

ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of MEETING of the **ARBROATH HARBOUR JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE**, held remotely, on Friday 6 November 2020 at 3.00 pm.

Present:

Council

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

Harbour Users'

Representatives None present.

Police Scotland PC GORDON SMITH. (until the end of Item 5)

Officers in

Attendance

WALTER SCOTT (Angus Council, Service Leader – Roads and Transportation); BRUCE FLEMING (Angus Council, Harbour Master); RORY TOSH (Angus Council, Team Leader, Finance); ANDREW WILSON (Angus Council, Democratic Services, Committee Officer); and SCOTT DRYDEN (Angus Council, Traffic Engineer, Infrastructure (for Item 7).

Councillor King, Convener, in the Chair.

1. APOLOGIES / SUBSTITUTES

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Alex Smith (Fare Paying Passenger Boat Owners); Paul Simpson (Boat Builders/Repairers); Professor Bernard King, CBE (Leisure Craft Users); Peter Anelli (Arbroath Sailing and Boating Club); Bob Teviotdale (Arbroath and Montrose Static Gear Association); and Sam Clow (RNLI).

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 13 December 2019 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

4. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising from the previous minute which would not be dealt with in the Committee's discussions on both the Police Report and the two Harbour Reports.

5. POLICE REPORT

With reference to Article 4 of the minute of previous meeting of this Committee, there was submitted a Report by Police Scotland, Tayside division, (Angus LPA), and presented by PC Gordon Smith. It contained details of recent crimes and issues in the Harbour area between 5 May 2020 and today, 6 November.

The incidence of COVID-19 had initially led to a reduction in visitors to the Harbour; however over the last two months or so, this trend had changed and the Harbour again was proving to be popular with visitors. PC Smith reported that 13 calls had been received concerning incidents at the Harbour. Most of these arose from mental health related incidents with one individual, a potential suicide, being involved in up to 4 incidents. Three other individuals were involved in separate incidents with an individual in one case entering the water. There had however been no injuries. Councillor Speed advised that she would pick up on these occurrences at the Harbour with the Angus Health and Social Care Partnership.

Crimes reported had involved theft of creels out at sea, with enquiries being followed up with Marine Scotland; damage to a boat berthed on the beach adjacent to the lifeboat shed; and reports of individuals trying doors of buildings in the vicinity of the Harbour.

PC Smith also reported that Arbroath Community Sergeant Grace Ewing had taken up a temporary promotion as Inspector based in Dundee. Members offered her their congratulations.

The Committee agreed to note the terms of the Police Report.

PC Smith thereafter left the Meeting.

6. ARBROATH HARBOUR - SPRING REPORT

There was submitted Report No 140/20 by the Service Leader – Roads & Transportation, outlining plans for future programmes of works, and considering contemporary matters of relevance to Harbour activities. This had been intended for submission to the meeting of the Committee scheduled for 22 May 2020. This meeting had been cancelled due to the COVID-19 outbreak and the Report had been circulated at that time to elected and user members of the Committee for their interest.

There were no comments or questions from members arising from this Report, and it was duly noted by the Committee.

7. ARBROATH HARBOUR – WINTER REPORT

There was submitted Report No 274/20 by the Service Leader – Roads & Transportation.

The Committee agreed to note, and approve as appropriate, the contents of the Report, in particular highlighting the following points:

(a) Administrative Matters

(i) Financial Update

With reference to Article 5(a)(i) of the minute of previous meeting of this Committee, due primarily to expenditure on dredging and the reduction in income as a result of impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and restrictions, the overspend now anticipated in the 2020/21 revenue budget and set out in Appendix 1 to Report No 140/20, was £68,000.

(ii) Revision of Harbour Charges – Biennial Review of Charges for Implementation in April 2021

With reference to Article 4(b) of minute of meeting of this Committee on 7 December 2018, there were submitted proposed revisions to the Harbour charges for the next two years as set out in Appendix 2 to the Harbour Winter Report, No 274/20, and **attached to this Minute**. Following questions from Councillor Fairweather, the Committee heard the Convener and the Service Leader – Roads & Transportation explaining the background to the financial position of the Harbour, particularly in the current financial year where income had been seriously reduced due to the continuing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Service Leader had consulted with Mackay Boatbuilders as part of the review process.

The Committee endorsed the proposed revisions to the Charges which would now be submitted to the Communities Committee for consideration at its meeting on 19 January 2021. If approved, the revised charges would be implemented from 1 April 2021 and reviewed again ahead of 1 April 2023.

(iii) Oil Spill Contingency Planning and Response

With reference to Article 5(a)(ii) of the minute of previous meeting of this Committee, members noted (1) that there had been no significant oil spills in

the Harbour since then, and (2) the detailed list of oil spill response certificates currently held by the Harbour staff.

