

ANGUS COUNCIL

ARBROATH HARBOUR JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE – 29 MARCH 2019

ARBROATH HARBOUR – SPRING REPORT

REPORT BY THE HEAD OF INFRASTRUCTURE

ABSTRACT

This report provides details of operations at the Harbour since the previous meeting of the Arbroath Harbour Joint Consultative Committee (AHJCC), outlines plans for future programmes of works, and discusses contemporary matters of relevance to harbour activities.

1 RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Committee agrees to note and approve the contents of this report.

2 ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

2.1 Financial Update

2.1.1 As shown in **Appendix 1**, it is anticipated that for 2018/19 the revenue budget shall be £22,000 underspend, primarily due to reduction in Roads section staff recharges. An overspend on budgeted employee costs and supplies and services is fully offset by greater than budgeted income receipts.

2.1.2 Harbour Reserve Fund

As reported previously to this Committee in the Autumn Report 2018, the Harbour Reserve is being used to support of the NESFLAG funding for the pontoon in the Outer Harbour (£81,000) and the repairs to the West Breakwater (£24,000) repairs. In addition, as reported at the Winter 2018 meeting of this Committee, which was subsequently reported to and approved by the Communities Committee of 15 January 2019, the Council's contribution to the chill room (see section 5.1 of this report) of £5,000 towards the £15,000 total cost, with £10,000 NESFLAG funding, will be taken from the Arbroath Harbour Reserve Fund.

2.2 Oil Spill Contingency Planning and Response

2.2.1 With reference to item 4(b)(ii) of the minute of meeting of this Committee on 7 December 2018, there have been no significant oil spills in the harbour in the intervening period.

2.2.2 All Harbour staff continue to have up-to-date MCA oil spill response certificates. The Harbour Master and Senior Harbour Assistant hold an MCA Level 4/5 Oil Spill Response Manager's Certificate. One Harbour Assistant holds an MCA Level 2 – Sorbents & Equipment Certificate while the temporary Harbour Assistant holds the MCA Level 1 First Response – Sorbents Certificate.

2.2.3 The Council continues to retain the services of Briggs Environmental Services Ltd. to deal with the higher-level pollution incidents should they occur.

2.3 Scottish Ports Meeting

2.3.1 With reference to item 4(b)(iii) of the minute of meeting of this Committee on 7 December 2018, the date of the last Scottish Ports Committee meeting was 20 March 2019 in Glasgow. As on previous occasions the Harbour Master was able to attend and represent Arbroath Harbour at the meeting. The minute of the meeting as not yet been produced but once it has, it will be available in the Harbour office for members of this Committee to view if required.

2.4 Pontoon Berths

- 2.4.1 With reference to item 4(b)(iv) of the minute of meeting of this Committee on 7 December 2018, the pontoon berths continue to remain at maximum occupancy. There are 53 annual berths occupied and 6 berths are available for visiting yachts.
- 2.4.2 All the boats which were stored in Mackay Boatbuilders over the winter period will be craned back into the Harbour on 2 April 2019 to take up their pontoon berths. All boats which are occupying a winter berth on the pontoons will be vacating the pontoons before this date.
- 2.4.1 The waiting list for an annual pontoon berth remains at 31 names.

2.5 Compounded Berths

- 2.5.1 With reference to item 4(b)(v) of the minute of meeting of this Committee on 9 December 2018, one new compounded berth for 2019/2020 has been granted to the commercial fishing boat *Lunan Lass*.

2.6 Staffing

- 2.6.1 With reference to item 4(b)(vi) of the minute of meeting of this Committee on 7 December 2018, the Council is currently advertising for a temporary Harbour Assistant to work at the Harbour up until 31 October 2019. This additional member of staff will help with cover during the extended opening times of the Harbour over the summer months. The closing date for the advert is 5 April 2019 and it is hoped the successful applicant will be able to start in early May 2019.
- 2.6.2 As the Harbour becomes increasing busy, staff levels will continue to be monitored to assess the levels of service required for Harbour users against the demands on staff cover required to provide that service.

