

**FURNEAUX GROUP SHIPPING SPECIAL COMMITTEE
UNCONFIRMED MINUTES**

DATE: Tuesday 27 September 2016
VENUE: Rose Garden Room, FAEC, Whitemark
COMMENCING: 10am

PRESENT:

Mayor C Cox	Chair (Non-voting)
Deputy Mayor Marc Cobham	Council
Cr Peter Rhodes	Council
David Madden	Commerce Representative
Jeff Phillips	Transport Representative
Scott Wood	Livestock Representative

APOLOGIES:

Steve Crawford	TFGA Representative
Rhys Cropper	TasPorts
Deborah Davis	DoSG
Denise Gardner	CBIAAI

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:

Sophie Pitchford	Acting General Manager
Vicki Warden	Executive Officer (Minute Taker)

CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

Moved: Cr M Cobham Seconded: Cr P Rhodes
 That the minutes from the meeting held on the 2nd December 2015 are a true and accurate record.

CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE IN:

2015.12.09 Jeff Phillips – Comments on the Draft Terms of Reference
 2015.12.15 Luke Gregory, DoSG – email to say happy with Draft Terms of Reference
 2016.05.31 TasPorts – Schedule of Ports Charges 2016/17
 2016.08.30 Cr Gerald Willis – Submission to Committee
 2016.09.07 R Cropper, TasPorts meeting apology

CORRESPONDENCE OUT:

2015.12.02 Unconfirmed minutes of 2015.12.02 committee meeting to committee members
 2015.12.15 Revised draft terms of reference emailed to Committee Members
 2015.12.15 TFES New Ministerial Directions as of 01.01.2016 to Committee Members
 2016.02.09 Special Committee Members – Call for expressions of interest in shipping containers
 2016.06.01 Wharfage pricing schedule as supplied by TasPorts to Committee Members
 2016.09.07 Notice of meeting on 27th September to Committee Members

Noted that correspondence in and out was accepted.

J Phillips advised that further to the correspondence supplied by TasPorts, a study of TasPorts' website revealed, that we pay the same tonnage rate for single items as Hobart and twice the rate for a fully loaded container. Given that our wharf is not state of the art and has some difficulties, why are we paying the same rate as Hobart which is state of the art and twice the rate for containers? TasPorts should be challenged over this pricing.

ACTION: Mayor Cox will check this pricing discrepancy with TasPorts and report back to the meeting.

AGENDA ITEMS

Item 1: Terms of Reference

At the last Shipping Special Committee meeting in December 2015 it was agreed 'that upon receipt of emailed approval of the reviewed Terms of Reference from committee members, the reviewed Terms of Reference be taken to Council for consideration.' A revised Draft Terms of reference was emailed to members on the 15th December 2015 requesting a response confirming they were OK. Only one response was received.

Moved: Cr P Rhodes Seconded: D Madden

That the Terms of Reference be recommended to Council by the committee.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Item 2: TasPorts Update

The following update was provided via email:

Completed Works

Flinders Island Cattle Loading Wash-down System Upgrade Project

TasPorts operates a live cattle loading facility. At the end of each use the cattle yards are hosed down. An increase in the volume of effluent generated by successive ship loading resulted in the need for improvement works to be undertaken to handle the waste collection. The upgrading works on the wash-down system compromised installation of the following:

- a diversion pit at each stormwater outlet site
- a gross pollutant trap at each stormwater collection pit;
- a pump station at each diversion pit;
- pump lines to 3 holding tanks;
- 3 holding tanks with mixers; and
- all associated plumbing, civil, mechanical and electrical items.

The project was successfully delivered, commissioned and currently in full operation.

SW Confirmed that it does get washed down.

Slipway Upgrade Works

The slipway has been in operation for many years providing an essential launching facility for local boat owners; however it required major remedial and improvement works to bring the facility to standard. TasPorts carried out the following works:

- Upgrade the slipway winch – the major works were done in the contractor’s workshop in Launceston. The extent, scope and complexity of work required a fabrication facility that could provide expertise and a set of skills not available on the Island. A number of safety features were added to the winch to improve safety in operation. For example, a new system that uses a hydraulic pump to operate the winch was designed, purchased and installed.
- The improvement works also included civil, electrical and fencing works.
- The fence was installed along the perimeter of the slipway to ensure the safety of the public.
- The project was successfully delivered, commissioned and currently in full operation.

