



**Minute of Ferry Users Group
Kintyre and it's Islands**

**Held at the Stonefield Castle Hotel, Tarbert
16:00 26 June 2007**

IN ATTENDANCE

HITRANS

Mr Dave Duthie, Director
Mr Randal Robertson, Programme Manager

ARGYLL & BUTE COUNCIL

Mr Blair Fletcher, Transportation Manager
Councillor Robin Currie (Islay)

CALEDONIAN MACBRAYNE LTD (CalMac)

Mr Ian Fox, Regional Manager (Oban)

ARGYLL & THE ISLES ENTERPRISE (AIE)

Ms Sue Gledhill, Head of Global Connections
Mrs Marie-Ann Brown, Business Representative

CONFEDERATION OF TRANSPORT (CPT)

Mr Mike Dean

APOLOGIES:

Councillor Duncan MacIntyre
Mr Phil Preston, Ops Director, CalMac
Mrs Fay Harris, Regional Manager (Kennacraig) CalMac

ITEM 1:

Appointment of Chair

Dave Duthie Welcomed all to the meeting, highlighting that this and all future meetings would be chaired by the HITRANS representative. That Councillor Duncan MacIntyre, HITRANS Chairman would chair future meetings, but in Duncan's absence he would chair this meeting himself.

ITEM 2: Minute of Meeting 17 April 2007

The Chair reported on the minute of the inaugural meeting held on 17 April, explaining the background of the consultation process of Tier 1 and Tier 2 and also CFL Ferry Forums. He advised on the importance that Community Councils be represented at these meetings.

ACTION: HITRANS to chase up Community Councils for representation at future meetings

ITEM 3: Minute of HITRANS Partnership Meeting 18 May 2007

Chair reported on minute of HITRANS Partnership meeting of 18 May, Agenda Item 2: Ferry Users Consultation Arrangements, decision taken by HITRANS board that:-

CFL Management representation be limited to one Senior Manager and relevant Regional Manager(s). Additional management may attend if a particular issue warrants this, that HITRANS must be notified ahead of meeting. **The minute was noted**

3.1: The Chair advised of meeting between Scottish Executive, HITRANS, SPT and CFL scheduled for 2 July 2007. The meeting is to discuss all levels of meetings, to prevent duplication and how to go forward.

ITEM 4: CalMac Ferries Ltd Winter 2007 Timetables

Ranald Robertson reported on new arrangement of 40 days notification of any changes to be given before any decision can be taken. The Minister will refer any changes agreed to Tier 1 Groups for discussion.

Group discussion followed, Chair advised need to wait and see what comes forward and re-iterated 40 days consultation period.

Robin Currie advised meeting should have been cancelled, as timetable supplied by HITRANS were now out of date. Fay Harris, CFL Regional Manager had advised him of new user-friendly timetables issued by CFL. Chair advised we were not aware of any new timetables. Ian Fox confirmed he was aware of new timetables but had not seen them, that he should have timetables by end of week.

ACTION: Ian Fox to email timetables to Katy Cunningham, who will circulate to members upon receipt.

It was agreed if any issues raised regarding the timetables a meeting would be called.

Item 4.1: Robin Currie reported Arran – Claonaig arrival time not sufficient for connection to Islay, only 1 hour for connection. Ian Fox advised this is caused by an overlap between winter & summer timetables on this service and is for one week only.

It was noted that Group request enhancements to timetables

ACTION: Blair Fletcher to discuss linkage with Regional Manager, Fay Harris.

Item 4:2: Blair Fletcher raised the issue that the existing timetables lack information in terms of people taking caravans and campervans to Colonsay. Ian Fox agreed and advised there is a lack of facilities for caravans/campervans, water, toilets etc on Colonsay.

ACTION: Issue to be discussed at local Ferry Forum in July with community council, with any enforcement requested to be taken to council by local council representative.

ITEM 5: Draft Terms of Reference

The Chair advised that the draft terms of reference were for information only, as they were to be taken to the HITRANS board for approval. Any issues/comments to be returned to HITRANS by 6 July.

ITEM 6: AOCB

Blair Fletcher reported on the absence of luggage trolleys at ferry terminals and that it would be desirable to have the facility to take a luggage trolley onto the ferry as gangways can be difficult to negotiate with large items and heavy baggage. Ian Fox advised this might not be possible due to weight restrictions and security. Another factor that would need to be considered is funding. Discussion followed, with agreement that there is a need for better luggage transfer for all ports.

ACTION: **It was agreed** to take the luggage issue back for further consideration

ITEM 7: Date of Next Meeting

If no meeting called to discuss timetables, it was agreed next meeting should be held at beginning of 2008, same time and location.