



STATES OF ALDERNEY

GENERAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT

2014

GENERAL SERVICES COMMITTEE – ANNUAL REPORT 2014

It has been a unsettled, but on the whole positive, year for the GSC.

In response to the audit commissioned by the previous CEO there has been a root and branch restructuring of the States Work Force, although there may still be the occasional obstacle to overcome, morale is high and things are going well under the new management. An in depth survey of States' assets has been proposed for next year and it is hoped that a comprehensive, long-term programme of maintenance will be put into place upon its completion.

A wood-chipping machine has been bought to tackle the ever-present problem of green waste and a meeting has been held with the Alderney Wildlife Trust to investigate the possibility of a Joint Management Scheme for grass cutting etc.

All in all it has been a good year down at the harbour: The Harbour Master and team moved into their new office and good weather has meant an increase in the number of visiting yachts from the UK, France and further afield. There was a marked increase in visitors from Belgium and Holland. Work on the harbour steps is underway and should be completed by the end of the year. It was a relatively busy year for Search and Rescue services; not only for the lifeboat, but within the confines of the harbour and Braye Bay area.

The 2014 Roads Contract has been completed, as has a programme for resurfacing unmade roads. The external area around the recycling centre has been concreted. Concerns over traffic, parking and size of vehicles continue to be a problem and it is hoped that the Committee will review the problem in the New Year.

Repairs to the church roof are 80% complete; the remaining 20% relate to the tower, for which a special scaffolding system has to be designed.

Alderney Water Board works have been completed at The Trigale and Newtown Road/ Le Banquage.

The Mouriaux/Platte Saline sewage project has been put on hold pending a review by the States Engineer, as has the Fort Doyle sewage outfall extension. These schemes will also be looked at in the context of the possible acquisition of an anaerobic digester.

Works for the Quay FM Radio Station at Braye Lodge have been approved and are currently in progress.

Further upgrading works at the Campsite was undertaken with a new laundry/dry room being completed this year.

One of the more serious problems the Committee has had to confront is that of coastal erosion. Top of the list is the sea wall at Corblets Bay. Local contractors have carried out interim repairs but it is clear that more serious work needs to be done in the New Year. Steps are being taken to find the most economical and effective solution.

Other areas of coastal erosion, the Glacis and Clonque Road, are being monitored.

Chris Rowley, Chairman.

Members' Specific Responsibilities

For several years it has been customary to allocate areas of specific responsibility to individual States Members. These are not executive or ministerial roles but require the Member to keep a watch on these areas and, when appropriate, to make reports and recommendations to their Committee. Within the GSC mandate, the areas of specific responsibility held by Members in 2014 were:

- **Chris Rowley (Chairman) Chris Rowley:** Council of the Alderney Maritime Trust; Civil Emergency Working Party; Police Liaison (local); Harbour and Fisheries (jointly)
- **Ian Tugby (Deputy Chairman):** Harbour and Fisheries (jointly); Waste Disposal, Dumps and Derelicts; Fire Brigade and Cliff Rescue
- **Raymond Berry:** Traffic Matters; Transport (Roads and Railways); Recreation, Campsite (jointly) and Island Hall (Functions only); States Properties
- **Norma Paris:** Campsite (jointly)
- **Steve Roberts:** Water & Sewerage matters Agriculture and Open Areas Environment, Wildlife and Burhou etc.;

CAPITAL PROJECTS – COMPLETED AND IN PROGRESS

Report by Tim Walley, Engineering Assistant

Phase 3 – Storage Tanks and Pump Station

The storage tanks and pump station construction works were commissioned and brought into service early January 2014.

The old Trigale water bunker and pumping station have been decommissioned and are no longer in service.

Phase 4b – 2014 – Water Main Renewals

At the beginning of this year the Water Board together with the States Works Department and Tugby Contractors completed the final pipe line renewal schemes carried over from 2013

- La Trigale – installation of a new 125mm and 90mm diameter HPPE main together with all the domestic connections (AEL trench shared on the upside route of La Trigale). The water main laid previously in Le Vennelles was also commissioned as part of this scheme.
- Cote Soleil – renewal of the final section of pipework relating to the Phase 3 tank and pump station swap over (this work involved a trench share with AEL and Sure Telecom).

