

## **080118 Oban**

### **What would you like to happen?**

#### **Attitude**

Be much more ambitious and forward looking

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Make much more of the magic and evocativeness of Oban

Establish Oban "The sailing capital of the UK"

Retain "Gateway to Isles" status

Build this and motivate a new generation of Yachts people

Include - Kayaks and other water sports

Oban - "Gateway to the Isles AND Sailing Capital of the UK"

Positioning like Fort William

Learn from other places

Consider potential of the Commonwealth Games 2014

Aim at Water Sports

Most people strongly in favour of increased ambition

But equally strong belief that - it would be best if project led by people who know about boats and the sea

Equally important to have more modest plans that can be implemented now - as Tobermory did

But crucial that they are consistent with the Long Term Vision

This has been considered for 25 years - long time - now time for discussion and agreement

Is this in line with a gradual start?

String view that now it is time to be positive, ambitious and proactive

Now prioritise and act

Recognise the benefits of Investment and Development

Have 2 year plan and 5 year plan

Be Consistent and enable system to grow

### **Economic Drivers**

It is now time to stop Losing Business - get more to people to come to Oban & spend time & money here

It is time to evolve, develop and invest in the future delivering to meet a real need.

Recognition that a Marina or stop off facility is long overdue

Recognition that the spending pattern of yachts people is material

### **Consultation**

As proven at the meeting - consultation fuels the debate and brings forward ideas

Important that this process is a little longer

Strong feeling that the consultation should be longer to be VALID

### **Key Inputs**

Important that it draws on the experience of fishermen and other commercial users of the Bay

Important to establish closer involvement with the Council and Councillors

### **Resources**

250 Attendees at meeting on 18th January 2008

Positivism and engagement

Start Up Board

Committed People on Start up Board

Morag Brown - with Tobermory Experience, Track Record and can do attitude

Community ownership model

Vision of boosting the local economy and creating a situation where all local interests win

### **Capital**

Have already (18/1/08) raised £70,000 to fund surveys and project management

How much of the Bay will be surveyed?

Between Railway Pier and North Pier

Tie in with Council Master Plan

Sail West - EU Funding - 45-75% Funding - Oban Not included...why?

No plan has yet been tabled or submitted on behalf of Oban Bay Marine

Crown Estates now under pressure to invest in harbours like Oban

And gain lease income

This is a programme under Interreg I, which is a European Union funding source.

This Cross-Border Programme is one of the Interreg IV co-operation programmes for the period 2007-2013. The Eligible Area for the Cross-Border Programme is Northern Ireland (with the exception of Belfast), the three border counties of Southern Ireland, Ayrshire, Dumfries and Galloway, Argyll and Bute and small parts of adjoining areas including Dunoon and Helensburgh. The Programme is administered by an Irish organisation - the Special European Union Programme Body (SEUPB) - which has a history of administering previous cross border programmes and the PEACE initiative.

### **Valid Road Map**

Ability and desire to follow the Tobermory Model closely with Morag Brown and Brian Swinbanks

Their sequence of development well understood

Reorganise Moorings

Pontoons

Showers

Berthing for Fishermen

Berthing for moorings

Their aspirations clear

More investment - more development

Linkspan for a Coll & Tiree connection

## **Structural Issues**

Harbour Trust

Learn from Atlantis Leisure

Work with Atlantis Leisure

Experience - frustration and channeled anger moved them

Small Roots - small stuff done well and stellar growth

Huge Community Benefit

Structure plan with definite agenda

Board could be vehicle to Trust Status

Should it be a Harbour Authority = attract higher funding

Can we create interim and long-term entities that will unify authorities and organisations in common cause?

## **Infrastructure**

Berthing Facilities and pontoons

Initial Focus on pontoon facilities for Yachts

Would the pontoons offer Yacht Parking or All year Round?

