

**Minutes of Meeting of Cruden Bay Harbour Management
Committee
At the Village Hall, Cruden Bay at 1930 hrs on Monday 25
August 2008**

Present:

Hugh McIntyre – Chairman
John Simpson - Vice-Chairman
Peter Abenheimer
Gordon Mackay
Peter Campbell – Secretary
Bob Lewis – Harbourmaster
Bob Lewis (jnr)
Sam Coull
Steve Platt
John Cay

1. Introduction:

The Chairman opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. The minutes were adopted as a true reflection of the previous meeting

2. Apologies:

Apologies were given on behalf of Garry MacLean, Sean Sullivan and Frank Barbi.

3. Rolling Actions:

The outstanding rolling actions were dealt with as follows:

Action No.4 The Harbourmaster has completed the draft berthing plan which he presented to the meeting. Gary to complete the presentational graphics.

PENDING

Action No. 6 Sheds will remain an action pending the result of enquiries to trace the relatives of the late John Duthie and the enquiry with B & Q for a donation of paint and materials to improve the aesthetic look of the sheds and containers.

PENDING

Action No. 7 This action has largely been completed and the Chairman is to meet with Willie Murdoch from Aberdeenshire Council in early September to pursue options relative to funding and advice on moving the project forward.

PENDING

Action No. 8 The Chairman has communicated with John Ritchie from Scottish Water (See agenda item No. 8 Repairs)

COMPLETE

Action No. 9 To be carried forward to the next meeting, due to Garry's absence.

PENDING

Action No. 12 The situation regarding the berthing of the larger boats has been resolved to everyone's satisfaction. This item is now complete.

COMPLETE

Action No. 13 To be discussed under agenda item 3.

COMPLETE

Action No. 14 Peter Abenheimer is continuing work on the new general rules. This item will be carried forward.

PENDING

Action No. 15 This action will now be dealt with under **Action No 6** and this is now complete.

COMPLETE

Action No. 16 This action will now be dealt with under **Action No 6** and this is now complete.

Action No. 17 Awaiting a reply from Aberdeenshire Council re the provision of a larger notice board.

PENDING

Action No. 18 Some discussion took place regarding the type of sign required and its location. Some minor detail on who will produce the sign is required before this action is complete.

PENDING

4. Constitution:

The Chairman produced an ordnance survey map showing the new boundary as agreed at the previous meeting. This will be incorporated in the constitution and a PDF file will be produced showing the boundary line.

5. Financial Status:

The Chairman identified there was an outstanding bill from Gray and Gray solicitors which related to legal work undertaken by the previous committee. It was agreed that this should be paid.

The Treasurer indicated that he would have to temporarily step down from the position as he will be absent from Cruden Bay for prolonged periods of time over the coming months. He indicated he would like to retain his status as a committee member and would be happy to take up the position of Treasurer again at a later date.

The Chairman thanked the Treasurer for his work to date and asked if anyone was willing to take on this position. In the absence of any volunteers, the Chairman indicated he would temporarily maintain this position until Ewan was able to return. It did however mean that a new signatory would be required for maintenance of the accounts. Peter Abenheimer agreed to fulfil this function.

ACTION Peter Abenheimer to be added as a signatory for maintenance of the bank accounts

The financial situation regarding the drawing of electric by harbour users was discussed, as currently they are unable to access power due to difficulties with the meter. Various options were discussed and it was suggested the Chairman would obtain options for upgrading the provision of power and present them at the next meeting.

ACTION Chairman to obtain options from Scottish Power for the upgrade of the provision of power to harbour users for presentation at the next meeting.

6. General Rules:

Peter Abenheimer updated the members on the situation regarding general rules. He still has some work to do on this and welcomed any further suggestions for consideration of inclusion in the rules. He hoped to have a draft document prepared for the following meeting.

7. Sheds:

The situation regarding sheds was discussed and the Secretary was asked to follow up the action with B & Q relating to the paint and materials for improving their appearance.

Gordon MacKay indicated he had shortly before received a text message from Garry MacLean asking that the committee consider a request to replace his current shed with one measuring 20' x 10'. In principle, there was no objection to this request and the Chairman asked that the Secretary write to Garry and ask him to provide a scale plan indicating the proposed location of the shed and how it would impact on the surrounding area. There was agreement that users could change like for like in relation to sheds, but any significant difference in size would require approval by the committee.

Garry also indicated in his text message that a third party had approached him and offered to buy the davit, currently lying in the confines of the harbour, for £200. This offer was discussed by the committee and it was agreed that consideration should be given to installing it in a suitable location, as it would enhance the harbour and provide improved options for boat owners and harbour users. The Chairman asked that the Secretary write to Garry and decline the offer.

