

**NORTHERN LIGHTHOUSE BOARD  
NAVIGATION COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES – 19 September 2018**

<b>PRESENT:</b>	Alastair Beveridge	Chairman
	Mike Brew	Commissioner
	Hugh Shaw	Commissioner
	Graham Crerar	Commissioner
	Mike Bullock	Chief Executive
	Mairi Rae	Director of Business Services
	Peter Douglas	Navigation Manager
	Andrew Stevenson	Asset Manager
	Karen Charleson	Senior Executive Assistant (notes)

The Committee welcomed Commissioner Shaw to his first meeting of the Navigation Committee. T

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Phil Day, Director of Operations.

**2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minutes of the Navigation Committee meeting held on 27 June 2018 were agreed as a correct record and could be published on the website.

*Action: Senior Executive Assistant*

**3. MATTERS ARISING**

The Committee noted that all Matters Arising from the previous meeting would be addressed within the relevant subject areas.

**4. OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS**

The Committee noted the report and discussion took place on the following items:

Oban Bay

The Committee noted that it has been decided to actively explore a trust port arrangement and the Oban Bay Management Group (OBMG) has agreed to support this move whilst keeping the CMAL option on the table. NLB has now taken the chair of the OBMG and Commissioner Brew has agreed to support the group and stakeholders in the project.

It is intended to remove the seasonable buoyage for the winter after the end of September. The Navigation Manager and Marine Operations Manager are to meet with local representatives on 6 October 2018 to discuss the value and placing of these buoys, with a view to repeating the trial in 2019.

2020 AtoN Review

The Committee noted that planning work has commenced for the five yearly tri-GLA Aids to Navigation Review. The Committee reviewed the anticipated programme and noted the Scottish Users Consultative Group (SUCG) workshop on 1 November and the internal workshop (Marine Operations, Navigation, Ships' officers) on 16 November 2018. It was agreed to add Emergency Wreck Marking to the programme as a topic for discussion.

### Renewables Update

The European Offshore Wind Deployment Centre, comprised of 11 turbines at Aberdeen was formally opened on 7 September. The lights and fog signals were inspected by NLV POLE STAR on 28 July. The temporary buoyage marking the construction site has been removed.

NLB is in frequent communication with the developers of Moray East, Moray West, Inch Cape and Neart na Gaoithe Wind farms, all of which are being actively progressed.

It was noted that the first turbine to be deployed at the Kincardine floating wind farm off Stonehaven was towed out of Dundee on 16 August.

### Port Marine Safety Code Audit

Re-audits were undertaken of Orkney Harbours on 13 June; ABP (Ayr & Troon) on 28 June, Lerwick Port Authority on 15 August and Shetland Islands Council on 16 August. The Committee discussed the possibility of self-auditing and it was agreed that it was good for NLB to maintain visibility.

### GNSS update

The Committee noted the GNSS update provided in the meeting papers.

### Marine Licence and Sanction Requests

The Committee noted the summary of Marine Licence Activity and Sanctions for the establishment/disestablishment of AtoN.

### Position Paper on Virtual AtoNs

The Navigation Manager talked the Committee through the paper on Virtual Aid to Navigation prepared by Dr Nick Ward. The Committee discussed the emergency wreck marking buoys and noted that there was no obvious way for NLB to establish them at the moment. The Committee agreed that this was potentially a gap that needed look at and that the Navigation Manager would take this item away to think about and put it on the Agenda for the next meeting in Harwich.

## **5. ENGINEERING**

The Committee noted and discussed the Engineering report:

### Programme and Renewals

Temporary lights remain at Copinsay, Ardnamurchan, Rubha Reidh, Noss Head, With the exception of Copinsay work is complete but installation of the new LED lanterns is awaited. In addition temporary lights have been established at Duncansby Head and Mull of Kintyre for commencement of 2018/19 work programme work.

Irvine Beacon – Designs have been finalised and are progressing through approval process. It was noted that the beacon project at Irvine Harbour is more complex and substantial than anticipated and is likely to run into the 2019/20 financial year though procurement will progress and significant fabrication costs will be covered this year.

### Assets

Availability - The Committee noted the 3 year rolling availability figures to 12 September 2018. Since the last committee there has been 10 outages excluding DGPS with four over 72 hours.

Monitoring - The upgraded NLB monitoring servers at Edinburgh and Oban continue to demonstrate stable performance. The ICA engineer and ICT are working on this issues regarding the XP servers in Edinburgh and Oban which are used for gaining remote access to the system.

A technical specification has been prepared and was submitted to Procurement in August. The Tender documents are being finalised and will be issued as planned in September. The Committee noted the supporting paper explaining the procurement approach included in the meeting papers.

DGPS – The Committee noted the ongoing issues with the DGPS system highlighted in the meeting papers. R&RNav have issued a questionnaire to find out the usage of the current system. Once the data has been collated they will enter into discussions with DfT on the way forward. In the meantime the current system will be maintained.

#### 2015 Aton Review

The Committee noted the Summary of Proposed Changes and Stations Update document for the AtoN Review.

#### RTUs

The Committee requested that R&RNav provide a quick update on RTUs during the Navigation Committee's visit to Harwich in December.

*Action: Navigation Manager*

## **6. NOTICES TO MARINERS**

There were not Notices to Mariners published since the last meeting.

## **7. TECHNICAL DISCUSSION**

#### 2019/20 Capital plan

The Committee noted the 2019/20 Capital Plan which was included in the meeting papers. The Committee discussed:

- NLV PHAROS Dry-Dock - It was noted that there has been a change to the scheduled dry-docking for NLV PHAROS. It has been determined through oil analysis, running-hours records and experience with NLV POLE STAR overhauls that the overhaul of the thruster and azimuth units can wait until the 15 year dry-docking in 2012/22. This rescheduling will enable the upgrade to the DP system to be brought forward.
- Ship Replacement – it was noted that the bid figures were a best guess at the moment.
- AtoNs – it was noted that the on-going £100K for AtoNs covered items such as batteries, solar panels, etc.

It was noted that there was also 15 revenue projects included within the Corporate Plan 2019-2014 the majority of which are the painting of beacons.

## **8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

#### SUCG

The Committee noted and agreed the draft Agenda circulated with the meeting papers. It was agreed to invite the Masters to attend.

*Action: Navigation Manager*

#### Joint Users Consultative Group (JUCG)

It was noted that the next JUCG meeting will be held in Edinburgh on 8 May 2019.

#### Meteorological Office visit

Commissioner Woodward has extended an invitation to the Navigation Team to visit the MET office the next time they visit the UKHO which will probably be in Spring 2019.

## R&RNav

It was noted that as from 1 November 2018 R&RNav have been renamed as GRAD.

## Isle of Man – Nairobi Convention - Wreck Removal

It was noted that the Manx Government are seeking to clarify the relationship between NLB and Isle of Man in terms of the Nairobi Convention. As it currently stands the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between SOSREP and the GLAs does not cover the situation of wreck removal in Manx waters. If the situation arose it is not clear if the Manx Government could direct NLB to remove a wreck.

The Chief Executive suggested that the Manx Government makes direct contact with the DfT to agree a way forward. Commissioner Brew agreed to relay the Board's position.

*Action: Commissioner Brew*

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

The next meeting of the Navigation Committee will take place on 12 December 2018 in Harwich. Further details will be circulated in due course.

*Action: Chief Executive*