

WORKINGTON HARBOUR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Minutes of a Meeting of the Workington Harbour Management Committee held on Friday, 20 January 2023 at 10.00 am at Port of Workington

PRESENT

Mr K Little (Chair)

County Councillors

Mr R Dobson
Mr A Markley
Mrs C Tibble

Allerdale Borough Councillors

Mr M Heaslip
Mr M Johnson
Mr C Sharpe

Officers in Attendance:-

Mr M Barry	Place and Enterprise Manager
Mr J Coughlan	Co-opted Member
Mrs L Davis	Democratic Services Officer
Mr A Harty	Assistant Director - Environment and Enterprise
Ms A Jones	Executive Director - Economy and Infrastructure
Mr K Kerrigan	Programme Director, Allerdale Borough Council
Mr S Richards	Port Manager

22 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Mr A Bowness.

23 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 and Agenda Item No 10 – Update on Existing Customer on the grounds that they contain 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.

24 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

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

25 MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the meeting held on 21 October 2022 be confirmed as an accurate record.

26 MEMBERSHIP

There were no changes in membership to note.

27 ACTION PLAN

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

RESOLVED, that the report be noted.

28 ACCOUNTS AND PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

The Port Manager updated members on the last Revenue and Expenditure for the quarter ending 31 December 2022 and outlined cargo that had passed through the Port and new business activities that were expanding the Port's customer base. Members were informed that income was up but the rise in the cost of energy and fuel were having a significant impact on this. A review of prices had taken place and, whilst some had been increased, the prices remained competitive. In discussion, the Executive Director advised that under the new Cumberland authority, there would be an opportunity to review fuel procurement and the Council had a reserve budget that could, if necessary, be drawn on by the Port to assist with the increasing costs. The Port Manager discussed plant replacements and confirmed that the purchasing of electric plant would be considered.

In answer to a member's question, it was confirmed that the new Cumberland authority would set their own budget. A member questioned whether dredged sand could be utilised but was informed of the poor quality of the dredged material. It was confirmed that a contractor taking beach materials had a licence to do this.

The key performance indicators were noted.

RESOLVED, that the report be noted.

29 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

It was noted that this was the last meeting of the Committee in the life of Cumbria County Council.

The Executive Director advised Cumberland Authority would appointed members to this Committee at their Annual General Meeting in April.

30 PORT MANAGER'S REPORT

Members received a report that informed and advised on the latest operational, commercial and financial position in relation to the Port's strategy and policies for the period from 30 September 2022 – 31 December 2022.

The Port Manager advised on funding that had been secured from Allerdale Local Committee to make improvements on Merchants Quay. This was welcomed by members. Promotional work taking place to raise the Port's profile and Port recruitment was outlined.

It was noted that near miss reporting procedure and recording pads had been issued to all departments and operational areas of the Port. Members welcomed the recording of near miss incidents as they recognised that it assisted the Port to identify and correct unsafe tasks, practices and uncontrolled hazards. The Port Manager outlined the procedure that followed a near miss incident.

The Senior Manager, Economy and Place gave a presentation on the Port of Workington Rail Improvements Business Case and presented the draft Port of Workington Logistics and Clean Energy Hub. The draft Logistics and Clean Energy Hub document was circulated at the meeting and members feedback was welcomed.

RESOLVED, that the report be noted.

31 UPDATE ON EXISTING CUSTOMER

The Assistant Director - Environment & Enterprise updated members on an existing Port customer.

To conclude the meeting, the Executive Director advised on the latest LGR position. The Chair thanked members, officers, the Port Manager and staff for their contributions to the Port over the years.

The meeting ended at 11.20 am