OSEC at Battery Quarry – The chlorine generation system arrived in early August but a major component was found to be missing, this component finally arrived in late September so delaying the installation. The installation is now due to take place this December and January.

Phase 4c

This phase has involved the following schemes –

- St Martins – the water main laid previously has now been connected up to the network, commissioned and all the domestic connections changed over to the new main.
- Hauteville – the installation of the new 90mm diameter pipe was delayed till October due to an unsafe wall at Weavers Cottage, work has now started to lay the main in conjunction with the sewer renewal.
- Battery Quarry generator – the new generator has arrived and located on its new base, the cable work is under way and should be completed by mid-December.
- Battery Quarry pump main – the new 150mm diameter ductile iron pumping main has been installed and is in use.
- Valve and meter replacement scheme – seven valves and meters have been replaced so far this year and the remainder will be completed by early 2015.

- Telemetry (Building Management System) – the appointed electrical contractor has been building the component panels off island, they are now completed and ready to install.
 - The BMS should be completed by early in 2015 and will link via a broadband network all the major Water Board sites.
 - Harbour Area – a new 90mm main has been laid as part of a trench share scheme with AEL, this main now allows the Water Board to feed Braye Street from two directions.
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DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

The General Services Committee has responsibility for the States Works Department, The Water Board, The Fire Service, The Harbour & Fisheries and Alderney's Ramsar Site which incorporates the Burhou Project. I have attached the reports for each of these below.

STATES WORKS DEPARTMENT

Report by Angus Macintyre, Civils Team Leader, Matt Aldcroft, Waste and Recycling Team Leader, Jamie Laband, Agricultural Team Leader and Janine Page, Office Manager

Re-structure

As a result of the 2013 audit that recommended changes within SWD, including a review of the department's culture, management and structure, a voluntary severance scheme was launched in 2014. Eleven workers from SWD volunteered for severance including the Superintendent of Works and the Waste and Agricultural Foremen and by September all applications had been accepted leaving a very depleted and untrained work force.

As recommended in the audit re-structuring took place and the department was split into three sections, waste/recycling, land management and a civils team that would also oversee all sewerage, sanitation, drainage, roads, property maintenance and minor projects. A working foreman was introduced to each section to cover the loss of manpower whilst ensuring continuity of management. Bank staff and external contractors were also taken on when and where required.

As the role of Superintendent of Works was no longer in place an Interim Office Manager was appointed to oversee the re-structuring, training, procurement and budgeting of the department whilst co-ordinating the daily routines and projects. The back office bookkeeping continued to be serviced by the part-time administrator.

Training

A training schedule has been put into place concentrating on the works that require certification on plant, vehicles, tools and health & safety. By early 2015 the majority of staff will be fully trained.

In-house training is also very high priority and a number of 'Train the Trainer' courses have been planned to assist us with this. Keeping training in-house will not only save on costs, guarantee structured succession planning but will also enhance leadership qualities in the newly appointed staff.

Courses 2014

- January - First Aid at Work
- March – Recycling Baler & Conveyor

- August – Green Waste
- September - Supervisory Training
- November – Agricultural Plant
- November – Risk Assessment and Manual Handling
- November – Rodent Control

Projects

The focus on team building is an approach that we welcome and is proving very effective when working together on projects; these listed have been carried with enthusiasm and pride.

- Recycling Area -new signs introduced, front area painted and debris cleared.
- St Anne Churchyard – certain unattended graves were cleared of brambles and weeds and chippings were put onto the borders.
- Town Clock Cemetery – brambles, weeds and tree stumps cleared.
- Green Waste area design at Mannez Quarry.
- Public bench maintenance programme.

Vehicles and Plant

A monthly maintenance programme has been introduced for all vehicles and plant and all major repairs are now carried out by local contractors.

Replacement/Purchasing

- Refuse Collection Vehicle replaced November.
- Two refuse CB Containers replaced November.
- MF Tractor replaced September.
- Green Waste shredder replaced November.

Waste Disposal & Recycling

Arrangement continues for waste recycling and scraps with Guernsey.

