



**Minute of Ferry Users Group Meeting
(Small Isles, Skye, Raasay, Kilchoan, Lochaline)**

**Held at Held at Lochaber College, Fort William
13:00 27 June 2007**

IN ATTENDANCE

HITRANS

Councillor Duncan MacIntyre, Chair
Mr Dave Duthie, Director
Mr Randal Robertson, Programme Manager

HIGHLAND COUNCIL

Mr Sam MacNaughton, Head of Transport & Infrastructure

CALEDONIAN MACBRAYNE LTD (CalMac)

Mr Ian Fox, Regional Manager (Oban)
Mr David Taylor, Regional Manager (Fort William)

HIE LOCHABER

Mr Scott Dingwall

CONFEDERATION OF TRANSPORT (CPT)

Mr Mike Dean

SLEAT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MS Flora MacLean

RAASAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Mr Donnie Oliphant

WEST ARDNAMURCHUN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MS Rosemary MacLachlan

APOLOGIES:

Councillor John Laing, Vice-Chair, HITRANS
Councillor Gordon Chalmers, Argyll & Bute Council
Mr James Cameron, Freight Transport Association (FTA)
Mr Robert Muir, HIE Skye and Wester Ross

- ITEM 1: Appointment of Chair**
Dave Duthie welcomed all to the meeting, highlighting this and all future meetings would be chaired by the HITRANS representative who would be Councillor John Laing. In Cllr Laing's absence and as he was Highland Council representative at the meeting Sam MacNaughton was asked to chair this meeting if no one objected to this. No objections were raised. Sam advised the group that John would be happy to chair future meetings.
- ITEM 2: Minute of Meeting 18 April 2007**
The Chair reported on the minute of the inaugural meeting held on 18 April explaining the background of the new consultation arrangements for ferry services including Tier 1, Tier 2 but also the CFL Ferry Forums. **Minute approved.**
- ITEM 2.1:** The Chair recognised the important role community councils had to play in the Group and he went on to explain the input required from members. In addition to the membership of the Group any organisation or community group with a particular issue they wish to raise through the Group may do so on a one off basis and are welcome to attend the meeting while they raise this issue.
- ITEM 3: Minute of HITRANS Partnership Meeting 18 May 2007**
The Chair reported on the minute of the HITRANS Partnership meeting of 18 May, Agenda Item 2: Ferry Users Consultation Arrangements and the decision taken by HITRANS board that:-
CFL Management to limit representation to one Senior Manager and relevant Regional Manager(s). Additional management may attend if a particular issue warrants this but that HITRANS must be notified in advance of the meeting.
- ITEM 4: CalMac Ferries Ltd Winter 2007 Timetables**
Ian Fox advised changes/enhancements have been made to timetables as part of the tender process and that this is still being considered by the Scottish Executive (SE).
- ITEM 5: Draft Terms of Reference**
The Chair advised that the draft terms of reference were for information only and had not yet been approved by the HITRANS Board. Any issues/comments from members must be returned by the second week of July if they were to be reflected in the report to the Partnership.
- ITEM 6: AOCB**
The Chair advised the contract for constructing the new ferry terminal for Raasay been awarded to Balfour Beatty at a cost of approximately £12.4m, this will secure and improve services to Raasay.
- Item 6.1:** It was proposed that SNH should be included in this group
- ACTION:** SNH representation to be taken to HITRANS board for approval.

ITEM 7:

Date of Next Meeting

It was agreed meeting should be held in September, no date set.