It was proposed that all Harbour Assistants would be trained to MCA Level 2 – Sorbents & Equipment in 2020 at the next available training opportunity.

The services of Briggs Environmental Services Ltd were retained to deal with higher level pollution incidents should they occur.

(iv) Scottish Ports Meeting

With reference to Article 5(a)(iii) of the minute of previous meeting of this Committee, the Harbour Master had been unable to participate in the 'Zoom' virtual meeting of the Scottish Ports Committee (SPC) . The next virtual meeting was scheduled for 18 November. The customary Scottish Local Authorities Meeting and Scottish Parliamentary Maritime Reception at Holyrood normally held at that time of year, would not be taking place.

(v) Compounded Berths

With reference to Article 5(a)(v) of the minute of previous meeting of this Committee, no more compounded berths had been granted. There had been a reduction of 2, to a total of 41, as the pleasure craft *St Vincent* and fare paying passenger boat *Girl Katherine II* had left the Harbour in the summer.

(vi) Pontoon Berths (Inner Harbour)

With reference to Article 5(a)(iv) of the minute of previous meeting of this Committee, while there had been some comings and goings, the pontoon berths remained at maximum occupancy and the waiting list at 29. Only three winter berths had been available on the pontoons this year.

(vii) Summer Berths

These had been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic lockdown restrictions and the usual users, small pleasure boats, were unable to take a summer berth until 13 June 2020. Four more boats between then and 30 September, had been allocated summer berths in the Outer Harbour 'Lazy Hole'.

(viii) Visiting Boat Numbers

The Harbourmaster advised that, although numbers were reduced between 1 April and 31 August 2020 to 71, a decrease of 67% as compared to last year, and were clearly linked to the COVID-19 pandemic, the numbers of visiting boats from 13 July after restrictions were eased, were consistent with normal circumstances this year, once the lockdown was relaxed.

(ix) Staffing

With reference to Article 5(a)(vi) of the minute of previous meeting of this Committee, staff had continued to work to the winter schedule during April and May due to the pandemic and associated restrictions. Summer working (7am to 8pm) began on 1 June, running until 30 September, reverting to winter hours on 1 October.

(b) Engineering Matters

(i) Inner Harbour Gates

With reference to Article 5(b)(i) of the minute of previous meeting of this Committee, two engineering issues had arisen and been dealt with. The Inner Harbour Gates were firmly at the stage where they required continuous 'TLC' with incidents regularly requiring attention.

(ii) Annual Maintenance Dredging Operations

With reference to Article 5(b)(ii) of the minute of previous meeting of this Committee, the sole bidder, Peter Madsen Rederi, had been awarded the maintenance dredging contract. This company had worked for the Harbour before and was familiar with local conditions at Arbroath. 10,000 cubic metres to be removed from both the Inner and Outer Harbours and the navigational channel at a cost of £119,000. Works would take place during March 2021.

(iii) Wall Repair and Black Shed Quay Reinstatement

Messrs Delson had completed the repair works to the Black Shed Quay Wall in the Outer Harbour during August 2020. Following discovery of voids and movement at the base of the Wall, remedial action had been taken, including construction of a concrete 'toe' which filled the voids and bedded in place the bottom stones. Storm damage to the slabbed area around the Watch House was also repaired under the same contract. Assessment of Harbour infrastructure was ongoing, using available funding. Cost 2020/21: £8,000. subject to identification of budget to fund.

(iv) Cathodic Protection

The Report highlighted the importance of this protection to the Harbour. A survey had been completed and identified the replacement work required. Anti-corrosion protection scheme in the North and South Harbour Walls, Inner Harbour Gates, and the Oil Dispensing Jetty, installed in 2009 with a 10 year lifespan to March 2019. Replacement new sacrificial anodes to be fitted to the above structures, along with new sacrificial anodes to the Outer Harbour pontoon piles and Ballast Quay sheet piles. Cost 2020/21: Initial cost £50,000 – subject to identification of budget to fund. Budget bid made for £120,000 – this is seen as a high priority project to protect important Harbour structures.

(c) Programme of Works

With reference to Article 5(c) of the minute of previous meeting of this Committee, progress on various projects was reported as follows:

- **Annual Dredging:**

See paragraph 7(b)(ii) above.

- **Port Marine Safety Code – Designated Person**

Budget 2020/21: £8,000

The Designated Person is currently, the Director of Infrastructure, Angus Council. Currently working with Argyll and Bute Council to employ a Designated Person for the Harbours of Argyll and Bute and Arbroath Harbour. A 3 year contract is due to be awarded in November 2020. In response to questions from Councillor Durno, the Service Leader advised that much of the job requirement could be handled remotely. The two Harbour Authorities working together would demonstrate value for money, and this would be improved further if other areas such as Highland, Moray and Aberdeenshire were also to participate in the arrangement.

