



Chairman's Review 2020/21

Welcome to you all to the Annual General Meeting of the Harbour Board.

Last year because of Covid, we took the unprecedented decision to hold the meeting via Zoom, however with the relaxation of some Covid restrictions, this year we have taken the decision to meet face to face with social distancing measures in place and I hope everyone feels comfortable about this.

My Review this year starts as usual with the accounts:

Accounts

The net surplus shown in the accounts for 2020/21 was approx. £55K, this is despite the effect of Covid restrictions on the Trusts activities during the 2020/21 season, due to the pandemic and the Board have a reasonable expectation that the 2021/22 Season will show a vast improvement.

Shipping

Although the Waverley visits were cut short during 2020/21 following an unfortunate accident to the ship, we were pleased to see her back in service again this year.

Fishing

A new bait store was provided at the fish quay early in 2021, which should alleviate some of the mess and smell on the quay. Three Phase electricity was also installed for use by the fishing fleet and a separate three phase supply for lorries to reduce emissions and noise on the quay. Further improvements to the quay are being planned, which include for the replacement of the blue shed with a larger purpose-built net store and increased capacity.

Fish farm traffic has again continued to make use of the facilities this year both at the Fish Quay and East Pier.

Leisure

Unfortunately, lockdown in March 2020, which decimated most of the 2020/21 season, including the cancellation of the Scottish Series and other Tarbert Festivals, has meant that visitor and berthholder figures were considerably down, but the Board are happy to report that this year has seen a dramatic increase in visitors, and we remain optimistic that these figures will recover and increase year upon year. The Board are also happy to announce that the Scottish Series will be back again in Tarbert in 2022, a week later than usual because of the movement of the bank holiday weekend. Many of the usual festivals are also planned to take place in 2022.

Property and other Infrastructure

The Harbour car park extension was completed and has made a significant difference to parking availability at the Harbour. The Harbour was successful in a bid to the Shop Front grant and with the valuable funding was able to replace the windows in the Earra Gael. The same funding allowed the Harbour to carry out much needed painting work of buildings around the Harbour, including the Earra Gael, old Harbour Office and Net Store.

General

The Scottish Water Sewer Replacement work was completed ahead of schedule, and it is hoped will make a great difference to flooding within Tarbert.

If anyone wishes a copy of the 2020/21 accounts and a copy of my Review, these can be found online on the Harbour website or can be obtained from the Harbour Office.

Finally, going forward into this year, The Board are delighted to announce that the Harbour has been successful in its bid to the 'UK Community Renewal Fund' and has been awarded £257k, having initially been approached by the Community Trust. The funding will enable the Harbour to put together a team of consultants to complete village consultations, feasibility studies, business plans, investment cases and planning applications, for a series of projects; to further develop visitor attractions and commercial activities. The finished suite of documents will form the basis of the Harbour's submissions to the 'UK Shared Prosperity Fund' when it

launches in early 2022, to transform and regenerate Tarbert. The projects will also form the basis of a new 5 year Strategic/Business Plan, which is being formulated and will be available on our website in the very near future. The Board believe the next few years are going to be a very exciting time for the whole of Tarbert.

Duncan I. Cunningham

Chairman of the Board of Trustees

Tarbert (Loch Fyne) Harbour Authority

November 2021