

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

1330 hrs 21st April 2020

By conference call

The meeting commenced at 13.34

Action

Present Online: DL, TS, MB, BH, TW, PA, JD, GH, RH. DQ from item 6 onwards.

DL paused to remember our esteemed committee member David Hilling, recently deceased.

CBOA Matters

1. Apologies for absence: BM, MC.
2. Minutes of last meeting (DL/RH) (Noted meeting not quorate).
Agreed by all.
Matters Arising. Confirmation of appointment of Maik Brown as a co-opted committee member and Business Development Officer (North): agreed by all. All in agreement with accepting this meeting's validity for all actions and decisions of the February meeting which was inquorate.
3. Finances (TS) – cash balance & management accounts: TS presented them online (also available on email from TS beforehand).
Agreed by all.
Matters Arising: It was asked whether we could have last year's figures for comparison purposes – TS said next year hopefully when in can be put on the system. Bank balance high at present. TS is also working on finance codes for activities. TS would like to put invoices on Sage – will then get PDF list to Louise.
4. Membership
 - a. Subs renewal and list (TW/all): Some Trade members still not paid, **JD/DL to chase.** **JD/DL**
Members known to be not renewing should be deleted from the list. **TW to update the list.** **TW**
Should we delay renewal due to COVID-19? Most operators are still running so it is probably not needed. With the renewal, the red diesel issue should be mentioned as something CBOA assists with. CBOA should look at renewal delay on a case by case basis. We should perhaps delay for 4-6 weeks, or extend the deadline. It was proposed 1st July as usual but with some wording to that effect that a delay is acceptable.
Would it be of benefit if we stated our year's plan of action? It was thought that DL's report usually encompassed this.
 - b. Recruitment/ likely losses (all). Losses as above. With Trade members, there are very few operators that are not members. MB said he hoped during the next year he could get 3-4 new Trade members, 6-8 Associate.
5. CBOA News (RH). Spring/Summer 2020 colour balance was good and shortage of news was made up by good photos from MB and GPS. Next Issue October/November. MB has items for the Autumn issue – **MB to send to RH before or during September please.** **MB/RH**
Agreed that photos shown of existing traffics, although not actually news is worthwhile. **If anyone else has news and photos please send to RH at the latest during September please.** **All**
6. Marketing & Publicity
 - a. Recycling & Waste Management Exhibition, 16/17 Sept 2020. Organising, manning?
Officers/committee can man it, but may still require others. We are also looking at CRT people to assist also.
 - b. Other? Let's Recycle in 2021? With MB's new role, leaflet/calling card is required – under way (blue folded leaflet for example). **DL and JD will discuss.** **DL/JD**
GH said in London there is leverage with Mayor's policy to push the air quality issues. **JD to post leaflets.** **JD**
The B5 size of the CBOAN was questioned, but it was considered ok as it is, but can of

course be reviewed in the future. There would be cost saving with postage, but we do not need to do this.

7. AGM 2020 Deferred. Speakers/Presentations. Confirmation was provided that it is legal to hold AGM etc online (from companies House web site). Discussion ensued about relationship between year end and AGM. October a likely possibility, with accounts for 2020 along with 2019 accounts. Tuesday 6th October suggested for AGM. Online if not possible for open meeting.
8. Regional reports inc. NE (NT), Report received.
NW (MC), DL had issued a report beforehand.
London/south inc (GH/JD), Report received. Can CBOA assist with gaining traffics? There are a few sites where water transport could be an advantage.
WM (BH), Nothing to report.
EM (LR). Report received.
9. Appointment of CBOA representative on CRT Council. Tim West confirmed his appointment, and mentioned that he is there as a freight specialist, not specifically as representing CBOA, however CBOA benefits of course. DL thanked TW for taking on the role.

