



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ORKNEY ENTERPRISE (OE) BOARD
HELD ON THURSDAY, 20 JANUARY 2005 AT 19:30
IN OE OFFICES, 14 QUEEN STREET, KIRKWALL, ORKNEY**

Present: Brian Kynoch (Chairman)
Thelma Irvine
Hugh Halcro-Johnston
Malcolm Marwick
Craig Spence
Tony Trickett

In attendance: Ken Grant (Chief Executive)
Graham Sinclair

Observers: N/A

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Edgar Balfour, Roy Brown, Norma Campbell, Ronnie Johnson, Ian Johnstone and Cameron Taylor.

2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

No interests were declared.

3 MINUTES OF THE MEETING – 25 NOVEMBER 2004

The minutes of the OE board meeting held on 25 November 2004 were proposed by Tony Trickett and seconded by Craig Spence.

4 MATTERS ARISING

1) Orkney Area Lifeline Ferry Services – Transport User Group

The Transport User Group has met with J Wallace, MSP and representatives from the Scottish Executive and Northlink to discuss the revised timetable consultation.

Nicol Stephen, MSP, wrote to Brian Kynoch in response to his letter of October 2004. Brian Kynoch updated directors on the content of this letter.

2) Convention of Highlands and Islands (COH&I)

The 5 LEC Chairs to attend the next COH&I in Shetland in March 2005 will be decided at the next LEC Chairs' meeting on 15 February 2005.

3) VisitOrkney

Brian Kynoch circulated a note of the recent meeting of the Orkney Tourism Group for information. Brian Kynoch is to represent OE on the Tourism Steering Group and will feed back to staff and directors.

4) IatE

The Eday Local Development Officer post is currently being re-advertised.

5) HIE Chairman's visit to OE

Willy Roe, HIE Chairman, is scheduled to visit Orkney on Friday, 11 February 2005.

6) Aberdeen to Kirkwall flight time change

Brian Kynoch is to raise directors' concerns at the change to the Aberdeen to Kirkwall flight time change at the next HIAL – Kirkwall airport consultative committee meeting which is scheduled for February 2005.

5 APPLICATIONS APPROVED UNDER DELGATED AUTHORITY

a) December 2004

Directors noted the content of this paper.

6 ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

a) Management Report of Activities (SP 771)

1) European Marine Energy Centre (EMEC)

Ken Grant advised directors of delays being experienced in quantifying EMEC phase II project costs. This in turn is causing a delay in obtaining formal funding approval from funding bodies. HIE and EMEC staff are to meet again with developers who are looking to use the tidal testing site. Ken Grant confirmed that he will no longer be on the board of EMEC with effect from the end of January 2005.

2) Local Economic Forum (LEF)

The next LEF meeting is to be scheduled for early March 2005.

b) HIE Network Strategy and Organisational Review (SP 772)

Ken Grant advised directors of the recent Efficient Government discussions with Orkney Islands Council (OIC) and NHS Orkney. A meeting/workshop to further discuss Efficient Government issues is scheduled for Friday, 4 February 2005. OE directors, NHS Orkney board members and OIC councillors and directors are to attend. Issues discussed will be relevant for the forthcoming meeting the HIE chairman, Willy Roe.

c) 2005 Schedule of OE board meetings (SP 773)

Directors noted the content of this paper. In addition, the following events were suggested:

Presentations from Young Enterprise Companies to OE board.
Isles visit – new IatE areas e.g. Stronsay or Eday.
Joint OE and Shetland Enterprise board meeting.

d) OE Financial Management Plan (SP 774)

Directors expressed concern at the section in the plan that relates to OE's policy towards creating B&B and self catering facilities. Ken Grant re-assured directors that there was a presumption against this type of assistance and cases could only be considered if innovative and exceptional.

e) Freedom of Information (FOI) guidance (SP 775)

Directors noted the content of this paper.

f) Scotland United Conference report by C Spence (SP 776)

Directors noted the content of this paper.

7 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

8 ARRANGEMENTS FOR NEXT MEETING

Friday, 4 February 2005 – Efficient Government meeting/workshop – directors to be advised of arrangements.

Friday, 11 February 2005 – Willy Roe, HIE Chairman, visit to Orkney – directors to be advised of arrangements.

The next OE Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 24 March 2005 at 19:30 in OE offices.

Chairman_____

Date_____

Name: Graham Sinclair

Date: 21 January 2005