3 ENGINEERING MATTERS

3.1 Inner Harbour Gates

- 3.1.1 With reference to item 4(c)(i) of the minute of the meeting of this Committee on 7 December 2018, there have been no operational problems with the Harbour gates during the intervening period.
- 3.1.2 The opening and closing times of the gates will move to the summer schedule on 1 April 2019. Opening and closing times will continue to be routinely posted outside the Harbour Office and on the security gate leading on to the pontoons, generally one month in advance. The opening times for the dock gates up to and including September 2019 are also posted on the Arbroath Harbour page of the Council's website.

3.2 Maintenance Dredging Operations

- 3.2.1 With reference to item 4(c)(ii) of the minute of meeting of this Committee on 7 December 2018, the dredger *John Madsen* finished dredging in Arbroath on 14 January 2019 after dredging 9,000 m³ of silt from the navigation channel and Outer Harbour.
- 3.2.2 The maintenance dredging contract for 2019/2020 will be procured over the summer months of 2019 with the next proposed dredging works being carried out in January/February 2020.
- 3.2.3 The Council is currently in the process of preparing an application for a new licence from Marine Scotland for the act of dredging and sea disposal of dredged spoil, along with Crown Estate consent to carry out further dredging of the Harbour and disposal of dredged spoil, as the current licence and consent expires on 19 May 2019. This new licence and consent will be valid for three years from the date of issue.

3.3 Outer Harbour Pontoons

- 3.3.1 The proposed pontoons, which are to be located in the Outer Harbour, have now been fabricated off-site and the contractor, Inland & Coastal Marine Systems UK Ltd, is in discussions with the piling sub-contractor regarding the installation of the guide piles.

3.3.2 The Council has applied to Marine Scotland for a Marine Licence to install the pontoons and is currently waiting on confirmation of this. Once this is in place, the piling works can commence and the pontoons installed. It is proposed the works will be carried out in May and will take around two weeks to complete.

4 PROGRAMME OF WORKS

4.1 With reference to item 4(b)(iv) of the minute of meeting of this Committee on 7 December 2018, the 2018/19 and 2019/20 list of projects has been further updated below. These proposals will be delivered if within available budget, including external funding sources.

Project/ Nature of Expenditure	Budget / (Cost) 2018/19 £000's	Comments
Annual Dredging		
Revenue budget	73	See paragraphs 2.1.1 (£27,000 carry over and £46,000 annual budget).
Dredging costs	(73)	See paragraph 3.2
Harbour Reserve Fund		
Coastal Capital Budget	24	See paragraph 2.1.2
West Breakwater Repairs	39	
	(63)	See paragraph 3.3
Harbour Infrastructure Improvements		
Ice making facility	(50)*	On-hold
WiFi & payment card reader	(5)*	Priority project
Harbour vehicle	(20)	To be sought via leasing and funded from revenue budget
Vehicular barriers	(10)*	See paragraph 5.7
Total	(85)*	
Pontoons in Outer Harbour		
	(135)	See paragraph 4.1, and paragraph 5.1.2 of Autumn Report 2018. (Report No 299/18)
EMFF external funding	54	See paragraph 5.1.2 of Autumn Report 2018. (Report No 299/18)
Harbour Reserve Fund contribution	81	See paragraph 2.1.2
Walk-In Refrigeration Unit		
	(15)	See paragraph 5.1.1
EMFF external funding	10	
Harbour Reserve Fund contribution	5	See paragraph 2.1.2
Ballast Quay Reconstruction		
	(500)	See paragraph 5.2
Additional capital funding	500	Provisional Capital Budget Volume (Report No. 59/19)

*subject to identification of budget to fund

5 OTHER ITEMS

5.1 NESFLAG

5.1.1 With reference to item 4(b)(iv) of the minute of the meeting of this Committee on 7 December 2018, there was a NESFLAG meeting in Aberdeen on 20 February 2019 at which the proposal for a chill room in the fishmarket building was one of the projects presented to the group for consideration of a grant. The application was successful and a grant of £10,314 has been awarded towards the installation of a chill room/walk in refrigeration unit. As highlighted at the last meeting of this Committee on 7 December 2018, the remaining costs of £4,437 will come from the Arbroath Harbour Reserve Fund.