- **Harbour Infrastructure Improvements**

Cost 2020/21: £55,000 – subject to identification of budget to fund.

Including:

Ice Making Facility – On hold. Cost 2020/21: £50,000.

WiFi & Payment Card Reader– Priority Project. Cost 2020/21: £5,000.

- **Vehicular Barriers**

Cost 2020/21 £18,000

The necessary Road Traffic Order had been in place since 3 August 2020. Work was progressing with SSE to identify locations and work required regarding electrical connection for the vehicular barrier at the Old Shorehead/Marketgate road junction; and at the RNLI base on Fishmarket Quay. The total cost of £18,000 -was funded from:

AHJCC Reserve Fund: £13,000;

Car Park Reserve Fund Contribution: £3,000;

Residents' Contribution: £2,000.

- **Wall Repair and Black Shed Reinstatement**

Cost 2020/21: £96,000 (Additional Capital Funding).

See Paragraph 7(b)(iii) above.

- **Signal Tower WebCam**

Cost 2020/21: £3,000

A new webcam and parapet mount had been purchased for installation at the Signal Rock Museum. The Harbourmaster had been in discussions with Angus Alive to obtain access to the museum to have the camera installed. The Tower remained closed meantime due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Angus Alive still required to do risk assessments prior to the installation works. The webcam would augment camera coverage of the Harbour and improve security, and also enable Harbour users to check the current sea state or their craft. Once operational, it was the intention that the camera would be hosted on the Angus Council website.

(d) NESFLAG (North East Scotland Fisheries Action Group)

With reference to Article 5(d) of the minute of previous meeting of this Committee, it was not yet known whether, in the wake of Brexit, NESFLAG would be replaced. The Harbourmaster and representatives from the Council's Economic Development Service had been regular attendees at NESFLAG meetings, and Angus had been a regular beneficiary of NESFLAG funding. The last NESFLAG meeting was held in the Signal Tower Museum; examples of recent projects which had only been possible thanks to NESFLAG funding were, most recently, the Outer Harbour pontoons and the Walk-In Refrigeration Unit (Chill Room), which together received a total of £64,479. Two recent meetings had been held, on 10 June and 7 October 2020, to finalise awards and close off the work done by NESFLAG.

(e) Brothock Burn Wall Repairs

The Roads and Transportation Service of Angus Council has awarded a contract for repairs to the south side of the Brothock Burn retaining wall adjacent to Mackay Boatbuilders. The need for repair work was also identified on the north retaining wall adjacent to Old Shorehead. Repair work was expected to be complete by 31 October 2020.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Committee noted that its next meeting was due on **Friday 21 May 2020** at 3pm.

Biennial Review of Charges April 2021 to March 2023

Proposed charges in 2021 – 2022 and 2022 – 2023 against present charges in 2020 – 2021

Schedule A - Charges for Compound Berthing

	Schedule A Charges for Compounded Berthing	Present charge	Proposed Charge Apr 2021	Proposed Charge Apr 2022	Increase in first year	Increase in second year	Increase from 2020-21 to 2022-23
		£	£	£	%	%	£
1	Fishing Boats						
	Increase charge from £272 to £284 per annum or part thereof	272.00	278.00	284.00	2.21%	2.16%	12.00
2	Pleasure Craft (for personal use)						
	Increase charge to £305 to £319 per annum or part thereof	305.00	312.00	319.00	2.30%	2.24%	14.00
3	Craft employed carrying up to 12 fare paying passengers						
	Increase charge from £586 to £610 per annum or part thereof	586.00	598.00	610.00	2.05%	2.01%	24.00
4	Craft employed carrying over 12 fare paying passengers						
	Increase charge from £882 to £918 per annum or part thereof	882.00	900.00	918.00	2.04%	2.00%	36.00
5	Visiting fishing boats, yachts, pleasure craft and all other vessels not granted compounded berths						
	Increase charge for up to 24 hrs from £18.00 to £20.00	18.00	19.00	20.00	5.56%	5.26%	2.00
	Increase charge for up to 48 hrs from £32.50 to £35.00	32.50	34.00	35.00	4.62%	2.94%	2.50
	Increase charge for up to 1 week from £53.00 to £57.00	53.00	55.00	57.00	3.78%	3.64%	4.00
6	Pleasure craft for personal use summer berthing only						
	Increase charge from £228 to £228	228.00	233.00	238.00	2.19%	2.15%	10.00

