

**APPENDIX to the minute of meeting
of the Communities Committee of
2017 (Article refers)**

MINUTE of MEETING of the **ARBROATH HARBOUR JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE**, held in Room D, Bruce House, Arbroath, on Friday 8 December 2017 at 3.00 pm.

Present:

Council

Representatives: Councillors ALEX KING, BRENDA DURNO, DAVID FAIRWEATHER, RON STURROCK and DEREK WANN.

Harbour Users'

Representatives: Professor BERNARD KING CBE (Leisure Craft Owners); LYNN SIMPSON (Boat Builders/Repairers); ALEX SMITH (Fare Paying Passenger Boat Owners); BOB DEVITO (Arbroath and District and Shore Static Gear Association) 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).

Also Present: Sergeant STEVE CAMPBELL, Arbroath Community Policing, Police Scotland.
Councillor King, Convener in the Chair

1. APOLOGIES / SUBSTITUTES

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillor Lois Speed, Ron Churchill (RNLI), and Paul Simpson (Boat Builders/Repairers), Lynn Simpson substituting.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (ELECTED MEMBERS ONLY)

No declarations of interest were made.

3. MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minute of meeting of this Committee of 22 September 2017 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

4. ARBROATH HARBOUR WINTER REPORT

With reference to Article 5 of the minute of previous meeting, there was submitted Report No 428/17 by the Head of Technical and Property Services, providing details of operations at the Harbour since the meeting of the Committee on 22 September 2017, outlining plans for future programmes of works, and discussing contemporary matters of relevance to Harbour activities.

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

(a) Administrative Matters

(i) Financial Update

With reference to Article 5(a)(i) of the minute of previous meeting of this Committee, Appendix 1 to the Report illustrated the estimated outturn at 31 March 2018 as being an underspend of £72,000 due to higher than budgeted income generation and savings on dredging budgets. Both of these were however partially offset by greater than budget staff expenditure. A budget carryover of £76,000 had been allowed for the dredging, so that the outturn cost of these works on the revised £122,000 dredging budget resulted in an underspend of £27,000.

A request will therefore be made for a further budget carryover to the 2018/2019 financial year. It was encouraging to note that income was some £70,000 over the budgeted £269,000 for the current financial year. This income originated from both the marina and commercial sides of the Harbour's operation.

(ii) Scottish Ports Meeting

With reference to Article 5(a)(iii) of the minute of previous meeting of this Committee, the Harbour Manager had been unable, due to operational duties at the harbour, to attend the Scottish Ports Committee meeting on 15 November 2017 in Edinburgh as had been intended. As usual, the minute of that meeting would be made available at the Harbour office for inspection by Committee members. The Harbour Manager planned to attend the next meeting of the Scottish Ports Committee, although the dates had not yet been set.

(iii) Pontoon Berths

With reference to Article 5(a)(iv) of the minute of previous meeting of this Committee, six winter berths had been taken up by boards to fill the pontoon berths created when some boats had been lifted out for storage in McKay's Boat Yard between October and March. The current waiting list for the annual pontoon berths remained at 40 names.

(iv) Compounded Berths

With reference to Article 5(a)(v) of the minute of previous meeting of this Committee, there had been no applications received for compounded berths in the Harbour. It should be noted that there remained room for expansion of this facility.

(b) Engineering Matters

(i) Inner Harbour Gates

With reference to Article 5(b)(i) of the minute of previous meeting of this Committee, members noted that a boulder had lodged in the gates preventing closure. It was believed that this had happened as a result of disturbance of material on the bed of the harbour during dredging operations. Quick action by Harbour staff had resolved the situation.

(ii) Maintenance Dredging Operations

With reference to Article 5(b)(ii) of the minute of previous meeting of this Committee, the dredging had been carried out and the maintenance dredging contact completed on 27 November 2017. The dredger "Aase Madsen" had removed 12,000 cubic metres of silt from the navigational channel along with the outer and inner harbours including in and around the pontoon berths. This was the first time that the maximum permitted amount of material had been removed as part of the annual dredging, and was widely seen by harbour users, as confirmed by Bob Devito at this meeting as a highly professional job. It had also turned out to be one of the most economic costs incurred by the Harbour in this regard based on cost per cubic metre. There had been no disruption to the boat builders and was seen as being far superior to what had been achieved in previous years' dredging operations. Members also complimented Bruce and his team for ensuring that the work was achieved with minimum disruption to the operation of the harbour. Members noted that GPS had been used to identify depths and the locations from which material had been removed. This had proved to be very difficult to achieve logistically, but in the opinion of the Harbour Manager, it was well worth the effort. He asked that future dredging contracts be specified along the same methods of operation as this contractor had worked.