5.1.2 Tenders for the installation of the chill room have been returned and the Council are now in a position to award the contract. It is proposed that the installation works will be carried out in June 2019.

- 5.1.3 The next NESFLAG meeting will be held on 19 June 2019 at a location to be confirmed, which is likely to be attended by the Harbour Master.

5.2 Ballast Quay

- 5.2.1 On 21 January 2019, a length of approximately 12m of the south wall of the Ballast Quay collapsed into the Outer Harbour. No one was hurt and there was no damage to any vessels or gear.
- 5.2.2 Delson Contracts Ltd. carried out emergency temporary works to stabilise the Quay. This comprised placing rock armour along the remaining length of the quay wall and around the area of the collapsed quay, thus preventing further collapse.
- 5.2.3 A design to repair and strengthen the damaged quay utilising the sections of stone from the collapsed section of wall is being prepared. A works contract will be procured in the coming weeks with the repair work being carried out early in the financial year 2019/20.
- 5.2.4 The collapse of the wall has not had any detrimental effect on the operation of the Harbour and the Harbour continues to function as normal. The only issue is that summer berthing available to the small pleasure boats for 2019 in the Lazy Hole may be affected until the wall repairs are completed. The Harbour Master has written to all of the boat owners who would normally take up a summer berth to inform them.

5.3 Black Sheds

- 5.3.1 Units 5 & 6 of the Black Shed which were previously unoccupied have now been leased out to two harbour users. All 22 units of the Black Shed are now occupied.

5.4 Theft of Keys

- 5.4.1 On 4 January 2019, it was highlighted to the Harbour Master by several of the fishermen that ignition keys had been stolen from four different boats within the Harbour, most likely the night before.
- 5.4.2 Police Scotland was called to the Harbour to meet with the boat owners and check the available local CCTV footage, and are investigating the theft.

5.5 Northern Lighthouse Board (NLB)

- 5.5.1 The annual availability figures for the Aids to Navigation (AtoNs) performance over the last rolling 3 year period are usually presented in the Spring Report of this Committee. However, from this forthcoming year (and subsequent years) the NLB have revised the end of the period to be 31 March. The alteration to the reporting year is to allow the NLB inspections of the AtoNs to be completed within one winter period rather than over two. The figures for the period 1 April 2016 to 1 April 2019 will therefore be presented in the Autumn Report.
- 5.5.2 From now on the rolling 3 year availability report for the AtoNs at Arbroath Harbour will therefore be presented in this Committee's Autumn Report each year.

5.6 Angus Clean Environment (ACE) – Arbroath Harbour

- 5.6.1 ACE is comprised of residents from across Angus who care about their local environment, as well as wider issues. They seek to engage with others in an effort to raise awareness of local issues and to effect change.
- 5.6.2 The Harbour project was borne from a desire to react to concerns about litter in the busy Harbour area and the effect this is having on wildlife and our seas. The project aims to raise awareness of the harmful effects of litter, encourage proper disposal, and explore alternatives to single-use plastics with local businesses where practicable.
- 5.6.2 ACE is working closely with the Harbour Master and also Council officers from waste services and parks services. The Council is supporting ACE where it can, through the provision of communications materials (posters/bin wraps/noticeboard); school activities; additional litter /recycling on the go bins; painting benches; and carrying out litter monitoring and enforcement.

