

Minutes of the meeting of the OCHDA Management Committee

September 9th 2021 15:00 – 17:00 via Zoom

Present

Andy Spence, Alison Rennie, Ross Wilson, Keith Miller, Duncan Martin, Phil Hamerton, David Vass, Peter Tosh, Mike Thoms

Apologies

Tony Bennett, John MacAlister, Tony Hammock, Robert Kincaid

Any other competent business

None

1. Minutes of the previous meeting (August 12th)

- 1.1. 4.2 typo to be corrected: A&BC
- 1.2. Minutes proposed as correct by David Vass, seconded by Duncan Martin.

2. Matters arising

- 2.1. Minute 4.5 Yes, we should be contacting the MCA. TB & JM have both indicated that they have contacts whom they will approach.
- 2.2. Minute 4.7 Tony Bennett has now made contact as necessary.
- 2.3. Minute 6 Forthcoming Management Committee meetings - these will continue as virtual meetings.
- 2.4. Minute 7 Media strategy, this was actioned.

3. Membership requests

- 3.1. A request was received from Stephen Peake to become a member of OCHDA. This was approved. **Action AR**

4. Feedback following meeting of Harbour Board

- 4.1. The Harbour Board accepted the recommendations with the amendment that the reporting of the result of the option appraisal is to be scheduled for December 2nd, rather than March 2022.
- 4.2. Other recommendations referred to agreement in principle that a leasing

arrangement could be made between the Council and another body and the Council agreed, therefore, to continue working with OCHDA.

- 4.3. Frustration was expressed regarding the continued impasse over completing the OCHDA Business Case without negotiations over possible lease costs etc.. Doubt was reported regarding the next regular meeting with Council Officers and whether it is still going ahead. OCHDA believe that it should do so. **Action: TB & RW**

Afternote: Meeting held on 14th September and Backbrief circulated

- 4.4. A number of other possible actions were considered. The Committee agreed to attempt to maintain positive working relationships with A&BC and accentuate positives where possible.
- 4.5. Concerns were reported over H&S issues within the current operation of the N Pier, highlighted recently by a cruise ship arrival and loading materials from large vehicles. The Trust Port may need to include control of some of the car parking areas in order to manage the pier safely as and when required. This will be a matter for later consideration in the lease negotiation. In the meantime observed unsafe practices should be reported to appropriate authorities.
- 4.6. It was agreed to continue with the briefing of MSPs/MP, to request direct support from MCA and to continue to work constructively with the OBMG. **Action TB, RW, PH**

5. Meeting with MSPs & MP

- 5.1. The previously circulated suggestions for the content of this meeting was approved subject to a number of alterations, particularly emphasising the positives (benefits and achievements as well as potential). A further draft will be circulated asap. **Action: PH**
- 5.2. The form of the meeting was discussed and it was agreed that Mike Thoms and Andy Spence should be invited to deliver the presentation supported by Tony Bennett and Ross Wilson to answer questions and technical issues.

6. Workplan for the remainder of 2021

- 6.1. It was agreed to attempt to start lease negotiations with A&BC.
- 6.2. We also need to have an implementation plan with timelines. It was suggested that members of the Board working group could be asked to work on this issue.
- 6.3. Tony Bennett is finishing the MoU deliverables.

7. Schedule of forthcoming meetings

- 7.1. The next **Management Committee** meeting is programmed for 7th October.
- 7.2. It was decided that the **AGM** would be held on Wed 3rd November at 7 pm. We will plan for a face-to-face meeting, Covid restrictions notwithstanding. A venue for this will be sought. **Action: PH**
- 7.3. A **public meeting was discussed**. It was proposed that this should follow the Harbour Board (Dec 2nd). In view of Christmas & Hogmanay the week beginning 13 December was suggested unless it can be left to mid-January. There was some discussion about these suggestions and it was agreed to revisit these decisions at the next committee meeting.
- 7.4. Note that next **OBMG** is on Wed 27th Oct

8. Media strategy

- 8.1. It was decided not to run any media items at the moment. Press releases will be prepared for the meeting with MSPs in due course.

9. Any other competent business

None.