

ANGUS COUNCIL

ARBROATH HARBOUR JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE – 30 AUGUST 2019

ARBROATH HARBOUR – AUTUMN REPORT

REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR 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 Appendix 1 shows the estimated outturn position as at 31 March 2020 being an underspend of £76,000. The budgeted expenditure is slightly lower than budget and the budgeted income is higher than budget. This is considered to be within reasonable operational and financial variances. A budget carry-over of £27,000 from 2018/19 has been allowed for the next round of dredging – see paragraph 3.2 – with a proposed carry over into 2020/21 of the £46,000 2019/20 allocation and the £27,000, totalling £73,000.

2.2 Oil Spill Contingency Planning and Response

2.2.1 With reference to item 4(a)(iii) of the minute of the meeting of this Committee on 29 March 2019, there have been no significant oil spills in the harbour in the intervening period.

2.2.2 Harbour staff continue to have up-to-date MCA oil spill response certificates. The Harbour Master attended a refresher course in Aberdeen on 13 August 2019 to maintain his MCA Level 4/5 Oil Spill Response Manager's Certificate. The Senior Harbour Assistant continues to also hold an MCA Level 4/5 Oil Spill Response Manager's Certificate. One Harbour Assistant holds an MCA Level 2 – Sorbents & Equipment Certificate while another 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(a)(iv) of the minute of the meeting of this Committee on 29 March 2019, the date of the last Scottish Ports Committee meeting was 25 June 2019 in Grangemouth which the Harbour Master attended. Subjects covered at the meeting included energy issues, safety issues, and environmental issues as well as discussions with Transport Scotland. The minute of the meeting has 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.

2.3.2 The next meeting will be on 13 November 2019 in Edinburgh and will tie in with the Annual Scottish Parliamentary Maritime Reception with the Minister at the Scottish Parliament. It is anticipated the Harbour Master will be attending to represent Angus Council and Arbroath Harbour.

2.4 Pontoon Berths (Inner Harbour)

- 2.4.1 With reference to item 4(a)(v) of the minute of the meeting of this Committee on 29 March 2019, the pontoon berths continue to remain at maximum occupancy. There continues to be 53 annual berths occupied and 6 berths are available for visiting yachts.
- 2.4.2 Several boat owners who currently occupy an annual berth on the pontoons will have their boat lifted out and stored in the boatyard between the months of October and March. The Harbour Master is currently taking names of boats wishing to take up available winter berths on these vacant pontoon berths.
- 2.4.3 The waiting list for an annual pontoon berth remains at 29 names.

2.5 Compounded Berths

- 2.5.1 With reference to item 4(a)(vi) of the minute of meeting of this Committee on 29 March 2019, one new compounded berth for 2019/2020 has been granted to the commercial fishing boat *Jessica May*.
- 2.5.2 There is now a fleet of 30 commercial fishing boats operating out of Arbroath Harbour. Compared to a total of 18 commercial fishing boats back in 2012, this is an increase of 67% in 7 years.

2.6 Visiting Boat Numbers

- 2.6.1 The numbers of visiting boats to the Harbour in the period from 1 April 2019 up to 31 August 2019 was 214. This represents a 9% increase from the previous year. As the table below highlights most boats visiting Arbroath are still visiting the Harbour for more than two nights with this year's average length of stay at 2.4 nights per visit.
- 2.6.2 Over the course of the season there were 62 visiting boats (29% of the total) visiting Arbroath Harbour from Europe arriving from the Netherlands, Belgium, Germany, France and Denmark.

Year	Numbers of Visiting Craft	Increase/Decrease (%)	Number of nights paid by visiting boats	Average length of stay (nights)
1 April 2015 – 31 August 2015	206	-	420	2.04
1 April 2016 – 31 August 2016	213	+3%	470	2.21
1 April 2017 – 31 August 2017	202	-5%	555	2.75
1 April 2018 – 31 August 2018	196	-3%	513	2.62
1 April 2019 – 31 August 2019	214	+9%	516	2.41

2.7 Staffing

- 2.7.1 With reference to item 4(a)(vii) of the minute of the meeting of this Committee on 29 March 2019, an additional Harbour Assistant started working at the harbour on 7 May 2019 until 31 October 2019. This additional member of staff brings the level of staffing at the Harbour to the required level to ensure all shifts are covered and staff are able to deal with the demands of

providing an expected level of service for the Harbour users, and to allow staff to take annual leave over the summer period. The shift patterns are less onerous during the winter months, however, consideration is being given to maintaining these staffing levels year-round to ensure safe levels of operation and service response, within available budgets.