<u>Waste and Recycling</u>	<u>Tonnage</u>	<u>2014(10month)</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Municipal waste		650	646	4
Cardboard		103	112	(9)
Paper		68	75	(7)
Plastics		12	14	(2)
Cans		6	5	1

Scrap Disposal

Quantities shipped off island since January 2014

<u>Scrap</u>	<u>Tonnage</u>	<u>2014(10month)</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>Variance</u>	<u>No. 2014</u>	<u>No.2013</u>
Loose Iron Scrap all grade		78	80	(2)		
ELV's		106	92	14	101	111
White Goods		11	10	1		
Oils					5800	9600

Green Waste

Ongoing problems with the shredder caused a significant build-up of green waste at Mannez quarry which was becoming a health and safety issue so a contractor was brought in from Guernsey to chip the waste and clear the site.

After this very successful operation a chipper of the same type was purchased by SWD and the provision for a chipping and composting area has been prepared down at Mannez.

Regular operations will now take place and the untreated chipping will be used by SWD and any surplus offered to the public free of charge.

Civils

Property

A rolling Property Maintenance Programme has been adopted to ensure the States of Alderney's property portfolio is repaired and maintained efficiently and effectively

Regular property inspections are carried out to assess the condition of the property and to identify, at the earliest opportunity, defects that could lead to the deterioration of the building fabric. This also includes public toilets.

School House and Clerks House

We are in the process of accepting tenders for the refurbishment of all three properties and work should start within the first quarter of 2015.

Butes Playground

Relocation of playground equipment in readiness for toddler and Skate Park.

Recycling Site

Re-surfacing works at rear of the building due to a safety issue with uneven ground when operating plant.

Town Clock Tower

Internally refurbished

Road Contract

2014 brought in a Ronez team from Jersey who whilst very knowledgeable and experienced in their field of work had difficulties from the outset with the batching plant that led to delays and poor quality road resurfacing in several areas. The extra hours to cover these issues were covered by the contractors.

Main Drains and Sewers

Surface water issues

A review of the causes and consequences of flooding during exceptional rainfall has been carried out and areas identified where rapid runoff from impermeable surfaces exceeds the drainage capacity of that area leading to flooding. A proactive maintenance programme and enhancement to improve these areas has been developed.

Pump Stations

Banquage Pump Station & Braye: Both pumps were alarmed and connected to mobile phones in 2013 but calls to re-set the trip after the pumps being "over powered" by a sudden deluge were still considerable in the first part of the year. The Stator has now been replaced and calls have reduced by 85%, the majority of calls are the resetting of the trip after a thunder storm or torrential rain.

Two sewerage projects were promoted in 2014:

- 1) Hauteville sewer replacement (£12,535)
- 2) Mouriaux to Platte Saline mains drainage (£497,000)

The Hauteville sewer replacement project commenced in October and is ongoing. The main issue of a section of collapsed sewer has been substantially completed with a delay to the remainder of the project due to the proximity of an unstable private wall. The wall issue

delayed commencement of the scheme by five months. The wall has now been substantially rebuilt and the sewer work is due to proceed beyond the wall this month. The project has been combined with a water supply pipe renewal project and the joint scheme is planned to be complete in early 2015.

The Mouriaux to Platte Saline scheme was designed and tendered by Consultant Engineers, Mott McDonald, with tenders divided into two parts; 1) the sewerage pipelines and 2) the terminal pumping station. The main aim of the scheme is to transfer properties from cesspool and septic tank drainage onto a gravity sewerage system. The original estimate for the scheme was in the region of £300,000 and upon receipt of tenders the overall cost was identified as being substantially higher than expected.

Following Committee authorisation to proceed, the project has been placed on hold for financial and technical appraisal by the Interim States Engineer with a review report likely early in the New Year.

Agriculture

Mowing

Flat areas are all being followed up with a nylon brush cutter; walk ways and paths are being regularly checked and attended to.

Progressively attending to public bench areas, which includes cutting the grass, over hanging hedges and in some places cutting brambles down that are obstructing views from the benches, namely the Zig-Zag, Longis and Tourgis area.

Hedge cutting

Several requests were received from the general public this year for hedges to be cut back where they were becoming a hazard to pedestrians and vehicles.

This has led us to push the onus back onto the public to cut back overhanging branches and hedges on their own land. Verbal requests, in most cases, have been successful.

Litter

Collection before cutting now takes place, particularly in points of interest, entry points and public parks.

