

## NORTHERN LIGHTHOUSE BOARD

### NAVIGATION COMMITTEE

MINUTES – 1 December 2009

<b>PRESENT:</b>	Alistair Whyte	Chairman
	Mike Close	Commissioner
	Alastair Dunlop	Commissioner
	Alistair Mackenzie	Commissioner
	Phil Day	Director of Marine Operations
	Moray Waddell	Director of Engineering
	Peter Douglas	Navigation Manager
	Jill Bennett	Secretary to the Board

#### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from the Chief Executive as he was onboard THV Galatea off the Tyne to witness GPS jamming trials complementing those held onboard NLV Pole Star last year.

#### 2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the Navigation Committee meeting held on 15 September 2009 were agreed as a correct record and it was also agreed that the minutes could be published on the website.

*Action: Secretary to the Board*

#### 3. MATTERS ARISING

##### Buoy Monitoring

It was agreed that a short briefing paper on NLB's current monitoring systems would be provided to the next meeting of the Navigation Committee. It was reconfirmed that a report on buoy monitoring in service experience would be provided to the March 2011 meeting of the Navigation Committee along with proposals for buoy monitoring in financial year 2011/2012 for approval.

**Action: Director of Engineering**

##### Charge Cycle Station Lamp Changes

The Committee noted the feedback from NLB Masters on the proposal to move from a 250w metal halide lamp to a 70w CDMT lamp at a number of stations and that for the calculated ranges, the change would result in little or no alteration in range for all stations. The Committee agreed that the proposal should proceed.

**Action: Director of Engineering**

##### AtoN Defect Group

The Committee noted that Commissioners Close and Mackenzie were still not receiving emails advising of Category 1 AtoN malfunctions.

**Action: Navigation Manager**

#### 4. OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

The Committee noted the report from the Director of Marine Operations and discussion took place on the following items:

##### AIS Vessel Traffic Analysis software

The Committee noted that the GLA-procured ICAN software is close to roll-out and training will take place in Dun Laoghaire 8-9 December.

**Post meeting note: training postponed to 6/7 January**

##### Port Marine Safety Code

The Committee noted that a new version of the PMSC had been issued by DfT in October 2009.

It was noted that Aberdeen Harbour Board had been audited on 23 November, with a representative from DfT in attendance to observe the NLB audit process in comparison with the other GLAs. There had been no feedback from the DfT on this benchmark process at the time of the meeting.

##### Forth and Tay wind energy developments

The Committee noted that NLB had been represented at a government run workshop regarding the proposed four Scottish Territorial Waters wind farm developments off the mouths of the Forth and Tay. It was noted that these proposals and those of the Round 3 site development beyond the 12 mile limit, would result in potentially 1000+ turbines in this area. It was agreed that the AtoN review would take these proposals into account. It was noted that NLB was to host a meeting with MCA, Forth Ports and the Chamber of Shipping in March 2010 (once the Round 3 proposals have been clarified) to discuss how best to ensure the safe navigation of vessels.

##### GNSS Update

The Committee noted that on 1 October 2009 the European Commission had declared that the EGNOS basic navigation signal as operationally ready as an open and free service. It was agreed that a short paper detailing the pros and cons of EGNOS would be provided to the next meeting of the Navigation Committee.

**Action: Navigation Manager**

##### Coast Protection Act and Sanction Requests

The Committee noted the summary of CPA and Sanctions for the establishment/disestablishment of AtoN.

##### Annual Offshore inspection trip

It was noted that the annual rig trip on NLV Pharos was currently underway.

#### 5. 2010 AtoN REVIEW

The Committee noted the proforma of the tri-GLA risk assessment tabled at the meeting and asked that a final paragraph be added clarifying the justification for the decision made in each case. It was agreed that whilst the Committee was satisfied that a robust process has been followed, the paper work needed to reflect the decision making process.

**Action: Navigation Manager**

It was noted that where closures were recommended, input from local users was of particular benefit. The Committee expressed concern that changes and additions to the original proposals were not easily identifiable. It was agreed that the document would be controlled for changes in order to overcome this problem. It was agreed that some proposals should be removed from the

AtoN review eg, Calf of Eday following AIS traffic investigations, Craigton Point and Longman Point following input from harbourmaster. Future versions of the in-house AtoN Review would reflect these decisions but would not be included in the final published document. It was also agreed to add columns indicating:

- date risk assessment undertaken
- whether risk assessment supports original Committee decision
- whether further evaluation work required

**Action: Navigation Manager**

It was agreed that further risk assessments would be circulated to the Committee electronically and the AtoN Review report will be submitted to the Board of Commissioners' meeting to be held on 22 February 2010. Should there be any issues arising from this meeting, the Chairman of the Navigation Committee will request that final ratification be delegated to the Managing Board who meet on 15 March 2010. This is in order to allow the Review to be published as a joint GLA document in May 2010.

## **6. ENGINEERING**

The Committee noted the report provided by the Director of Engineering and approved the maintenance works costing £50,000 or more for:

- North Ronaldsay
- Cantick Head
- Auskerry
- Stroma

## **7. NOTICES TO MARINERS**

The Notices to Mariners published since the last meeting were noted.

## **8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

### Internal Audit of Aids to Navigation Planning Review (5yr Coastal Review)

The Committee noted that NLB's internal auditors had undertaken an audit of the AtoN Review process. The main finding agreed with the Navigation Committee discussion earlier in the meeting (Item 5 above) that changes required to be noted with a note of the reasoning behind the changes agreed.

**Action: Navigation Manager**

### GLA Assessment

It was noted that the consultants had met for a general discussion with the Director of Marine Operations and Navigation Manager and that the consultant had expressed satisfaction with the review process.

**9. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Navigation Committee will take place at 11am on Friday 5 March 2010 at Oban.