

WORKINGTON HARBOUR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Minutes of a Meeting of the Workington Harbour Management Committee held on Friday, 31 January 2020 at 10.00 am at Port of Workington

PRESENT

Mr K Little (Chair)

County Councillors

Mr A Bowness
Mr J Holliday
Mr A Markley
Mrs C Tibble

Allerdale Borough Councillors

Mr M Johnson

Officers in Attendance:-

Mrs L Davis	-	Democratic Services Officer
Mr K Kerrigan	-	Head of Place Development and Housing
Ms A Jones	-	Executive Director - Economy and Infrastructure
Mr J W Lihou	-	Port Manager

PART 1 – ITEMS CONSIDERED IN THE PRESENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

32 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Mr S Stoddart.

33 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED, that the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of Agenda Item 9 – Port Manager's report on the grounds that it contains exempt information as defined under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person including the authority holding that information.

34 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Mr M Johnson declared an interest as a Managing Director of A J Johnson.

35 MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Workington Harbour Management Committee held on 30 October 2019 were confirmed, as a correct record, and signed by the Chair.

36 MEMBERSHIP

The Committee noted that Mr M Jenkinson had resigned his position on the Committee with effect from 28 January 2020. A representative for the vacancy would be appointed by Allerdale Borough Council at their meeting on 4 March 2020.

The Chair introduced and welcomed Mr K Kerrigan, Head of Place Development and Housing, Allerdale Borough Council to the meeting.

37 RECOMMENDATIONS AND ACTION PLAN FOR WORKINGTON HARBOUR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Members received the recommendations and action plan for Workington Harbour Management Committee from the Port Manager.

Members noted that a briefing had taken place with key port stakeholders with the aim to strengthen commercial relationships and identify growth and development opportunities for the Port and surrounding land. The briefing had been well attended and received. It was noted that further events would be organised and members invited to attend.

The Executive Director – Economy and Infrastructure confirmed that work had commenced on the development of a forward looking 5 year Business Plan for the Port. The Committee were informed that consultants would be employed to assist in the development of the Plan and members input would be welcomed. It was the intention to produce an executive summary, alongside a long term strategy plan, so this could be shared with prospective clients. Joint working was taking place with Allerdale Borough Council to develop opportunities for the Port and the surrounding area.

Members were informed of the intended actions regarding the recruitment of two non-voting co-opted members to the Committee. Expressions of interest had been received and candidates would be asked to submit a covering letter and CV to assess their suitability. There was specific DfT guidance on the role of co-opted members and it was agreed to circulate this to members. Members were invited to encourage suitable candidates to apply.

PMSC awareness training had been arranged to take place following the meeting.

Work had commenced on a review of the port terms and conditions of use and a further report on this would be given to a future meeting of the Committee.

RESOLVED, that

(1) the action be noted;

(2) the Executive Director – Economy and Infrastructure circulate DfT guidance on the role of co-opted members of the Committee to members.

38 ACCOUNTS AND PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

The Port Manager updated members on the latest Revenue and Expenditure for the quarter ending 31 December 2019. The Committee were advised that the operating revenue was £1,325,586, the operating expenditure was £1,246,106 and the trading surplus £79,480. It was noted that earmarked reserves would be used, if necessary, for the dredging campaign and infrastructure surveys.

Members noted that Port traffic sales were down but were assured that contracts had not been lost. The target had been set based on the previous year's figures where they had been more opportunities for one off contracts.

RESOLVED, that the report be noted.

39 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Friday 24 April 2020 at 10.00 am at the Port of Workington.

40 PORT MANAGER'S REPORT

The Committee received a report from the Port Manager on the general commercial activities that were on going and anticipated. There had been a number of enquiries and quotation requests from various parties.

Port Recruitment

An update on Port recruitment was noted by members.

Port Health and Safety

An appraisal of health and safety at the Port was given to members. The minutes of the Port's Health and Safety Committee were appended to the report.

Port Marine Safety Code

The Port Manager advised members that the Port's Oil Spill Contingency Plan had been reviewed and approved by the Marine Coastguard Agency (MCA). Staff training had successfully been completed.

Port of Workington Investment Programme

The Port's capital investment requirements were currently being reviewed by the Council.

A lengthy discussion took place on the rail infrastructure around the Port. The importance of involving the local community was highlighted.

Members discussed the LEP Port Strategy and future funding opportunities for the Port and surrounding area. A presentation would be given to members on the LEP Port Strategy and the finalised document would be circulated to them. The Executive Director – Economy and Infrastructure emphasised the need to be proactive and have “shovel ready” schemes ready to attract potential future funding sources.

Members had a short discussion on the implications of Brexit. It was agreed that during the transition period a standing item – Brexit Transition – be included on the Committee's agenda.

RESOLVED, that

- (1) the report be noted;
- (2) a standing item on Brexit Transition be included on the Committee's agenda.

The meeting ended at 11.15 am