Islay Community Council Ferry Committee

4th September 2019, Service Point, 7pm

1. Present: Islay McEachern (IMcE) – Chair, Jim Porteous (JP) – Secretary, Brian Abbot (BA), Graham Paterson - CalMac (GP), Colin Fraser (CF), Jean Knowles (JMK) – Minutes.

Apologies: Ben Mundell (BM), Jim MacCalman (JMacC), Garry MacLean (GMacL), Mike Senior (MS), Don McKillop (DMcK), Angela Herd (AH).

Welcome & Introduction
The Chair welcomed all to the meeting and the above apologies were noted.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting
The minutes of the previous meeting were proposed by JP and seconded CF.

4. Action Points & Matters Arising
Action Points:

- CV's carrying statistics – AH to look at the numbers
- Decision regarding MV Hebridean Isles car carrying capacity – email CalMac for update.
- GP – Will try to get monthly dashboard stats for August for use at the Islay Ferry Summit.

It seems that only four Islay hauliers are linked to the B2B team which include:

- Mundell
- Carntyne
- Islay Crab Exports
- AM Transport

Others, e.g. Blacks & Gleaner have set usage, while Walton, Breckenridge, Robinson & Breedon are variable.

JP – Reduction for school bus fares to be trialled – this is now in the hands of Pauline Blackshaw.

Action Point: Pauline Blackshaw to be contacted.

5. CalMac Operational Update

- GP – Stats for July are not yet available.
- It was noted that Mundell's have been extremely busy this month.
- It was also noted that there were three cancelled sailings each way today and many were on standby for tomorrow.
- Tomorrow and Friday were already fully booked!

JP – MV Finlaggan came in to Port Ellen today in very difficult conditions. Expression of high regard for master.

6. Summer Timetable 2020
It has been agreed to revert to the 0700 ex Kennacraig to Port Ellen on Thursday.
There was no feedback regarding the request to restrict campervans travelling on peak core sailings.

7. Islay Vessel Project

- Good attendance at meeting with CMAL.
- Funding has been agreed.

- Passenger capacity may be lower than MV Finlaggan, due to demand rising more slowly than vehicles and the need to reduce weight in order to maximise freight capacity and provide crew accommodation.
- Deadweight will be a high priority.
- The initial outline design phase will take approximately 6 months.

8. Ferry Summit 2019

A discussion took place regarding the forthcoming ferry summit which had already been discussed at a separate meeting.
Details of the ICCFC presentation are currently being finalised and it was noted that this summit would focus solely on ferries and ports.
The previous ferry summit was attended by 33 people - the 2019 ferry summit will be attended by 38, including two members directly representing the ICCFC.
Ferry committee members: Garry MacLean, Ben Mundell & Jack Fleming will also be attending the meeting.

GP – Perhaps Gleaner should be invited to the ferry summit as they have concerns about no concession for travelling empty & the exclusion zone around petrol tanker (Duncan McGillivray is now the supervisor).

IMcE – Suggested that this should be discussed further before raising questions with CalMac.

JP – Noted that CalMac now produce stats on carbon footprint but does not know how calculated.

9. Community Board Update

JP – Many decisions by Transport Scotland are one dimensional i.e. cost to Government. CB is pushing for socio-economic considerations to be taken into account in the decision making process ie. cost/benefit to communities and wider economy.
Still waiting to hear more from CMAL about catering at Kennacriag.
On the subject of Kennacraig, IME suggested that the CalMac office at Kennacraig was inadequate for staff & public.

10. AOCB

BA – Noted that the National Transport Survey was held at Bowmore Hall – however, attendance was extremely poor.

11. Date of Next Meeting

9th October 2019, venue to be confirmed.