Envisaged as Day Berthing

Max Stay - say 3 nights

Longer term aspirations

Long Breakwater

Deep Water pier with Causeway - as a long term objective

Make Space for much bigger boats

Develop better berthing for Commercial Craft - over 24 metres

Sell Oban as a Destination for Cruise Liners

Consider a more frugal approach

Not Necessary for them to berth - but they prefer to berth

berthing maximises local spending

Berthing for Cruise Ships

Co-existing with fishing boats

Better Berthing facilities for our fishermen is important to retain and develop key industry

Solid pier for better protection

Valuable Revenue Stream from Cruise Liners

Learn from Liverpool and other cities

Year of Homecoming

Improve facilities for vessels currently at North Pier for commercial vessel access

Often Congested

### **Support for Harbour Authority**

Tobermory 16 members + Stakeholders 1 vote each

Aid Merchant Shipping

Allocate land and scope for expansion and investment on shore and off shore

### **Encourage Investment**

Shore facilities, Services, Taxis

Retain the White Building in Council ownership

Make more of existing facilities - Bus Facilities - linking Mallaig available and would suit the yachts people

### **Cooperation**

Organisation being set up to meet the best interests of the community and the individual interests

Community needs to take charge - Tobermory Experience!!

Win: Win : win approach is a necessity

Do the Surveys and flesh this up

Caledonian MacBrayne - Ian Fox

Now only a service provided by Cal Mac - As Ferry Operator

Vessels owned by Caledonian Maritime Assets Limited - (CMAL)

CMAL is separate from Cal Mac

Cal Mac supports anything that helps Tourism and Fishing in Oban

Support proposals

Oban Bay Marina Company - talk to SAMS to ensure environmental future

Who else are stakeholders and should be consulted and involved?

### **What's holding us back?**

Historically - Not Ambitious enough

### **Robustness of the pontoons?**

Oban more open to difficult wind conditions

Safety and integrity of the pontoons questionable in Gale Conditions

Suggestions that....

Pontoons be removed in the winter

Pontoons be located on the far side of the Corran Halls

Breakwater needed sooner rather than later

Isle of Kerrera - More protected location

Tobermory also a more protected Harbour

**Caveat from experience professional re adopting the "Harbour Authority" route**

Lengthy

Expensive

Problematic

**Need to feedback - visualisation of the plans**

Tangible evidence required

Drawing and artists impressions needed to flesh up plans

Input from others in the light of the meeting and the consultation - should be digested first

**The need to ensure that we protect and allow for further development of the commercial side of the harbour**

Needs a Harbour Authority to balance all local interests

Scar Tissue exists - as fisherman still bruised from the PR aspects of the Linkspan episode

Deep concern about the negative attitude to fisherman generated by media coverage - when they were protecting their industry

Feeling that they are pushed into a corner

No space at Railway Pier

Fishing Businesses still key to the Oban economy

Still contributes materially to the local economy

Fishermen - need something positive to meet their needs

100% behind Tourism and a Balanced Economy that includes fishing

Fisherman position endorsed by the vast majority of opinion at the meeting

### **Commercial Port Status**

Needs to be bolstered by improvements in the Road Infrastructure?

Potential to operate more Cargo Vessels out of Oban

Potential to be a Multi-purpose port

Covering the likely increase in sea borne traffic

Covering the potential of West Coast oil exploration

### **How will you handle the Waste Problem?**

Is there not a commercial opportunity to collect waste for money and deliver other good and services to captive market of Yachts?

Noise pollution - Clinking noise of metal masts

### **Next Step**

Recognise the progress made at Meeting on 18th January

1. Diverged - Lots of different ideas raised and tabled

2. Emerged - new sense of common purpose - new ideas that could move things forward

3. Can we now Converge - take decisions on initiatives and actions?

**Now time to "Get moving"**

Agree a Unifying Goal - get stage one done - like Tobermory

Define Stage One

Define Long Term Vision

Agree Priorities for Action

Agree Ownership of Priorities

Agree Completion Criteria

Set Completion Date(s)

Set dates for Meetings and Reviews