Gutters and Pavements

Areas that are being worked on are now cleared as part of the process of that job, leaves and build ups of silt are removed to improve and assist drainage. Concentration this autumn has been on Longis Road Braye Hill as they have been the most affected areas.

Planting

Winter plants have been purchased and planted in the appropriate locations.

Tree Work

Working through the approved tree list, areas include, Braye Hill, Longis Road and St. Anne Churchyard.

Prioritised areas

Points of entry in public areas and churchyards are attended to on a regular basis; litter picking, strimming, mowing and hedge cutting are done in order to maintain excellent appearance. Obstructive hedges and gorse have been cleared from areas surrounding the approach lights for the airport as certain areas were becoming hazardous and potentially a serious risk to aircraft. Emergency Gateways for the Airport Fire Department have been cut and in some cases widened to facilitate the turning circle for the new fire Vehicles.

Rodenticide

More regular attendance to rat bait stations has occurred to suppress rodent threat, call outs were becoming more regular but have now decreased and consumption of poison at each rat bait station has also decreased. To tackle the public movement and or disposal of rat boxes, a new methodology is being put into practice to ensure knowledge of all sewer, coastal, private and priority rat bait station locations. No other infestations have occurred.

Other agricultural

Dog bins are attended to weekly; surrounding ground is strimmed if required. All Agricultural team are attending courses this year to assess or be re-assessed in, hedge cutting, brush cutting, pedestrian mowing, risk assessments and manual handling. Team Leader is attending a Safe Use and Purchase of Pesticides course.

Work for other Departments

Water Board – Hauteville - This project is running alongside the SWD drainage scheme.

Social

Sports and social events are encouraged within the department which included Loud Shirt Day, Golf Afternoon and Friday Snooker and Five a Side Football.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all staff, Members and the public for their continued support during the transition period.

Roads and traffic report 2014 by Tim Walley, Engineering Assistant

This year we have seen the completion of the following schemes –

- The Eastern Banquage access road has been concreted allowing the residents an alternative route in and out of the estate.
- To coincide with the opening of the new doctor's surgery the Val car park has been changed to a time clock zone. The change to time clocks was in response to complaints regarding the number of long term parked cars and the lack of spaces available for patient parking.
The time clock restrictions appear to be working well as the number of complaints has reduced dramatically.

WATER BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2014

Report by Paul Rose, Water Board General Manager

This report relates to the period 1st November 2013 to 31st October 2014

Rain Fall on Island

In order to meet reasonable demand, precipitation must be collected and stored whenever available. The Alderney Water Board, (AWB) staff measure and record average weekly precipitation on Island from 2 ground water gauges. The gauges are located far across Island from east to west. The total average rainfall recorded within the past 12 months reads 977.2. The total average rainfall measured during the same time of the previous 12 months was 945.70mm. Throughout the late autumn and early winter months of last November, December and January, it is interesting to note that once again, as almost similar to last year, 453.05mm of rain fall was recorded and this equates to almost 50% of the past 12 months total annual rainfall.

Water Consumption and Input Resources

During this time 56,243,000 gallons of potable water have been pumped to meet Island demand compared with 50,498,000 gallons during the same period of the previous year.

Raw Water Input Resources

Bonne Terre Surface Water Catchment – For a large part of the past 12 months, the Bonne Terre stream has been systematically bought in and out of service when required and has provided 16,709,000 gallons of water to the Battery Quarry reservoir this year compared with 11,795,000 gallons for the previous 12 months. The catchment station contains 2 stainless steel rapid gravity sand filters that pre-filter the waters prior to pumping to the reservoir. This stream is at present supplying 499,000 gallons of raw water compared with 692,000 gallons supplied during the same week of last year.

The Valley and Ladysmith Surface Water Catchments – The Ladysmith and Valley catchments have also been bought into service only intermittently as required over the past 12 months in order to maintain the Battery Quarry level as close as practically possible to its full capacity.

Water Lane Gravity Springs – The Water lane Gravity Springs provide catchment to the Battery Quarry Reservoir without the provision of electrical pumping apparatus and this year have yielded 25,183,000 gallons of water compared with 28,223,000 gallons required for the previous 12 months. Flows from this gravity resource are traditionally favoured because no energy cost are incurred and it is pleasing to note that input yields from this catchment equated to almost 45% of total Island output consumption for this past 12 months.