5.6.3 The project will officially launch on 1 May 2019.

5.7 Vehicular Barriers

5.7.1 Vehicular access to the Harbour is generally unrestricted at all entry points. Barriers have been placed to control vehicular access to the South Breakwater, particularly to close access in storm events. Access at these points is therefore controlled by the Harbour Master, as is parking generally within the Harbour boundary through the Harbour Bye-laws.

5.7.2 The impact of the introduction of off-street charges to The Shore Car Park has been monitored since the commencement date of 1 November. There has been noticeable increased use of the 'free' parking along the Western Quay of the Inner Harbour, as well as overspill into the quayside area towards the Fishmarket and fuel dispenser.

5.7.3 Parking provision within the Harbour boundary at Marketgate also continues to be a regular constraint on Harbour access and operations, which the Harbour Master has noted is difficult to enforce. In addition, the owners of the flats at Quayside Marina, Marketgate, who access their parking spaces from the Harbour, have stated that they would support the erection of a vehicular barrier to control and restrict access to residents and approved Harbour users only. The residents have offered to make a financial contribution to the cost of a barrier.

5.7.4 It is proposed that designs are developed and costs established for the provision of a vehicular barrier at the boundary of the adopted road off Ladyloan – See map in **Appendix 2**. This would be located between the RNLI building and the Inner Harbour. The funding of this option may be offset by extending the boundary of The Shore car park to include thirteen parking spaces from the Inner Harbour quayside, where charging would then apply.

5.7.5 In addition, detailed consideration will be given to the provision of a vehicular barrier at Marketgate, which will need to take account of the boundary of the adopted road overlapping into the Harbour boundary.

6 RISK

6.1 The risks associated with the various matters addressed within this report are outlined within the associated sections 2 to 5 of this report.

7 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 Any financial implications arising directly or indirectly from this report will be subject to approvals at the relevant council committees in due course. Operational matters will be funded from the Roads and Transportation Business Unit revenue budget.

7.2 The rental incomes accruing from property lets for Harbour premises continue to be managed by the Strategic Director - Place on behalf of the Council through the Head of Infrastructure, and from 1 April 2019 by the Director of Infrastructure Services as part of the Council's latest senior management restructure.

**WALTER SCOTT
SERVICE LEADER – ROADS & TRANSPORTATION**

NOTE:

No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above Report.

ROADS & TRANSPORTATION/WS/BF

Estimated revenue budget outturn as at 31st March 2019

Appendix 1

<u>ARBROATH HARBOUR</u>	<u>Revised Budget 2018/19 £000's</u>	<u>Actual to @ 28/02/2019 £000's</u>	<u>Estimated Outturn 2018/19 £000's</u>	<u>Outturn v. Budget %</u>	<u>- Outturn v. Budget Variance £000's</u>	<u>Actual 2017/18 £000's</u>
<u>Expenditure:</u>						
Staff Costs	127	129.0	140	110%	13	134
Property Costs	44	41.1	44	100%	0	48
Supplies & Services	239	235.3	250	105%	11	274
Recharge Costs (Internal)	0	0.2	1	-	1	22
Third Party Payments	19	1.6	13	68%	(6)	21
GROSS EXPENDITURE	429	407.2	448	104%	19	499
GROSS INCOME	(299)	(316.1)	(340)	114%	(41)	(311)
NET EXPENDITURE 2018/19	130	91.1	108	83%	(22)	188

notes 2018/19:

Supplies & Services

1/ Budget - accounts for dredging budget of £74k (includes £28k carry over from 2017/18), and £125k fuel with associated recharge income

