



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ORKNEY ENTERPRISE (OE) BOARD  
HELD ON THURSDAY, 25 NOVEMBER 2004 AT 19:30  
IN OE OFFICES, 14 QUEEN STREET, KIRKWALL, ORKNEY**

**Present:** Brian Kynoch (Chairman)  
Edgar Balfour (Vice Chairman)  
Roy Brown  
Norma Campbell  
Hugh Halcro-Johnston  
Thelma Irvine  
Ronnie Johnson  
Ian Johnstone  
Craig Spence  
Cameron Taylor  
Tony Trickett

**In attendance:** Ken Grant (Chief Executive)  
Graham Sinclair

**Observers:** None

**1 APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Malcolm Marwick.

**2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

No interests were declared.

**3 MINUTES OF THE MEETING – 2 NOVEMBER 2004**

The minutes of the board meeting held on 2 November 2004 were proposed by Ronnie Johnson and seconded by Tony Trickett.

#### **4 MATTERS ARISING**

##### **(1) Orkney Area Lifeline Ferry Services – Transport User Group**

Brian Kynoch recently discussed this matter with Gareth Crichton of Northlink. Staff to issue to directors a copy of the note of the last user group meeting and subsequent letter to Nicol Stephen.

##### **(2) Convention of Highlands & Islands (COHI)**

Brian Kynoch attended the recent COHI meeting in Thurso. The following issues were discussed: health services, Scottish Water and council tax on second homes. The next COHI meeting is scheduled for March 2005 in Shetland. Brian Kynoch noted the quality and promotion of Caithness produce and quality of service at the meeting.

##### **(3) VisitOrkney/Orkney Tourist Board (OTB)**

Brian Kynoch attended the recent VisitOrkney/OTB board meeting as OE representative. The board discussed the proposals for a new tourism group. £1M challenge fund is to be made available by VisitScotland. OE, OIC and VisitOrkney staff to meet and discuss the current situation. The VisitOrkney/OTB AGM is scheduled for 7 December 2004.

##### **(3) Water Industry Consultations**

Ken Grant was unable to attend the recent meeting. Directors felt that the restrictions in availability of water services could be a potential issue for development in Kirkwall and Finstown.

#### **5 APPLICATIONS APPROVED UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY**

##### **(a) October 2004**

Directors noted the content of this paper.

#### **6 ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

##### **(a) Management Report of Activities (SP 769)**

##### **(1) Broadband**

OE staff are to organise the creation of a “strategic broadband user group” to discuss and keep abreast of broadband and IT issues in Orkney. This group will include Stuart Robertson of HIE Global Connections team.

**(2) EMEC**

A HIE funding decision for EMEC phase II is expected by the end of December 2004. In addition a funding decision is expected from ERDF and DTI. The Scottish Executive is very keen to promote EMEC as a world leader in setting standards for marine renewable technologies. An OE director's visit to EMEC is hoped to be arranged for February 2005. Staff to issue to directors a summary of the HIE funding paper, for information. Directors enquired if any surplus funds from the decommissioning of Dounreay could be utilised to accelerate renewable energy development. The Orkney and Shetland resource study for marine renewables is to be made public via the web site.

**(3) CITB**

Ken Grant advised directors that the CITB's high uptake of trainees could exceed OE's contract with CITB.

**(4) Initiative at the Edge (IatE)**

Rose Seagrief has been appointed as the Local Development Officer (LDO) for Sanday and North Ronaldsay. A LDO for Stronsay and Eday has also been appointed.

**(5) Smart Successful Scotland (SSS)**

Directors were issued with a copy of the new SSS document and a copy of the letter from Jim Wallace, MSP regarding the refreshing of SSS. HIE Chairman, Willy Roe, is scheduled to visit Orkney on 7 and/or 8 January 2005.

**(6) OE Budgets and Financial Plan**

Staff are to issue directors with a copy of OE's Financial Plan for the remainder of the current financial year and 2005/6, for information.

**(b) OE Board Meetings 2005 (SP 770)**

Directors discussed the content of this paper.

The motion as detailed in SP 770 of four formal board meetings per year with the addition of a detailed timetable of a minimum of four other meetings/visits per year was proposed by Craig Spence and seconded by Ronnie Johnson.

An amendment (1) to the motion of six formal board meetings per year plus any other additional meetings as and when required was proposed by Norma Campbell and seconded by Tony Trickett.

Notification of a further amendment (2) of ten formal board meetings per year was proposed by Ian Johnstone and seconded by Edgar Balfour.

The outcome of the voting was as follows:

First vote:	For amendment (1)	8 votes	
	For the motion	3 votes	No abstentions.

Outcome: Amendment (1) carried.

Second vote      For amendment (2)      3 votes  
                         For amendment (1)      8 votes              No abstentions.

Outcome:              Amendment (1) carried.

Resolution:              Directors resolved that the schedule of OE board meetings for 2005 should consist of 6 (six) formal board meetings (one every two months) and any additional meetings as and when required.

## **7      ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

### **(1)      Air Ambulance Consultation**

OE staff are to liaise with OIC staff in connection with an Orkney response to the consultation which is due by the end of November 2004. The draft response is to be circulated to directors for approval.

### **(2)      Aberdeen to Kirkwall flight time change**

Directors noted that the recent announcement that the timing of the Aberdeen to Kirkwall flight is to be changed could have an impact on inner island residents meeting their boat connections. In particular this could be an issue for people returning from Aberdeen hospital. Brian Kynoch is to contact the HIAL Regional Manager regarding the Airport Consultative Committee meetings and this issue.

## **8      ARRANGEMENTS FOR NEXT MEETING**

Staff are to e-mail all directors with the arrangements for the meeting at the Sands Hotel on 9 December 2004.

The next OE board meeting is scheduled for 20 January 2005 at 19:30 in OE offices.

**Chairman** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name: Graham Sinclair**  
**Date: 26 November 2004**