

Open Community Harbour Development Association

**North Pier Harbourmaster's Meeting Room
26th of November 2019: 10.00 – 12.00**

Minutes

Present

Duncan Martin, Phil Hamerton, Tony Bennett, Fergus Gillanders, John MacAlister, Peter Tosh, Alison Rennie, Robert Kincaid.

Apologies

Ross Wilson, David Vass, Tony Hammock, Andy Spence.

1. Minutes and matters arising

1.1. The minutes were approved as being true record and can now go onto the website

2. AOCB to be considered

2.1. Community Council rep on the OCHDA committee.

3. Report on the meeting with A&BC

3.1. On the whole this was a successful and useful meeting. Tony and all the others involved were thanked for all the work required in managing these meetings. The results they are achieved are very promising.

3.2. Pippa Milne is keen to carry on the discussions through to the next stages via appropriate meetings. A report on our proposals is due to go before the A&BC Harbour Board in December. Cllr Robin Currie is noted as the new chair of the A&BC Harbour Board.

3.3. The group now needs to meet as soon as possible after the Harbour Board to consider our business plan and our development plan. These plans will need to consider the aims and aspirations laid out in the local and national business and development plans.

4. Harbour Order progress report

4.1. It is now clear that the Harbour Order we need to prepare is for a Trust and/or a Municipal Port and not for a Conservancy Port as considered earlier. The Order will need to be forward-looking and future-proof, as far as possible, and state legal and financial details.

5. **Appointment of legal representatives**

- 5.1. John MacAlister reported discussions with possible legal representatives, (Brodies & MacKinnons) to add to the list which Phil has. Consideration should be given to a more robust short-listing process before decision-making. Actions: JM to give Phil details of new contacts; Phil to draft & circulate a letter to potential legal representatives, including questions on charges and relevant experience.
- 5.2. A short list of 2-3, based on responses, could be invited to come to talk to the group to help us make our final selection.

6. **Public engagement strategy/ publicity strategy: website. Newsletter etc**

- 6.1. The Committee recognises the people of Oban are interested in what is going on and need to be kept up-to-date otherwise we risk losing their support. However the Committee recognises the need to consider carefully what is published at this stage. In view of the sensitive stage of discussion, the Committee agreed that A&BC should be informed regarding any such information being disseminated.
- 6.2. We need to be contacting a wider group of people than just the usual stakeholders and should invite people to join OCHDA. The newsletter, once approved, needs to be emailed out to as wide a group as possible. Action: PH to revise text & compile a list of appropriate recipients.

7. **Letter to potential supporters**

- 7.1. AR will compile a list of potential supporters as suggested by the group. It was also suggested that Andy Spence should be contacted for his input.
- 7.2. This will be emailed out to the group for consideration together with a draft of the letter the potential supporters will receive. **Action: AR to re-draft & circulate letter & recipients list.**

8. **Membership of OCHDA**

- 8.1. This has already been dealt with under item 6.

9. **Financial update**

- 9.1. Peter Tosh informed us that we have £11,750 in the bank. He has agreed to send a list of all donors around the group. A letter of thanks will be sent to all the donors thanking them. **Action:PT to send list of donations received, AR to send Thank-You letters.**

10. **AOCB**

10.1. **Community Council rep**

Oban Community Council has requested that a rep from the Community Council could be co-opted onto OCHDA. This was agreed. Action: **DM to advise OCC & invite Keith Miller to join us in the New Year.**

10.2. **Harbourmaster's tender**

It was reported that the North pier harbourmaster now has a small tender for her use.

10.3. **NRA meeting**

OCHDA was fortunate that RK was able to attend the recent NRA meeting. No formal invitation was received. The meeting noted the improvements arising from new buoyage in the N Channel.

11. **Next meeting**

This has been set for 16 December in the North Pier harbourmaster's meeting room at 11.00 – 13.00.

NOTE

The previously arranged meeting for the 17th has been cancelled. A note will be sent to absent members of the group informing them of about this change.