The Bore Holes Ground Water Catchments – The Bore holes have been used rather extensively over the past few years but have been able to be rested for the past 12 months. Alderney Water staff commission the bore holes back into service for tests within long resting periods in order to test their mechanical wellbeing.

Essex Well, Barrack Masters Lane – This well is situated at the head of Barrack Masters Lane and has provided 4,648,000 gallons of raw water to the battery Quarry this year.

Corblets Quarry – This reserve has maintained a full datum within the past 12 months. At present the level rests just inches below the old pumping station ruin and there is approximately some 27ft of water beneath this point. At present both pump and pontoon is in dry dock having been re-serviced.

Battery Quarry Reservoir – At present the level within the Battery Reservoir is 18 inches from the top datum. The Battery Quarry was full to top datum during the same period 12 months ago. The long term average is for the level to be approximately 13 feet from top datum at this time of the year.

The Water Restriction order that was imposed at the end of March 2006 was lifted completely as from the 1st of November 2008 but may be re-introduced again in future if the level within the Battery Quarry falls to an unacceptable level.

Complete lifting of Water Restrictions in 2008 also included the very long established law on the total ban of sprinklers used on Island. Alderney Water Board (AWB), however, still considers sprinklers as a significant detriment to consumer supply if they are not monitored vigilantly. At this stage in time, it has been reviewed and agreed by the present Water Board Committee that public use of sprinklers is now not permitted, without the use of a permit, although a handheld hose pipe maybe used to irrigate gardens.

It should be noted that at present, although we currently have adequate water supplies to service the Island, this precious resource should not be wasted.

Water Quality

After several consultations on the Island during 2006, proposals for Water quality improvements from Mott MacDonald Bentley Limited were accepted by The States of Alderney. These Water Treatment Specialist Engineers introduced much more on and off Island sampling requirements for the Water Board staff to carry out. On average 33 samples per month have been submitted to the Guernsey Analyst Laboratory over the past years.

Results from the information gathered led preference for plans of the membrane filtration plant at the Battery Quarry to be designed. The sample regime introduced by Mott MacDonald has proved to be expensive, however, following the full acceptance and commissioning of the Centralised Membrane Filtration plant in March 2011, further economic changes to the testing regime of the samples has been supported by The Deputy Environmental Health Officer. Full compliance with the United Kingdom Drinking Water Regulations is still recognised.

Following first phase recommendations from Mott MacDonald, Electrical Analyser Boards along with Chlorinator skids have been installed at the Trigale Tank, Battery Quarry Station and Bonne Terre Treatment Works.

These works have proved of great benefit to the Water Board team. Specific chlorine, along with turbidity measurement allows for a set disinfection point to be maintained and chlorine is automatically added in accordance with required water flows. A Siemens service engineer visits the Island as part of a twice yearly maintenance programme.

Evoqua (Formerly Siemens) Membrane Filtration Plant (Phase 2)

The membrane filtration plant arrived on Island on the 23rd of November 2010. The principles employed are very basic and so effective that an absolute barrier to bacteriological contaminants in potable waters is provided. The 2 filters are housed within a 40 foot container. The membrane filters are manufactured from Polyvinylidene Fluoride and are hollow fibres with porous walls of a nominal diameter of 0.04 microns. When in service, feed water on the outside of the fibre walls passes through the pores of the membranes to the centre of the fibre. Any particles larger than 0.04 micron are left on the outside of the feed side surface. To prevent particular contaminants fouling the filter membranes, each unit performs a backwash at a pre-set time interval. Both units carry out backwash cycles every 45 minutes. All procedures are automated and are carried out using two charges of stored compressed air. The control air is vital to the operational functions of the pneumatic valves that control flows through the plant. The process air provides air for backwashing purposes to free debris from the membrane walls prior to clean water flush. An electronic machine interface controls the scheduling of the plant and provides access for AWB staff to operate and interrogate the functions. AWB staff also carries out the annual servicing of the air compressors. During the early part of summer it is necessary for the team to pre-condition the Battery Quarry raw waters in order to control the seasonal algae bloom that can, on occasion, clog the membrane filter pre-screens and interrupt water production.

