

ARDROSSAN TASKFORCE

Third meeting – 13 June 2017

Note of meeting

Attendees

Humza Yousaf, Minister for Transport and the Islands
Cllr Joe Cullinane, North Ayrshire Council (NAC)
Karen Yeomans – NAC
Doug Coleman – Peel Ports
Lorna Spencer – Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd (CMAL)
Jim Anderson - CMAL
Robbie Drummond – CalMac Ferries Ltd (CFL)
Bill Calderwood – Arran Economic Group (AEG)
Graham Laidlaw – Transport Scotland (TS)
Richard Hadfield - TS
Chris Wilcock - TS
Val Ferguson - TS

Item 1 – Welcome and Introductions

1. Mr Yousaf welcomed everyone to the third meeting of the Task Force in particular the representative from the Arran Community groups. Due to IT issues the agenda was reordered and the Minister invited Jim Anderson to update the group on the new vessel.

Item 3 – Vessel Update

2. Jim Anderson provided an update and advised that the vessel had provisionally been named the Glen Sannox and was expected to be launched in August. The use of Inchgreen dry dock for the fit out was discussed and it was noted that commercial discussions are on-going between Ferguson Marine Engineering Ltd (FMEL) and the owners Peel Ports.

Item 4 – Brodick Update

3. Lorna Spencer provided the update on works at Brodick and confirmed the main works were going well with the pier almost complete. Work on the terminal building was on-going. Works were expected to complete in mid-July with the exception of the Passenger Access System (PAS) which was likely to complete in September with the opening of the upgraded facility at the end of that month. The project remained on budget.

Item 2 – Presentation by NAC/Peel ports

4. Karen Yeomans provided a presentation summarising the proposals including

- a. A submission for funding under the Ayrshire growth deal,
 - b. The coastal corridor and £20m north and south shores development for commercial, residential and leisure facilities styled "Clyde 100".
 - c. Development of a 21st century terminal/hub, improved connections and marine infrastructure including a new linkspan with a total investment of £15.5 million.
5. It was anticipated the marine works would be ready for the new vessel coming into service in 2018 along with the marshalling area and car park and the hub building would be later in 2019.
 6. Governance arrangements have been put in place and a project board including all partners established. The board will meet at least monthly with additional calls as needed and work streams below board level. The business case was being fully developed including proposed lease arrangements
 7. A Project Manager had been appointed and was expected to cover both marine and landside elements for continuity. The master planning exercise would assess critical issues. The Project Manager would assess project risks.
 8. The first board meeting had discussed the operational requirements for the new vessel and these were being considered by the design team to determine options for consideration by the project board. Further vessel simulations were being arranged when the simulator was available.
 9. The proposed hotel development was noted by the Minister and although the site was to be confirmed it could be part of an integrated development with the working port.
 10. Discussions are on-going between NAC, Peel and CMAL over the provision of the PAS.
 11. All local stakeholders on Arran and Ardrossan would be involved to build on the community engagement seen during the campaign.
 12. Doug Coleman updated the group on the design and procurement work. A full procurement team and project manager were in place. Consulting marine engineers Ramboll had been appointed and were gathering data and developing design options -
 - Option 1 would see the new linkspan in same position as existing but with LNG and PAS conflicts for this option.
 - Option 2 would place the linkspan further inland to avoid the stern of the vessel from overhanging the berth. That option would have less disruption to the service. It would be possible to maintain service during construction with minimum closure of the berth.
 - Option 3 is a hybrid of the other two options

13. Linkspan lead times were challenging but the specification for the one in Brodick was being assessed and it was hoped to reduce any delay with the target of April 2018 for the marine works to be operational.
14. Legal agreements were under discussion with CMAL/CFL with a further meeting planned for 20 June. A land resumption notice had been placed with Peel Property to take back additional land for the marshalling area which was expected to take effect in January 2018.
15. Ground lease agreements were under discussion and heads of terms provided to NAC and the technical requirements from CFL were being reviewed. Surveys were complete, ground investigation was to commence and procurement documents were in preparation.
16. LNG bunkering might require a footprint of 400-600 m² within the site. The regulator would determine detailed requirements in due course.

Item 5 – Operational Update

17. Robbie Drummond provided an update on the operational requirements for the vessel including the need for extra manoeuvring room for the new vessel. He also highlighted a challenging recruitment need for both the new and existing vessels as staff retire over the next few years

Item 6 – Next steps

- The project board will next meet by the end of June
- An overall project risk register will be developed
- CMAL requested a meeting with the design team to discuss the caveats on the linkspan specification provided
- CMAL sought clarification of their role on the project board
- Peel Ports would expect a long term commitment to be agreed

Summary of actions

A date for the next project board to be agreed – NAC

Project board to review operational requirements with CFL to inform final infrastructure design – NAC

Copies of the meeting presentations to be sent to the Minister. - TS

Agenda and minutes will be published on Transport Scotland Website. - TS

Date for next meeting to be agreed - All