It was noted that the fence was for work safety practices and not a security fence.

Work in Progress

Pavement Upgrade Works

The concrete pavement works were carried out to upgrade the trafficable and storage areas. The areas were originally constructed of compacted base gravel which required regular maintenance and as a result these were replaced for superior performance with concrete slabs to ensure the traffic can be maintained the whole year.

Concrete slabs were installed on the following:

- Northern western marshalling area;
- Transit shed area;
- Concrete hazardous goods bunding area;
- Hardstand area; and
- Ro-Ro ramp access ramps.

The project is in its closing stage with 95% of concrete works completed.

Discussion was held around patching and the continuing degradation of the area that is still under pavers.

Wharf and Jetty Works

TasPorts service vessel Kulanda is scheduled to arrive at Flinders next week (weather permitting) and will carry out remedial work on Lady Barron jetty, and if time permits, removal of rotten fender piles and ancillaries at Whitemark.

JP Better to leave Whitemark jetty as it is.

CC Are rotten fender piles dangerous?

ACTION: Mayor Cox to respond to TasPorts noting that the current concreting work is almost complete and asking what the future plans are to upgrade to a flat working area for forklifts and to treat continuing degradation.

SW No longer any issues with livestock slipping. The pens have been split so the livestock see the fence earlier which slows them down. A few gates have also been rearranged to give a better flow. These few improvements have made a big difference.

JP CCTV is being installed at the Port to observe comings and goings and to check that trucks going out have safe loads and to monitor vehicles being left inappropriately in the wharf area.

JP A report on the death of cattle from King Island has been released. Can we request a copy of the report?

ACTION: Mayor Cox to request a copy of the report on the death of cattle from King Island.

The report was noted.

Item 3: Public Submission

A request for submissions was advertised in the Island News on the 25 August and 8 September. One submission was received from Cr Gerald Willis regarding the opening hours for pickup and delivery of cargo to the wharf.

The hours of operation of the Port are governed by the hours that the Qube stevedore works to transfer goods through the port. Current opening hours are 8am – 4pm, Monday to Friday.

JP Qube has approached Furneaux Freight about working longer hours on Tuesdays and Wednesdays and shutting the wharf early on Fridays.

DM Hopefully Qube will approach all users as well. An early closure Friday may adversely affect some businesses.

MC If you work fulltime in Whitemark, you have to leave work early to collect goods from the boat. A longer day might solve that issue for some people. Furneaux Freight needs to clearly notify their customers of their opening hours.

DM Out of hours access to the wharf requires overtime payment which is paid by the person who needs the access.

JP Overtime is charged at \$70 per hr. Happy to call all users to find out their access requirements.

ACTION: JP to contact all users to find out their access requirements.
Mayor Cox to respond to submission noting that it's been identified as a problem and that a committee member has raised discussions.

Item 4: Shipping Containers

Council advertised for expressions of interest for purchase of the refrigerated shipping containers owned by Council. For commercial reasons the expressions of interest were considered in Closed Council. Furneaux Freight has purchased the shipping containers and has agreed to maintain them. If a shipping container is needed on-island in the future Council can purchase one with the savings made from no longer having to run and maintain the previous containers.

DM Acknowledged and thanked Council for the subsidised use of the containers over the years.

Item 5: Other Business

Rubbish Bins on Wharf

In reference to the question regarding the removal of rubbish bins from the wharf in the minutes of the last meeting, it should be noted that the bins have been replaced on the wharf.

Committee Membership

Qube now plays an important role in the operation of the commercial port; should they be invited to participate in the Shipping Special Committee?

Moved: Cr M Cobham Seconded: J Philips

That the local Qube representative be invited to attend committee meetings as a guest and be able to report on wharf activities.

CARRIED

Meeting closed: 11.05am