To date, the membrane filter plant has produced continuous wholesome drinking water of very high standard that complies with U.K Drinking Water Regulations, however, the plant has proven to have its running faults and these faults have, to date, been corrected by Evoqua engineers. Evoqua also provide an annual maintenance contract that has once again been accepted by the States of Alderney.

In November of last year, Air conditioning engineers from the United Kingdom were asked to carry out an assessment of the current air conditioning units that were initially supplied within the mild steel membrane containers. The air conditioning units are essential to both cool and de-humidify the membrane filter containers together with all internal heat and moisture sensitive components, especially within hours out of the normal working day when the containers are site secured. The inspections proved that the original air conditioning units were very undersized and new units were installed in January of this year. In order to help ease demand on the new air conditioning units in the hot summer months, the exterior roof of the control room that house all electrics, the PC and compressors that run the membrane plant has been painted white.

Phase 3 Completion

On the 21st of January this year the new “High Level” pumping station together with the new GRP storage reservoir tanks at La Marrette was successfully commissioned into service. The station provides a constant, evenly controlled pressure to all properties located in the upper part of the Island. The manufacturers of the new pumps and booster station equipment are U.K based KPN Pillingers and due to the critical importance of the plant in relation to Island water supply a contract for bi annual service visits has been agreed. This project was implemented to replace the old German storage tank along with the old 1960s pumping station at the Allee-es-Fees.

Maintenance This Year

Works carried out to improve the Distribution System – In addition to the separate capital funded phase project works under taken this year, further works have been carried out to transfer all consumer water services from the very old 1½ inch steel water main onto the 4-inch UPVC water main that runs through the Colimbott and Chemin Du Meunier this year. Works have also been completed to fill flush and pressure test the 230 metres of modern 2-inch UPVC main that was installed together with other utility services in Les Venelles several years ago. All water services have been renewed and transferred from the old post war 2-inch galvanised iron pipe onto this main.

In the middle of this year, proactive leakage investigations confirmed hidden leakage in the cobbled road area near the front of the Old Marais Garage on the 3-inch steel German iron water pipe that interconnects from outside the old garage into the Mare Jean Bott. The secret leak was running into a buried drain. In view of age and conditioning of the pipe the Water Board took the opportunity of replacing all 38 metres of the old main with new 90mm HPPE pipe.

Leakage

During the past twelve months 40 leaks have been repaired compared with 32 during 2013. Leaks that are accountable to a third party have AWB costs implemented accordingly. The nature of leaks can vary vastly depending on the diameter, operating pressures and pipe material. Typical leaks can therefore range from 15mm copper service lines up to 180 mm asbestos cement mains. Alderney Water carries out pro-active leakage investigations on mains and service pipes using sonic ground microphones to investigate hidden secret leakage.

District Area Service Valves

1 district area control valves have been replaced this year.

Service Connections

This year 10 new service connections have been made. 2 of these new services have been required to have a meter fitted. Meters are now fitted to water services installed for all New

Building Permits issued. The purpose of this is to calculate for the true volume of water used in construction of all new dwellings. A new fire hydrant was installed outside of the old Newtown pumping station for the Alderney Fire brigade.

There have also been 3 service renewals along with 12 consumer stop valve renewals this year, the size of these valves ranging from 20mm – 32mm.

Metres Replacements

There has been 9 consumer meter renewal carried out this year.

GSM Signalling Telemetry System

Three essential Water Board sites are equipped with GSM signalling. Alarm system shut down warnings can close down the new Centralised membrane plant if certain stages of filtration production are unable to be carried out due to faults within the plant. GSM alarm messaging now alerts the AWB team mobile phones if such a fault is evident and so enabling staff to correct the faults and maintain service to supply at all times.

GSM signalling has also been installed between the Battery Quarry pumping station and the new Le Marrette storage tanks. The telemetry signalling allows for automatic pumping operations to be carried out from the Battery pumping station to the Marrette service tank when a demand for filtrate flow supply is called for. The electrical works have been carried out by a local electrical contractor and have proved to be of great benefit to the Water Board team. In order to provide greater support on automation, it was recommended to integrate a secondary network supplier so as to achieve dual network telemetry, along with the capability to send these messages to e-mail addresses and these works have been carried out this year.