- 2.7.2 The previous temporary Harbour Assistant has now taken up the position on a permanent basis, replacing the Harbour Assistant who was on long term sick leave and has now subsequently left his position with Angus Council.

3 ENGINEERING MATTERS

3.1 Inner Harbour Gates

- 3.1.1 With reference to item 4(b)(i) of the minute of the meeting of this Committee on 29 March 2019, 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 winter schedule on 1 October 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 March 2020 will also be posted on the Arbroath Harbour page of the Council's website.

3.2 Maintenance Dredging Operations

- 3.2.1 With reference to item 4b(ii) of the minute of this Committee on 29 March 2019 the last dredging operation in the Harbour which was completed in January 2019 has resulted in reducing the level of silt in the harbour to approximately Chart Datum. The level of silt in the Outer Harbour is at its lowest level for many years and is currently allowing movement of boats in and out of the Harbour at almost all states of the tide.

- 3.2.2 To carry out a dredge within the next 6 months is deemed necessary and will not achieve Best Value given the little amount of silt that could be removed and the high mobilisation costs for such a small amount.

- 3.2.3 It is proposed to carry over the dredging budget for 2019/20 and add it to the 2020/21 dredging budget and procure a dredging contract for 2020/21 which will allow a full dredge of the Inner and Outer Harbour up to the 12,000cu.m limit of the licence. This would provide Best Value adding the budgets together, paying for only one mobilisation.

3.3 Outer Harbour Pontoons

- 3.3.1 With reference to item 4b(iii) of the minute of this Committee on 29 March 2019 the long awaited pontoons were installed in the Outer Harbour. Work started on the installation of the piles on 5 June 2019 & the installations of the pontoons were completed within 2 weeks.

- 3.3.2 These additional pontoons have added nine berths in the Harbour to be used for commercial boats and one additional berth for pleasure boats. The fare paying passenger boats berthed on the pontoons now offer the members of the public a safer means of getting on and off the boats instead of having to use the quayside ladders. The quayside berthing which has now been freed up can be used for the larger commercial fishing boats.

- 3.3.3 Works still to be carried out to complete the project are fenders around the ends of the pontoon fingers, a new push button entry system to replace the one that has been damaged, a larger steel plate fixed to the door to stop unauthorised access from the quay as well as steel spikes to prohibit climbing onto the ramp from the quay. It is proposed this work will be carried out in next few weeks.

4 PROGRAMME OF WORKS

- 4.1 With reference to item 4(b)(iv) of the minute of meeting of this Committee on 29 March 2019, the 2019/20 list of projects is shown below. These proposals will be delivered if within available budget, including external funding sources.

Project/ Nature of Expenditure	Budget / (Cost) 2019/20 £000's	Comments
Annual Dredging		
Revenue budget	73	See paragraphs 2.1.1 (£27,000 carry over and £46,000 annual budget).
Dredging costs	(0)	See paragraph 3.2, to be carried forward to 2020/21.
Harbour Infrastructure Improvements		
Ice making facility	(50)*	On-hold
WiFi & payment card reader	(5)*	Priority project
Vehicular barriers	(10)*	See paragraph 5.7
Total	(85)*	
Pontoons in Outer Harbour		2018/19 Project, see paragraph 3.3
Walk-In Refrigeration Unit	(15)	See paragraph 5.3
EMFF external funding	10	
Harbour Reserve Fund contribution	5	
Ballast Quay Reconstruction	(458)	See paragraph 5.2
Additional capital funding	458	

*subject to identification of budget to fund

4.2 Active consideration is being given to the need for and availability of funding for infrastructure repairs at the Harbour in light of the collapse of the Ballast Quay. This will be a matter for reporting to the next meeting of this Committee.

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 29 March 2019 there was a NESFLAG meeting in Peterhead on 19 June 2019. At this meeting it was confirmed there would only be two further application deadlines remaining, 14 July and 24 November 2019.

5.1.2 The budgets for North Aberdeenshire and Angus are now fully committed. Angus received grants of £54,165 for the Outer Harbour pontoons, £10,314 for the chill room and £39,829 for the new exhibition 'Spotlight on Arbroath's Fishing Heritage' in the gatehouses of the Signal Tower Museum. Arbroath Harbour and the Signal Tower Museum therefore have benefited from £104,308 of the available £114,960 NESFLAG grant money allocated to Angus.