ACTION Secretary to write to Garry MacLean and ask that he submit a scale plan indicating the exact location of his proposed shed showing its impact on the surrounding area. The letter should also decline the offer for the purchase of the davit.

Whilst on the subject of the davit and improvements to the harbour, John Cay suggested it would be useful to have some kind of pulley to help lift boxes of fish from boats onto the harbour. John Simpson indicated that he was aware of a portable one which was used at Rosehearty Harbour which could be wheeled to different locations. It was agreed that this was worthy of further exploration and the Chairman asked committee members to consider options and bring them forward at the next meeting.

ACTION Committee members to look at options for the provision of a pulley to lift fish from boats onto the harbour

8. Repairs:

Willie Murdoch from Aberdeenshire Council has provided dates when he is available to meet to discuss the harbour repair. He indicated that it was unlikely the council could provide funding as Cruden Bay was not a

harbour they had responsibility for. He did however; show a willingness to offer advice and support going forward and the Chairman is to meet with him early next month to progress this and maximise opportunities.

Similarly, contact had been made with John Ritchie from Scottish Water and whilst they weren't able to offer direct charitable contributions, they were able to offer funding if it directly impacted on their assets. This was seen as a positive move forward and the Chairman and Sam Coull will continue to pursue this option.

The Chairman also indicated that he had made contact with an individual within the Scottish Parliament and he would pursue this to identify possible funding opportunities.

Sam Coull identified a further funding option under the European Fisheries Fund and suggested that Cruden Bay Harbour may be eligible for funding from this stream. He also suggested that he had made contact with an individual within BP and was exploring options for possible funding from them. The Chairman thanked Sam for his work in identifying possible funding streams and encouraged the committee to come up with other options.

John Cay produced a letter from Stewart Stevenson MSP indicating his support for the ongoing work at the harbour and offering his help in securing funding. This offer was welcomed and will be added to the options going forward.

The Chairman was in the process of compiling a matrix showing the possible funding streams and their current status and this would be provided at the next meeting.

ACTION Chairman to produce a matrix showing potential funding streams

9. Harbour Master Report:

The Harbourmaster reported a fairly upbeat message and indicated the harbour was running well. He asked for assistance in ensuring lifebelts and poles are installed at the harbour. A number of volunteers agreed to help with this work on Saturday 30 August. He also indicated the harbour boat had been moved to the corner as had the ladder.

10. AOCB:

A number of items were brought forward under AOCB. John Cay suggested a 'flyer' be produced for handing to potential donors. Gordon MacKay agreed to produce such a document. It was also suggested that it would be a good idea to produce quarterly update in the form of a newsletter to give to harbour users, keeping them informed of ongoing initiatives. They could also be invited to meetings for verbal updates and to allow them to ask pertinent questions relative to the workings of the harbour.

ACTION Gordon MacKay to produce a newsletter /flyer for handing to potential donors

The Chairman indicated that he had met with the new Community Police Officer who had indicated an interest in attending harbour meetings and assisting with any potential harbour related crime. The Chairman is to meet him at the forthcoming Community Association meeting and will progress this.

ACTION Chairman to invite the Community Police Officer to the next meeting

John Cay indicated that his wife had a recent conversation at the harbour with an employee from Aberdeenshire Council Lighting Department. This individual had indicated a willingness to provide additional lighting at the harbour on a health and safety basis. The contact was given as Bob Grey Tel No. 01467 628085. The Chairman thanked John for the information and asked the Secretary to write to the Lighting Department and ask if this could be progressed.

ACTION Secretary to write to Aberdeenshire Council Lighting Department to progress additional lighting on health and safety grounds

Peter Abenheimer suggested it might be good idea to get a plaque produced for installation at the harbour, similar to the one on the approach to the south side of Boddam. There was broad agreement that this was a good suggestion and the Chairman agreed to take this to the Buchan Partnership meeting to see if funding was available.

ACTION Chairman to explore funding for a plaque with Buchan Partnership

Ewan Buchan mentioned the land slippage at the rear of the sheds and suggested it might be worth planting some trees or bushes to stop further erosion. It was agreed that this suggestion would be included in a business plan going forward under environmental impact. A previous business plan existed and it was agreed that this could form the basis of a

future plan which could include a section on the environment round the harbour and how it could be improved.

Peter Abenheimer indicated a number of people had enquired about a harbour day. It was agreed that it would be good idea to consider this for next year and the Secretary was asked to include this as an agenda item for the next meeting.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for their enthusiasm and contributions and closed the meeting.

11. Date of Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be held on Monday 29 September 2008 at the Village Hall, Cruden Bay.