Bonne Terre Pumping Station Overhaul

A new 15 K/Watt submersible pump has been connected to the electrical panel that was installed last year at the Bonne Terre raw water pumping station. The new pump also has the capability of providing rapid gravity filtered water to the new Marrette tanks in emergency situations.

Battery Quarry Station Maintenance

Two of the cast iron non-return swing check valves have been replaced on the delivery port outlets of the High Lift Pumps at the Battery Quarry pumping station this year. The new replacements have modifications and are fitted with industry standard levers and weights to ensure that complete sealing of the valve will prevent any adverse backflows when either of the pumps is not operating.

Staff

In May of this year, and after completing 11 years of service on the Water Board, David Guille relocated to the mainland with his wife. David's replacement, Mathew Cosheril, joined the team early in July and is currently learning the basic production processes of our water supply. All 3 remaining staff members are qualified in various trade disciplines ranging from plumbing, water mains laying, and installation of services, mechanical engineering and motor engineering. All are versatile, work well together and are a good team. It is interesting to note that numerically, the present staff numbers of 5 in total remain exactly the same as it was over 38 years ago.

FIRE BRIGADE

Report by Paul Moore, Chief Fire Officer

The number of responses and services attended by the Brigade was 35 as detailed below:

Property Fires	5
Boat Fires	2
Gorse Fires	1
Automatic Fire Alarm	11
Fire & Non-Emergency cover	3
Cliff Rescue	1
Rescue (children)	2
Flooding	10

All call outs were attended within 15 minutes from mobilisation to arrival on scene

Establishment

The present establishment of the Brigade is as follows:

Chief Fire Officer	1
Deputy Chief Fire Officer	1
Watch Commander	1
Crew Commander	3
Fire Fighter	5
Total	11

This year we have taken on 2 new recruits Fire fighter Adam Salmon and Fire fighter Marie-Claire Jean. They have completed their basic training and are now full members of the crew.

Vehicles

The vehicles presently used are:

RED 3 Land Rover Defender 1998

This vehicle is now 16 years old. Early in the New Year we will be going out to tender for a replacement which has already been agreed in principle in next years budget.

RED 4 Iveco Cargo Tanker 1998

This vehicle should have been replaced earlier this year but we are waiting for States of Guernsey Fire & Rescue to take delivery of their replacement which has been delayed. I would hope to take delivery before the end of the year.

RED 5 Iveco Daily Compact Water Tender 2010

This vehicle was purchased new in in 2010 and should give many years of service.

RED 6 Ford Cargo Tanker 1991

This is our back up water tanker and will be retired from service when Red 4 is replaced.

Training

Our 2 cliff rescue instructors Watch Commander James Clarke & Fire fighter James Vizard have undergone refresher training on island by a UK instructor in order to keep up with new techniques. Fire fighter Derrick Williams also completed a pump maintenance course in the UK.

Fire Law

180 inspections were carried out in the year to date under the Fire Services (Alderney) Law 2002. These inspections are carried out by a Fire Safety Consultant and assisted by Fire fighter Derrick Williams.

Conclusion

As always my thanks go to my crew, their employers and families for their continued support. A special thank you to Fire fighter Derrick Williams for all his help in administering our budget.

HARBOUR & FISHERIES

Report by Mark Gaudion, Harbour Master, Nigel Shaw, Deputy Harbour Master, and Adam Rose, Assistant Harbour Master

Commercial Traffic: Cargo & Freight Activity

The number of commercial vessels running cargo and freight delivery services on a regular basis has inevitably decreased following the liquidation of Huelin Renouf in the August of 2013. However with this in mind we are still only just 25 sailings less than this time last year at the time of writing.

This year's numbers currently stand at 115 sailings compared to 141 in 2013, these figures are inclusive of vessels carrying bulk cargo and Hydrocarbons with another 12 sailings anticipated before the end of the year. These figures illustrate that despite the loss of Huelin Renouf we have remained busy with at least two regular commercial sailings a week, with this figure growing to 4-5 vessels per week on occasion.

Obviously all commercial maritime operations are at times subject to changeability due to certain variables, the main one of course being the weather. Over the course of the last year we have suffered four weather related delays in which either the berthing or discharge of a ship/ tanker has not been possible. On these occasions weather conditions exceeded the safe operational limits dictated by UK Safe Codes of Practice and Standing Orders which are specific to Braye Harbour's unique requirements. One other delay was caused by a slight technical fault with the Harbour Sennebogen Crane.