5.1.3 The next NESFLAG meeting will be held sometime in October 2019 at a location to be confirmed, which the Harbour Master will be attending.

5.2 Ballast Quay

5.2.1 With reference to item 4(c)(ii) of the minute of the meeting of this Committee on 29 March 2019, the contract to carry out the permanent repair work to the Ballast Quay has been awarded to Delson Contracts Ltd. Work started on site on 24 June 2019 & the repairs are expected to be completed by the end of September 2019.

5.2.2 The re-design of the wall and quay has been able to utilise the original facing stone blocks from the wall of the quay and then to backfill with a specially designed high strength concrete mix which is being tied into the wall as well as remaining sections of the quay including the seaward wall. Once the reconstruction of the wall and quay has been completed the stonework wall will then be repointed and the two new ladders added back in.

- 5.2.3 The reconstruction of the Ballast Quay is currently not having any detrimental effect on the operation of the Harbour and the Harbour continues to function as normal. The area along the Inner Harbour quayside where gear and creels has been stored, which have been displaced from the Ballast Quay, has been reduced and will revert to car parking use after completion of the works. Given this work is being carried out during the busiest time at the harbour, the Harbour Master would like to thank all Harbour users for their patience and co-operation in ensuring the contractor's progress is not being hindered in any way.

5.3 Chill Room

- 5.3.1 With reference to item 4b(iv) of the minute of this Committee on 29 March 2019 the contract to supply and install a walk-in chill room in the fishmarket has been awarded to Chillforce Ltd.
- 5.3.2 The need for electrical checks and tests having to be carried out by the Council's Property Division to ensure there was enough capacity in the electrical supply to the fishmarket, has led to a delay in the progress of the installation of the chill room. These checks and tests have now all been completed and the installation can now take place. It is anticipated that the chill room will operational by the end of September.

5.5 Northern Lighthouse Board (NLB)

- 5.5.1 With reference to item 4c(v) of the minute of the meeting of this Committee on 29 March 2019, each year in April the Northern Lighthouse Board (NLB) requires from harbours and ports a rolling 3 year report of all failures of any Aids to Navigation (AtoNs). Over the last 3 years the AtoNs at Arbroath Harbour are within the defect allowances set out by NLB. The 3 year rolling report from 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2019 for Arbroath Harbour is shown in **Appendix 2**.

5.7 Vehicular Barriers

- 5.7.1 With reference to item 4b(iv) of the minute of the meeting of this Committee on 29 March 2019 work is progressing to have two vehicular barriers installed at the Harbour. A specification has been comprised and an advert was placed on the Public Contract Scotland portal inviting tenderers to submit quotations to carry out the works. Quotations have since been submitted and are being reviewed by officers along with procuring the locations of the possible electrical power connections.
- 5.7.2 As highlighted in the last report to this Committee, the proposed location for a barrier at Old Shorehead/Marketgate is across an adopted road. It will therefore be necessary for the Council to promote a Prohibition of Driving Order before the barrier can be installed at this location.
- 5.7.3 Part of the proposal is to extend the off-street car park boundary from The Shore to include thirteen additional bays. This too would require a variation to a traffic order, which will be pursued with the installation of a new coin operated meter at the car park.

5.8 RNLI

- 5.8.1 On Saturday 13 July 2019 the RNLI held an Arbroath Lifeboat Day 2019. Although part of the quay beside the lifeboat station is temporarily taken up with the storage of creels due to the collapse of the Ballast Quay, the Harbour Master was able to make as much quayside space available as needed to ensure the RNLI could set up stalls and a stage and space for other emergency service vehicles.
- 5.8.2 Despite the weather, the crowds battled the rain showers to support the event and with some live rescue displays, live music, games/activities, food, boat trips and visits from the Broughty Ferry and Montrose lifeboats the day turned out to be a success.

5.9 Swimming in the Harbour

- 5.9.1 Earlier in August Harbour staff were alerted to two separate incidents involving youths jumping from the Harbour walls into the sea at the Harbour entrance. Not only is swimming in the Harbour without the permission of the Harbour Master an offence under the Harbour Bylaws but it is also extremely dangerous and this activity cannot be encouraged.

- 5.9.2 The Harbour Master would like to emphasise to Harbour users the need to report to him or his staff if they see any recurrence of this activity so that the required action can be taken before someone is seriously injured or killed.