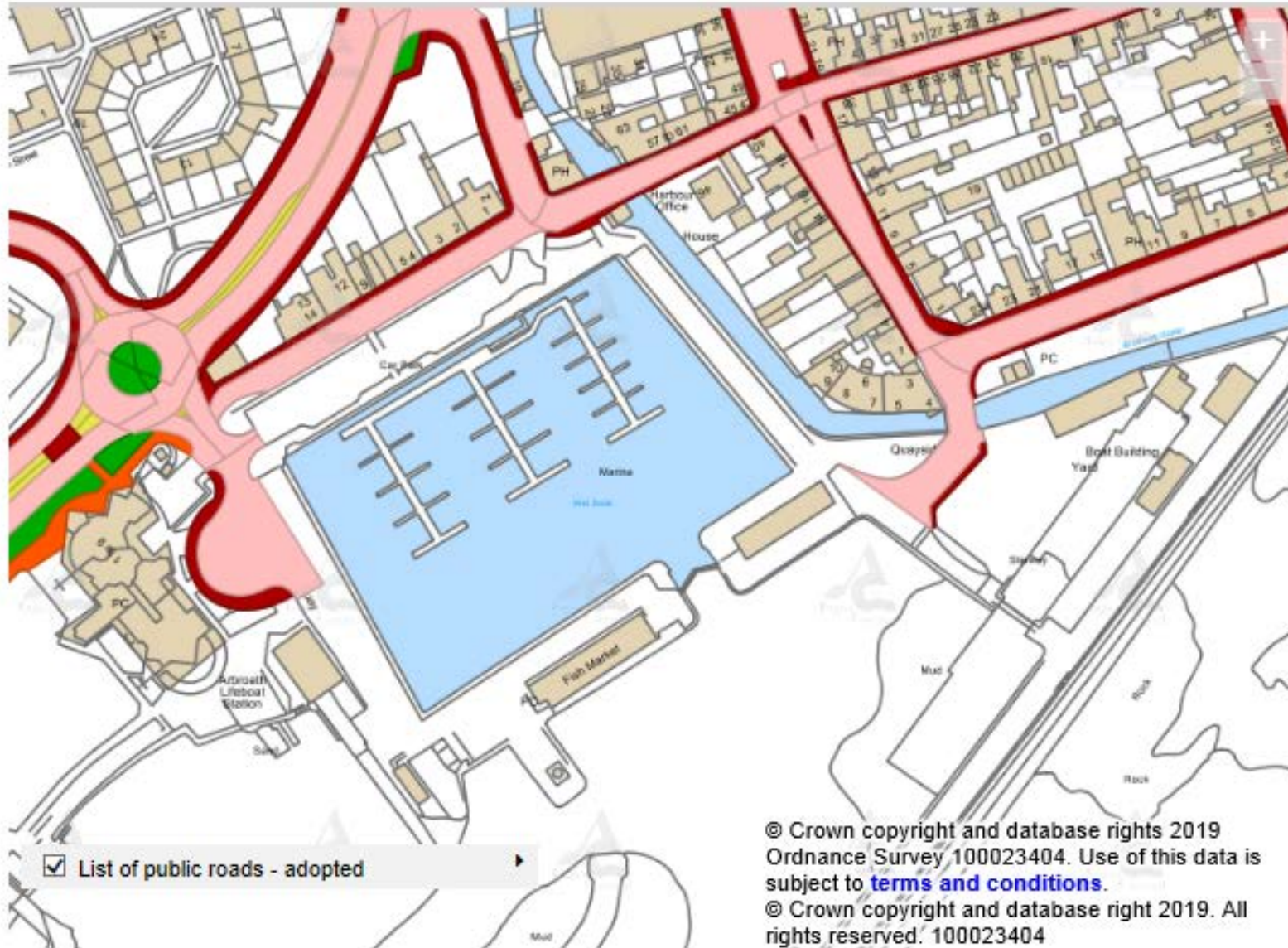
2/ Variance to 2018/19 budget outturn due to additional fuel purchase, fully offset by additional income.

Third party Payments

1/ Outturn - Accounts for £11k contribution in 2018/19 to Arbroath Harbour Reserve

Narrative:

The 2018/19 outturn position is anticipated to be c. £22k underspend, as at information available mid-March 2019, primarily resulting from an increase in income.



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