

Northern Ireland Fishery Harbour Authority

Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting

Zoom Meeting on

Tuesday 7 Sept 2021 at 10.30am

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| Present: | Robert McConnell (RMcC) - Chairperson Kevin Quigley (KQ) – Chief Executive Alan McKeown (AMcK) – Board Member Davey Hill (DH) – Board Member David Knott (DK) – Board Member |
| In attendance | Belinda McCaughey (BMcC) – Accounts Administrator |

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| 1. APOLOGIES None | |
| 2. CONFLICT OF INTEREST None declared. | |
| 3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING Minutes of the meeting held on 10 June 2021 were agreed with amendment to note Pelagic Landings were from the South. | |
| 4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES HM Offices – additional funding has not yet been approved. Offices are progressing. Panel will meet in mid September. All other matters arising were taken to the June Board Meeting. | |
| 5. STATUTORY ACCOUNTS – YE 31 MARCH 2021 DK commended these accounts and noted how well presented they were and easy to follow. The Committee discussed the accounts in full and will be taken to Board Meeting later in the month for signature. | |
| 6. 2021/22 MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS AND CASH POSITION – 3 MONTHS TO 30 JUNE 2021 1 st quarter shows not a bad start – better than hoped for. Since June things have improved. | |

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| <p>KQ discussed details of the accounts and in particular:</p> <p>Ardglass – Landings down on Last Year but they were the only boats fishing then. Adjustment should possibly have been made to Ice Budget due to this fact.</p> <p>Overtime costs – workload is up and issues with staff – sickness in the other harbours.</p> <p>This year of Covid-19 has been so different from the first year. Staff are off – kids being tested, etc.</p> <p>In Kilkeel turnover is well up – both above last year and above budget. Landings lower than hoped.</p> <p>Harbour dues are high against budget due to pmpw not being accounted for. On a level par with last year. Overall a good solid performance.</p> <p>Expenditure shows dredging costs at a high level due to the need to dredge as much as possible to cover for when the dredger will be out of action. KQ confirmed the dredger was holding up well despite increased working hours. We have a new driver on the Digger and productivity is good, especially where maintenance is concerned.</p> <p>Electricity costs high due to an Energy price adjustment of 5% and being out of contract.</p> <p>Staff costs up dues to overtime and deputising allowances when harbour master is off.</p> <p>RMCC noted that during a recent tour of Kilkeel with KQ he noted how much staff were under pressure.</p> <p>Portavogie has had an exceptional first quarter. Last year they were the first harbour to tie up the vessels. More product has been brought home – not landed in the Clyde. Protocol is working for our vessels.</p> <p>Ice sales up - vessels seem to be using more ice on their product. Repairs are low. Neil has had staffing issues with his foreman off.</p> <p>No movement yet on the revised Vessel Decommissioning facility. Despite this a small steel vessel from Kilkeel was dismantled on the quayside at no cost to the Authority.</p> <p>Head Office - Staff costs are under budget as Pay Review has not been implemented. Professional Services will catch up later in the year when MSMS Audit is carried out.</p> <p>RMCC noted that we should not base our judgement on the three months. This is a good result for the first quarter.</p> <p>Capital Works spend – full report will come to Board Meeting.</p> | |

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| <p>DH asked about the revenue from non fishing vessels. He declared an interest as he is part owner in a number of boats. We will try to provide more clarity on this for the next Finance Meeting.</p> <p>A better analysis of Dredging Costs will also be prepared for the next Finance Meeting.</p> <p>RMcC noted the accounts were well presented and easy to read.</p> <p>Accounts will be taken to Board Meeting for approval.</p> | <p>BMcC</p> <p>BMcC</p> <p>KQ</p> |
| <p>7. CURRENT FORECAST</p> <p>Forecast is based on the three months actual to the end of June 2021 and the remaining nine months budget figure with exceptions as follows:</p> <p>Vessel Dismantling. The full budget will be spent by year end if planning permission comes through.</p> <p>Dredger Costs. Amended to reflect the full budget expenditure by year end.</p> <p>Professional Services. Also amended to reflect the full budget expenditure by year end.</p> | |
| <p>8. CASH FLOW AND DEFICIT FUNDING</p> <p>DAERA have approved our Budget deficit and first drawdown of Grant in Aid of £185k has already taken place. A second drawdown will be requested in late September or early October. Getting access was a simple process with great help from DAERA.</p> | |
| <p>9. DEBTORS</p> <p>BMcC discussed the level of Debtors and variance to last year.</p> | |
| <p>10. ESTATE MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT</p> <p>KQ gave an update on our current position and noted that Wendy has now taken over the management of outstanding issues.</p> <p>KQ talked to the queries. In particular:</p> <p>Rockabill – There is a need to map the current property.</p> <p>KDA – Awaiting on information from our Solicitors. The Committee discussed this fully and decision was taken to proceed with normal enforcement for bad debt.</p> <p>G. Smyth – request for additional land to expand factory. If we proceed with the full area of land then access to that part of the harbour estate from the back fields would be cut off. BMcC noted that the original request for was additional car parking space and this could be covered by a Licence to Occupy agreement which could have a right of way added to it. This is to be taken to Board Meeting for discussion.</p> | <p>KQ</p> |

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| <p>Rooney Road Site – The lessee has requested to be release from the 125 year lease. If we impose a restriction on the land then there is no incentive for him to develop it. The committee discussed various options with the decision taken to advise that we will not sell the land but normal development under the terms of the lease can proceed. KQ will advise.</p> <p>KQ covered the remaining Estate Management Issues.</p> | KQ |
| <p>11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p> <p>KQ advised the Dredger Works tender has been awarded.</p> | |
| <p>12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>Wednesday 01 December 2021.</p> | |