



**Minute of Ferry Users Group Meeting
(Arran, Bute, Cumbrae, Cowal)**

**Held at the Glynhill Hotel, Renfrew
11:00, 26 April 2007**

IN ATTENDANCE

ARGYLL & BUTE COUNCIL

Mr Dave Duthie, Head of Transportation

INVERCLYDE COUNCIL

Councillor David Roach

Councillor George White

Councillor Jim Hunter

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

Councillor Margie Currie

STRATHCLYDE PARTNERSHIP FOR TRANSPORT (SPT)

Mr Chris Carberry, Public Transport Officer

Mr Eddie McSheffrey, Assistant Public Transport Officer

CALMAC FERRIES (CFL)

Mr Lawrie Sinclair, Managing Director

Mr Phil Preston, Operations Director

Mr Hugh Dan MacLennan, Head of Community and
Customer Care

Mrs Fay Harris, Regional Manager (Kintyre & Islay)

Mr Robbie Brown, Regional Manager (Arran & Cumbrae)

ARGYLL & THE ISLES ENTERPRISE (AIE)

Mr Lennie Moffat

APOLOGIES:

Councillor Len Scoullar, Argyll & Bute Council

ITEM 1: Appointment of Chair

Mr Duthie welcomed all to the meeting, that while full committee would appoint Chair once this convenes, a Chair would be required for this meeting only. Councillor White seconded by Councillor Hunter, nominated Councillor Roach who had volunteered.

ITEM 2: FUNCTIONS OF THE GROUP

Mr Duthie explained background of consultation process of Tier 1 and Tier 2, that the Ferry Users Groups would operate and be administered bi-annually under the auspices of the Regional Transport Partnerships HITRANS and SPT. Following discussion

It was agreed routes to be covered by group shall be:

1. Brodick to Androssan
2. Lochranza to Claonaig
3. Tarbert to Portavadie
4. Lochranza to Tarbert
5. Cumbrae to Largs
6. Rothesay to Wemyss Bay
7. Rhubodich to Colintrave
8. Gourock to Dunoon (current CFL service)
9. Gourock to Kilcreggan - Helensburgh

2.1 It was noted Mr Sinclair's request if CFL not successful bid for Gourock-Dunoon service, then this route should not be included in this group. That CFL would not be willing to have any other operator at this meeting, the way forward may be to have two meetings

2.2 Mr MacLennan reported that CFL was in process of Bid Tender - Clyde and Hebrides, that document is almost complete for submission to the Scottish Executive. Within the document, they are to include the provision of an Area Ferry Forum, which will effectively act as a first point of contact with community groups for CFL to filter out any day to day, local issues as they arise.

ITEM 3: MEMBERSHIP

It was agreed:

- HITRANS to nominate a single representative.
- SPT to nominate a single representative.
- Councils – Argyll & Bute Council, North Ayrshire, and Inverclyde will be each asked to nominate two representatives.
- CFL to have Regional Managers, Director, with Hugh Dan MacLennan to be day-to-day point of contact.
- Local Enterprise – HITRANS to write to Argyll and the Isles Enterprise for nominee.
- FTA/RHA - HITRANS to write to both to request nominee.
- Tourism – HITRANS to write to Visit Arran, and Visit Bute for nominees.
- Bus Operator – Mr Carberry to consult with SPT then advise HITRANS if they support writing to CPT for nominee. Argyll and Bute consider it essential that commercial service operators are invited to participate in the meetings to aid integration of services
- NFU – HITRANS to request nominees from both Arran and Bute.
- Rail – HITRANS to write to FirsScotrail for nominee,

- Port Authority – HITRANS to write to local Authorities for nominee, and confirm representation from CFL agreed by CMAL.
- The group wished to reserve the right to invite Clydeport, the Harbour Authority at Ardrossan, to meetings where specific issues so warrant.

ITEM 4: Date of Next Meeting

Mr Duthie recommended next meeting should take place in June to discuss timetables provided by CFL, any comments/issues before going to print. Mr Sinclair advised timetables are set as part of the bid document, that no changes can be made within the first year.

It was agreed that an initial Group meeting in June should go ahead to begin process of meetings and consider the Summer 2008 timetable proposals and to this end the next meeting of group would take place at 11.00am on 28 June 2007, at the CFL offices, Gourrock.

ITEM 5: CalMac Consultative Arrangement

Covered under item 2.2