTER REPORT**

With reference to Article 4 of the minute of previous meeting, there was submitted Report No 472/15 by the Head of Technical and Property Services, providing details of operations at the Harbour since the meeting of the Committee on 4 September 2015, outlining plans for future programmes of works, and discussing contemporary matters of relevance to Harbour activities.

The Committee agreed to note, and also approved, as appropriate, the contents of the Report as follows:-

**(a) Administrative Matters**

**(i) Financial Update**

With reference to Article 4(a)(i) of the minute of previous meeting of this Committee, the estimated outturn position as at 31 March 2016 showed an underspend of £11,000. A budget carry over of £80,000 had been allowed for forthcoming dredging, as detailed in Paragraph 3.2 of the Report. The outturn cost of these works might lead to a change in the estimated outturn position, which would be reported to the next meeting of this Committee.

**(ii) Oil Spill Contingency Planning and Response**

With reference to Article 4(a)(iii) of the minute of previous meeting of this Committee, there had been no further significant pollution or spillage incidents in the Harbour in the intervening period.

**(iii) Scottish Ports Meeting**

With reference to Article 4(a)(iv) of the minute of previous meeting of this Committee, the Harbour Manager had attended the last Scottish Ports Committee meeting in Edinburgh on 19 November 2015. The Harbour Manager would make available any information or papers arising from that meeting at the request of members.

**(iv) Pontoon Berths**

With reference to Article 4(a)(v) of the minute of previous meeting of this Committee, the Harbour Manager would shortly be sending out letters to individuals on the waiting list asking if they wished to have their names removed or retained on the list.

**(v) Compounded Berths**

With reference to Article 4(a)(vi) of the minute of previous meeting of this Committee, no further compounded berths had been granted to any vessels since the last meeting of the Committee.

**(vi) Visiting Boat Numbers**

With reference to Article 4(a)(vii) of the minute of previous meeting of this Committee, there had been a decrease of 10% in the numbers of visiting boats to the Harbour from 1 April 2015 to 31 August 2015 as compared with the summer months in 2014, a fall from 230 to 207. Arbroath was in a similar position to other east coast ports with Peterhead and Eyemouth experiencing respective declines of 9% and 14% in visiting boat numbers, compared to summer 2014. The decrease in number of boats visiting the Harbour however had taken place against a background of an increase in duration of summer visits, with the average length of stay increasing from 1.74 nights in 2014 to 2.04 in the current year.

**(b) Engineering Matters****(i) Inner Harbour Gates**

With reference to Article 4(b)(i) of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 15 May 2015, the Harbour gates had malfunctioned on 20 November 2015 due to a low level of hydraulic oil in the system. The system had been topped up with oil, and following testing, the gates were back operating as normal by the afternoon of 21 November 2015.

**(ii) Maintenance Dredging Operations**

With reference to Article 4(b)(ii) of the previous meeting of this Committee, the Best Practicable Environmental Option Report, and full chemical analysis of the silt within the Harbour, had been carried out as part of the implication for a new three year licence to dispose of dredged material at sea, from Marine Scotland, and for Crown Estate permission. The results of the chemical analysis were awaited from Marine Scotland. There would be an approximate 50% increase in the quantity of material removed from the Harbour through the dredging works. These would be carried out in February/March 2016 and include the Inner and Outer Harbour and navigation channel.

**(c) Future Programme of Works**

With reference to Article 4(c) of the minute of previous meeting of this Committee, the Committee noted the updated list of projects as part of the continuing 2013/2018 Programme.

**(d) Other Items****(i) NESFLAG**

The Harbour Manager was a member of the North East Scotland Fisheries Local Action Group (NESFLAG), attending a meeting in Peterhead on 4 November 2015 to seek European funding to contribute towards infrastructure improvements at the Harbour including the installation of CCTV, an ice making facility, a refrigeration unit and pontoon walkway around the quayside of the Outer Harbour. The ice making facility and refrigeration unit would help existing clam and scallop boats and may attract new boats to Arbroath Harbour. The nearest ice making facility to Arbroath at present is located at Pittenweem.

**(ii) Crew Room Facilities**

With reference to Article 6 of the minute of previous meeting of this Committee, the Harbour Manager had discussed with the Council's Property Business Unit the possibility of carrying out alterations to the crew room facilities. Various options were being explored to improve the toilet and shower facilities and progress would be reported to the Committee. The possible installation of WiFi in the Harbour Area would also be examined as a potential welcome upgrade for visitors. Existing WiFi hot spots could be listed at the Harbour for the benefit of visitors and other Harbour users alike.

**(iii) Harbour Staff Welfare Facilities**

In order to maintain compliance with the Workplace Health (Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992, the welfare facilities for Harbour staff required to be improved. This would be met by the installation of a new self contained welfare unit to be installed at the Harbour during January/February 2016, with funding coming from the supplementary capital allocation as set out in Table 4.1 of the Winter Report. The unit incorporated batteries charged by a generator which would be cheaper to run than mains electricity. It would also be possible to move the unit as required, with the initial location being near the entrance to the portable pontoon between the crew room and walkway to the pontoon.

**5. OTHER BUSINESS**

Members raised the following matters:-

- (i) Compound Berths: The Harbour Manager confirmed that Compound Berths would be available for boats which would land and work out of Arbroath Harbour.
- (ii) Refuse Bins: It was noted that businesses and people not connected with the Harbour Operations frequently brought to the Harbour for disposal commercial and other waste which quickly filled the large steel bins, and, which added to the domestic waste already dumped by fishermen. The Harbour Manager was pursuing this matter.
- (iii) The Road to Victoria Park: There had been instances of speeding cars on this road. Walter Scott undertook to raise this with the Roads Division.
- (iv) Black Shed Lease: The Harbour Manager undertook to follow up with the Council's Property Services the possibility of acquiring storage space in the Black Shed for Seafest.

**6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING AND CALENDAR OF DATES**

The Committee agreed the proposed calendar of dates for 2016, with the next meeting of the Committee being held on Friday 15 April at 3pm, and subsequent meetings being held on 2 September and 2 December 2016, all in Bruce House.