Schedule B - Sundry Charges for Services

	Schedule B Charges for Services	Present charge £	Proposed Charge Apr 2021 £	Proposed Charge Apr 2022 £	Increase in first year %	Increase in second year %	Increase from 2020-21 to 2022-23 £
1	Fish landing dues						
	Increase charge on landed catch from 3% to 3.2%	3%	3.1%	3.2%	3.22%	3.13%	0.2%
2	Slipway Charges						
	Revise charges as follows:						
	Vessels less than 12m						
	First day from £146 to £152 per day	146.00	149.00	152.00	2.05%	2.01%	6.00
	Thereafter from £80 to £84 per day or part thereof	80.00	82.00	84.00	2.50%	2.44%	4.00
	Vessels more than 12m and under 18m						
	First day from £161.50 to £169 per day	161.50	165.00	169.00	2.17%	2.42%	7.50
	Thereafter from £87 to £91 per day or part thereof	87.00	89.00	91.00	2.30%	2.25%	4.00
	Vessels 18m and over						
	First day from £165.50 to £173 per day	165.50	169.00	173.00	2.11%	2.37%	7.50
	Thereafter from £92 to £96 per day or part thereof	92.00	94.00	96.00	2.17%	2.13%	4.00
3	Boat Hoist Charges						
	Lift out of the water & set on blocks/stands (£ per lin. m)	17.00	18.00	19.00	5.88%	5.56%	2.00
	Thereafter time on blocks/stands (£ per week or part thereof)	27.00	28.00	29.00	3.70%	3.57%	2.00
	Lift off blocks/stands and return to the water (£ per lin. m)	17.00	18.00	19.00	5.88%	5.56%	2.00
	Lift out of water & set on transporter (£ per lin. m)	22.00	23.00	24.00	4.55%	4.35%	2.00
	Lift off transporter & into the water (£ per lin. m)	22.00	23.00	24.00	4.55%	4.35%	2.00
	Lift out of the water, hold & return to the water (max. 3 hours) (£ per lin. m)	22.00	23.00	24.00	4.55%	4.35%	2.00
4	Boats fitting out doing repairs or tying up						
	Increase charge from £76 to £80 per week or part thereof	76.00	78.00	80.00	2.63%	2.56%	4.00
5	Wash Down Facilities						
	Vessels less than 12m Increase charge for water for washing down on slipway cradle from £61 rising to £65	61.00	63.00	65.00	3.28%	3.17%	4.00
	Vessels more than 12m and under 18m Increase charge for water for washing down on slipway cradle from £71 rising to £75	71.00	73.00	75.00	2.82%	2.74%	4.00
	Vessels 18m or over Increase charge for water for washing down on slipway cradle from £81 rising to £85	81.00	83.00	85.00	2.47%	2.41%	4.00
6	Power Points in Fish Market						
	Increase charge from £19 to £21 per day or part thereof including weekends	19.00	20.00	21.00	5.26%	5.00%	2.00

Schedule C - Sundry Charges for Pontoon Berths

	Schedule C Sundry Charges for Pontoon Berths	Present charge £	Proposed Charge Apr 2021 £	Proposed Charge Apr 2022 £	Increase in first year %	Increase in second year %	Increase from 2020-21 to 2022-23 £
1	Annually From 1st April to 31st March						
	Increase charge from £124.00 to £130.00 per metre excl. VAT	124.00	127.00	130.00	2.42%	2.36%	6.00
2	Summer Season From 1st April to 30th September						
	All Season						
	Increase charge from £101.00 to £105.00 per metre excl. VAT	101.00	103.00	105.00	1.98%	1.94%	4.00
	Monthly						
	Increase charge from £31.50 to £33.50 per metre excl. VAT	31.50	32.50	33.50	3.17%	3.08%	2.00
	Weekly						
	Increase charge from £15.00 to £16.00 per metre excl. VAT	15.00	15.50	16.00	3.33%	3.23%	1.00
	Daily (any length)						
	Increase charge from £27.00 to £29.00 per day incl. VAT	27.00	28.00	29.00	3.7%	3.57%	2.00
3	Winter Season From 1st October to 31st March						
	All Season						
	Increase charge from £50.00 to £52.00 per metre excl. VAT	50.00	51.00	52.00	2.00%	1.96%	2.00
	Monthly						
	Increase charge from £17.00 to £18.00 per metre excl. VAT	17.00	17.50	18.00	2.94%	2.86%	1.00
	Weekly						
	Increase charge from £9.00 to £10.00 per metre excl. VAT	9.00	9.50	10.00	5.56%	5.26%	1.00
	Daily (any length)						
	Increase charge from £22.00 to £24.00 per day incl. VAT	22.00	23.00	24.00	4.54%	4.35%	2.00