CRT/MCA/Navigation Matters

10. MCA Humber estuary partially smooth water limit (DL/DQ/TW). Await still for Port Leeds before progressing.
11. CRT Freight Steering Group (update) (DL/JD) inc Stourton. Re-tendering in process. There was felt to be a weakness with CRT's capability commercially to set it up and run it. CBOA will press for answers at the next FSG meeting. **JD and DQ to discuss off-line the best way forward.** JD/DQ
12. CRT Navigation group (MC) Nothing to report.
CRT Stoppage programme (BM) Nothing to report. It is assumed that normal operations will proceed when we are back to normal from COVID-19.
Maintenance reports (BM) Nothing to report.

Freight/Traffic Updates

13. New Traffics/Enquiries - Marine aggregate to Knostrop etc.) (DL),
Aggregate to Knostrop on hold due to coronavirus but AC Agg ready to start when possible.
Manchester container traffic has stopped – can we find out and can it be revived? DL
Other possibilities under commercial confidence were discussed.
14. Fuel boats.
Diesel: effect of proposed diesel duty increase and restrictions on what can be burnt on stoves etc (BM). 11p/L tax increase to 58p/L represents approx 15% increase in costs, rebate due on tidal waters inland to historic port limits only e.g. to Castleford, Doncaster, Sharpness, Manchester. 2 years gestation. Rail said it will drive goods onto road, so exception applied. There is an argument with the complexity of passing through different waters (w.r.t. tax rate). We currently claim back the duty already where applicable. The Government want to see emissions reduction.
Coal: The proposed phasing out of coal was discussed, with the potential loss of UK pits that are left. It was thought that most coal boats can supply several other types of solid fuels so the loss of coal may be not so serious. Many customers use smokeless today.

Lobbying and Strategic Projects

15. Emissions (BH). Continued development of diesel engines is continuing apace. Benefits of tonne/mile performance of barges compared to lorries is still the point. The other emissions – tyres, brake pads etc are not being considered. A recent report said 60% of emissions are not from the exhaust. CO² emissions are understood. Venice is eliminating IC engines on vessels by 2025. Use of containers with batteries or hydrogen storage is on trial with container ships.
16. Central Government (TW). FTA meeting, DfT re-assessed road values v. Rail; impact of rail freight on passenger trains is seen as negative. With this scenario motorways are now seen as having negative cost!

- Garratt/Greening the North Report (JD) MDS Transmodal. A report has been instigated for a fuller report for Shadow Government or the Government. Funding from Greening for the North.
17. Local Government: Planning matters (RH). Report provided.
18. Other Organisations/Projects (all)
- IWFG
 - NUF
 - NNUF
 - NINF DL attended
 - NABO. DL said CBOA attendance at council meetings is welcomed and MB had offered to attend once they get back to face to face meetings.
 - ESO Should we retain membership? Who is the contact? **PA agreed to represent CBOA and with EBU and to receive correspondence/bulletins from ESO/EBU.** PA
 - MB expressed interest but these bulletins from ESO/EBU are mainly to do with vessel standards, crew competency, hours of work etc.
 - IWI. (PA). PA is our contact.
 - a. ERSTU – **PA also to become the contact. DL to pass details to PA.** *[subsequently: done. Should we become members? Low membership subs]* DL/PA
 - b. John Moore’s University / ST4W project London visit. TW/JD. TW outlined how Smart Tracking 4 Waterways can assist freight operation logistics.
19. Transparency Register. (TS). TS commented that he deals with renewal (and thought it worth continuing) but not the actual responses to consultations etc.
20. Committee Meetings 2020: next meeting 20th August, probably online again.
21. AOB (all). MB’s job description nearly complete. **DL to send to him when complete.** DL
 Need obituary for DH to go into the CBOAN. **DQ to advise all when printed in the Guardian.** DQ
 There is a problem with duck weed in London and wharf disposal problem. There are so few wharves now in London to unload duck weed and provide for maintenance use generally; CRT seem limp at ensuring essential wharves are maintained. Lock failure at Denham (balance beam off, heel post rotten), also lock failure on K&A where WHH boats were/are stranded. Can we find out how old the gates are? Is there a CRT annual lock inspection issue? **GH to draft something, DL to send to Julie Sharman.** GH/DL
 Knostrop wharf use discussed. One view given was that it is a resource it is wasted but it was pointed out the high income received from the current occupiers.

The meeting closed at 16.01

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