The Committee agreed to recommend to the Communities Committee that the dredging contract for 2018 include a specification which would ensure effective mapping and evidence of material removed is provided.

(iii) Oil Quay Repairs

Necessary repairs had been carried out, on time and on budget, by replacing the timber decking on the oil quay along with corroded steel work supporting it, with a galvanised mesh decking flooring on both sides of the quay. The Committee expressed its appreciation to those involved in ensuring that this was carried out efficiently and quickly.

(v) Programme Of Works

With reference to Article 5(b)(v) of the minute of previous meeting of this Committee, the updated 2017/2018 list of projects included updates on the following:

(a) Crew Room Facilities

Work to install two additional showers, two additional toilets and a new entry system in the crew room had commenced on 6 November 2017 and was expected to be complete within six weeks.

(b) CCTV

With reference to Article 5(c)(iv) of the minute of previous meeting, a contract had been awarded to install CCTV in and around the area of the fish market and crew room. This work would take place on completion of the upgrading of the crew room.

(c) Aids to Navigation (AtoN)

With reference to Article 5(c)(v) of the minute of previous meeting, a contract had been awarded for replacement of the two existing leading lights (Category 1) with new LED lights, with work to be completed over the winter months.

(c) Other Items

(i) NESFLAG

With reference to Article 5(c)(i) of the minute of previous meeting of this Committee, it was noted that European Maritime and Fisheries funding would finish in March 2018 as a result of Brexit. Any projects had to have completed their expenditure by then. Following discussions with the European Claims Co-ordinator from NESFLAG however, together with review of eligibility, the bid would focus on the proposals for the pontoons in the Outer Harbour. Three combinations of pontoon layout were currently being priced by contractors and this would help shape the subsequent submission of the bid to NESFLAG in 2018.

The Harbour Manager had represented Angus Council at the last NESFLAG meeting on 25 October 2017 in Fraserburgh.

(ii) Public Ramp On To Beach

With reference to Article 5(c)(ii) of the minute of previous meeting of this Committee, the ramp remained closed. Harbour staff have received no further enquiries regarding its status. The Interim Service Manager (Roads) had obtained costs for annual clearing of the ramp as being £3,000 per annum, which costs would be recurring as the tides continuously shifted the gravel/sand about the ramp. To bring the ramp back into use, relocating the rock armour would cost approximately £9,000. It was a clear view of officers that there was insufficient usage to justify reinstatement of the ramp. There also remains the issue of the properly designed slipway to be installed at the harbour in three years' time to meet requirements of the new RNLI Lifeboat.

The Committee agreed to refer the costs to the Communities Committee to determine whether further action should be taken.

(iii) Arbroath Sea and Food Festival (Seafest)

With reference to Article 5(c)(iii) of the minute of previous meeting of this Committee, Arbroath Sea and Food Festival Committee had reluctantly concluded that the event was no longer economically viable and would cease. The Committee would determine at a later date how to distribute remaining funds to various local organisations.

(iv) Black Shed

With reference to Article 6(iii) of the minute of previous meeting of this Committee, a meeting had taken place at the Black Shed involving Councillor Durno, the Harbour Manager and Interim Service Manager (Roads) on 15 November 2017 to discuss the potential rental of the units to craft users. It was clear that there was demand for the units to be considered further and that efforts should be made to market the units to craft users for storage, initially for the summer period in 2018. The vacant and remaining units continued to remain available for rental to Harbour users.

The Committee agreed that, based on the reported under occupancy of the storage units in the Black Shed, and the resulting reduction in income from the rental, together with a declared interest from others outside the traditional Harbour users, the Communities Committee be asked to agree that all interested parties, including craft users, be sought out by the Head of Technical and Property Services to take this matter forward.

5. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2018

The Committee agreed the calendar as proposed, with meetings scheduled for 23 March; 21 September; and 7 December. All meetings would take place on a Friday at 3.00pm within Bruce House, Arbroath.