5.10 Arbroath Sailing & Boat Club Yacht Race

- 5.10.1 On 24 August 2019 the Arbroath Sailing & Boating Club (ASBC) organised a yachting race with other sailing clubs whose yachts visited Arbroath Harbour. The timing of this report did not allow for a written update. ASBC may wish to provide an oral update to the Committee.

5.11 Arbroath Places for Everyone

- 5.11.1 It was announced on 31 July 2019 that Angus Council's application for Sustrans funding for Arbroath was successful. The funding is for £6.7M and will be subject to match funding of £6.7M from Angus Council. This success is the culmination of community engagement and project development with Angus Council. The project will see the enhancement of the street and landscape environment along the dual-carriageway through the town. The objective is to make improve accessibility and to encourage and increase the use of active travel and more inclusive forms of transport.

- 5.11.2 It is understood that Harbour users may consider that they have not been consulted on these proposals to date. There have been numerous opportunities for community engagement at events of the last two and more years. For those who have not participated to date, there will be opportunities to contribute to finalising the detail of the design.

- 5.11.3 The Service Leader - Roads & Transportation has been directly involved in this project from its inception and from now will be responsible for the delivery of the project, though final public engagement and design, though to construction and completion. The project will not adversely affect access to the Harbour and indeed will improve accessibility to the Harbour for all users. It is proposed that the Project Team present to the next meeting of the Committee. A similar arrangement is being made with the Community Council. Harbour users are also encouraged to participate in forthcoming engagements; however if they wish to raise any specific issues then they should do so by contacting the Service Leader - Roads & Transportation.

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 revenue budget.

- 7.2 The rental incomes accruing from property lets for Harbour premises continue to be managed by the Depute Chief Executive on behalf of the Council through the Director of Infrastructure.

**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

ARBROATH HARBOUR

Expenditure:

Staff Costs

Property Costs

Supplies & Services

Third Party Payments

GROSS EXPENDITURE

GROSS INCOME

NET EXPENDITURE 2019/20

	<u>Revised</u> <u>Budget</u> <u>2019/20</u> <u>£000's</u>	<u>Actual to</u> <u>@</u> <u>31/07/2019</u> <u>£000's</u>	<u>Estimated</u> <u>Outturn</u> <u>2019/20</u> <u>£000's</u>	<u>Outturn v.</u> <u>Budget</u> <u>%</u>	<u>-</u> <u>Outturn v.</u> <u>Budget</u> <u>Variance</u> <u>£000's</u>	<u>Actual</u> <u>2018/19</u> <u>£000's</u>
Staff Costs	141	55	150	106%	9	145
Property Costs	44	5	44	100%	0	45
Supplies & Services	191	64	175	92%	(16)	260
Third Party Payments	39	2	26	67%	(13)	13
GROSS EXPENDITURE	415	126	395	95%	(20)	463
GROSS INCOME	(299)	(142)	(355)	119%	(56)	(355)
NET EXPENDITURE 2019/20	116	(16)	40	34%	(76)	108

Notes 2019/20:

Supplies & Services

1/ Outturn - Dredging budget of £46k, plus £27k carry forward, assume no spend in 2019/20.

1/ Outturn - Plus additional fuel purchase £30k - fully offset by additional income.

Third party Payments

1/ Outturn - Accounts for £11k contribution in 2019/20 to Arbroath Harbour Reserve

Income

1/ Outturn - Accounts for greater than budget, fuel recharge income £30k and fish landing dues £25k, similar to 2018/19 levels



Aton Availability By Category

IALA Category	No Of Aids	Total Hours	No Of Failures	OOS Hours	MTTR	MTBF	Availability	Target Availability
Angus Council								
CAT 1	2	52,512	0	0:00	0:00	0:00	100.00 %	99.80 %
CAT 2	2	52,512	0	0:00	0:00	0:00	100.00 %	99.00 %
CAT 3	6	157,538	0	0:00	0:00	0:00	100.00 %	97.00 %
No Category	0	0	0	0:00	0:00	0:00	0.00 %	0.00 %
Totals	10							

Criteria:

Date Range from [01/04/2016 00:00:00 to 31/03/2019 00:00:00]

Third party Organisations are not included.

Organisations [Angus Council].

Filter [LLA AtoN].

User [BFleming] belonging to Organisation(s) [Angus Council]