

Cumrae Ferry Users Group

Meeting Date / Place : Monday 16th May via Microsoft Teams

Attendees
Angus Campbell (CFU commuter & Calmac Community Board); Carol Ann Baxter (CalMac Largs Port Manager); Tommy Gore (Calmac Operations Manager); Finlay MacRae (Calmac Head of Operations); Cllr Ian Murdoch; Duncan Fraser(CCC); Iain Morrison (Millport Motors); Kari Lundie (CFU Chair); Cllr Tom Marshall; Gail Murphy (Business rep); Chris Sutherland (Commuter); Alex Morton (Business Rep); John McCubbin (Age concern); Margaret Carson (Cumrae Forum); Scott Ferris (IOCTA); Deborah Ferris (CCDC); Lisa Christie (CCC); Cllr Alan Hill; John Riggins (NHS); Elke Schrieber (FSC); Cllr Todd Ferguson
Apologies
Welcome
Approval of previous minutes
Proposed by: Gail Murphy Seconded by: Scott Ferris

Issue / Agenda Item	Status	Action / Comment
CMAL - Cumrae Slipway redevelopment	Open	<p>CMAL presented options for the redevelopment of the Cumrae Slip way (Presentation attached separately). It was confirmed that no other sites had been considered in these plans as CMAL own the current slipway and only like for like has been considered. Questions/Suggestions from the group as follows, which CMAL will respond to in due course.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Extending the length of the slipway to help alleviate tidal disruption - Sea defences to make slipway more weather resilient and reduce disruption - Investigation of other sites (e.g. White bay) offering more shelter and reducing disruption - Could temporary slip way be kept as a back up, alternative option during certain weather conditions <p>Action : CMAL to develop an alternative plan to improve weather resilience than a "like for like" replacement. Given these plans are to provide a slipway for the next 60yrs, the community do not believe that is appropriate to continue with a design that doesn't improve weather resilience.</p> <p>Action : CMAL to consult Calmac to ensure that the limiting weather features for the route are properly considered, with input from the Marine Staff, to ensure that the designs for replacement vessels and slipways that improve weather resilience are in place to improve on the current level of weather disruption</p> <p>Cost of redevelopment advised as circa £4.5m . Current timescale for temporary slipway Aug 2023 subject to approvals, funding etc. It was also suggested given the flood defence project would require a temp slipway that perhaps CMAL could liaise with the relevant teams.</p>
New Cumrae Ferry to Replace the Loch Riddon.	Open	<p>Tommy Gore confirmed that he has been involved in pushing the Loch Riddon up the priority list with CMAL for replacement. It is understood it will likely be 2025 before any new vessel appears. Discussion over whether this would provide a more weather resilient service ?</p> <p>Action : Tommy Gore to review with CMAL and the masters, further enhancements in design to make the new vessels / slipways more weather resilient</p>

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Contingency Plans for breakdowns	Overdue	<p>breakdowns increasingly challenging for the community, leaving many people stranded on the wrong side; workers on the island unable to leave, and islanders on the mainland unable to get home.</p> <p>Action : Calmac to consider the Colintraive Ferry as an option to be used as the contingency vessel, as it is nearer, and larger capacity than the Tarbert to Lochranza ferry, and the main Bute Service would be unaffected.</p> <p>Update 16/05 - Calmac confirmed the Colintraive vessel would require 4-6 hrs work in order to make the vessel compatible with the Cumbrae route.</p> <p>Action : Calmac to consider options for a fall-back passenger only contingency if "all else fails" to get people over and back</p> <p>Update 16/05 - Pax only options being investigated, Elke at FSC to send Calmac pier specs.</p> <p>Acton : Calmac to confirm the number of their staff normally based at Largs who are inducted / able to operate across the 3 vessels typically at Largs for flexible crewing options (No of people who can operate on Loch Shira, Loch Riddon, Catriona) ?</p> <p>Action : Calmac to also advise on their plans to improve their inductions to improve flexibility across the vessels normally operating from Largs</p> <p>Update 16/05 - Calmac confirmed crew inducted onto Riddon, however insufficient crew inducted on the Catriona both due to staff shortages and refusal to travel due to contractual/union issues. Surprise from the community contracts are being issued with no provision for adhoc training elsewhere.</p> <p>Calmac to address contractual issues and find a suitable solution for all to have crew inducted on the Catriona to allow maximum flexibility in the event of failure.</p>
MV Loch Dunvegan	Open	<p>Action : Calmac to consider with CMAL the option for the MV Loch Dunvegan to be modified to permanently provide the 2nd vessel service from Cumbrae from Summer 2023, by modifying her ramps etc to be more suitable for the Largs Cumbrae Route.</p> <p>Update 16/05 - Reluctance on the part of Calmac and CMAL to remove MV Dunvegan from current route or modify with new vessels in the planning</p>
Ar Turas new ticketing system	Open	Calmac advise Robin Scorthorne would be in touch regarding the planned go live date for Arturas.
Summer 2022 Ticketing	Open	<p>Calmac to consider alternative options to prevent the significant issues associated with queuing by means of a better ticketing process for summer 2022,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. kiosk or mobile ticketing in the car queue or b. an early deployment of their new ticketing system for Cumbrae as a trial or c. some interim online ticket purchase option for the Cumbrae route
Priority Boarding for the Cumbrae route	Noted	<p>Concerns highlighted by a passenger who was going to a cancer treatment appointment and had asked for priority boarding. the call centre had said that this wasn't available.</p> <p>Update 16/05 - Calmac advised staff had been briefed</p>
3rd vessel availability for Summer 22 TT	Noted	<p>Action : Calmac to investigate the availability of the spare Clyde vessel in the summer time (Loch Linnhe ?) as a 3rd vessel to support peak period e.g. Bank Holiday Weekends</p> <p>Update 16/05 - Calmac confirmed Loch Linnhe would support where possible dependent on requirements elsewhere in the network, crew availability and space at Largs pier</p>
Transport Minister Meeting	Complete	Material agreed for presentation to the TM Wed 1st June 2022
Strategic Islands Connectivity Transport Plan	New	Action : Cumbrae Ferry Committee / Community council should feed its requirements for an strategic change into the current national consultation around Islands Connectivity
Season Tickets / Carnet of 200 or 300 Tickets	New	<p>Action : Calmac to consider the option of a 200-400 ticket carnet that could be used to replace the season ticket if transport Scotland were to agree to it</p> <p>Calmac confirmed that season tickets would still be available for the monthly passes until Arturas is implemented.</p>
Date of next meeting	Noted	Wed 22nd June @ 1730