As with recent years the berthing and sailing/discharge and loading of these vessels frequently extends beyond ordinary working hours. Harbour Staff are often required to be in attendance as early as 0500 and at times until 2300 and beyond, the demands of modern shipping traffic have meant that 61% of all such operations require Harbour Staff to work outside of normal operational hours.

Commercial Traffic: Passenger Turnover

A mixed conclusion can be drawn when analysing the passenger numbers from 2014 as despite some very positive figures being generated from smaller vessels there has been a continued decline in the regularity of Manche Iles Express service to the island. The fast cat type vessel Victor Hugo completed two less sailings carrying 512 passengers between Alderney and Dielette.

The positive statistics are those of Bumblebee Boat Cruises whose popularity in the shoulder and summer months has continued to increase. This year's figures show notable increase in traffic when compared to 2013, an additional 31 sailings were carried out with an encouraging 728 extra passengers being ferried between Guernsey and Alderney. Such was

the popularity of this service that they were forced to charter the Brecqhou Lass to deal with the excess demand on the route during Alderney Week.

The continued success off the Bumblebee has lead the skipper Dan Meinke to consider upgrading to a larger vessel in the near future, meetings have taken place to discuss the feasibility of this proposition.

Leisure & Tourism

The summer season provided a sustained period of good settled weather resulting in an increase on last year's visiting yacht numbers. A final total of 4718 yacht nights was recorded throughout the seasonal months (April-September), which is an increase of 595 on the previous year.

Having been awarded the annual contract to provide a Water Taxi service in Braye Harbour Mainbrayce Ltd also undertook the responsibility of distributing duty free goods to visiting vessels. We are pleased to report that both roles were completed to a satisfactory standard with no negative feedback being received from the public.

In an attempt to improve landing facilities for small commercial passenger vessels an additional pontoon section was both acquired and after some modification by Siteweld Ltd attached to the end of the existing seaward section. This pontoon provides an extra berthing option should the commercial quay, breakwater slipway or Inner Harbour be unavailable for the transfer of passengers ashore and has met with a high level of appreciation by a number of visiting and local skippers.

This years' "Fish and ships" regatta between Port Chantereyne in Cherbourg and Braye Harbour was extremely well attended despite being delayed from the 13th until the 27th September due to strong easterly winds. In excess of 40 French yachts arrived carrying 250 people, the group were catered for at the Island Hall and departed the harbour the following morning.

The only negative feedback received as with previous years has been with regard to the Harbour Showers, the existing building is perceived as being out-dated and the facilities sub-standard. Submissions have been given to General Services and Policy & Finance committees with a view to having these facilities overhauled before the start of the 2015 season. Despite the urgency of this issue no progress has yet been made on the matter.

Coastguard

Over the last year Alderney Coastguard has dealt with 37 Search and Rescue/rapid response emergencies up to the time of writing (21st November) 16 of these incidents requiring the launch of the Alderney All-weather Lifeboat including 4 medical emergencies and 2 medivacs to Guernsey. The remaining incidents were dealt with by Harbour Staff; Including medical and salvage tasks, this illustrates the importance of the diverse skill base required of all harbour employees whom are often the first on scene in maritime emergency situations.

Developments

Harbour Office – The new building was completed early in January and following the final electrical installation of radio equipment operations were introduced in full on the 20th. A.J Bohan Builder & Contractor is in the process of correcting the remaining small faults in the building under the terms of the "snagging" clause detailed in the initial contract.

Health and Safety – Acting on the recommendations made by Normandy Health and Safety some alterations have been made in a continued effort to make the harbour area safer for Harbour users and other members of the general public alike.

Intermediate bars have been welded in place on all handrails within the harbour area to reduce the risk of falling from sheer edges. Siteweld Ltd were contracted to carry out this work which has been completed to a satisfactory standard.

The RNLI landing steps were in need of some improvements, expressions of interest were invited from five contractors to carry out the work. The tender process produced three interested parties, the successful contractor I.C Tugby is carrying out the work at the time of writing.

Commercial Fishing Activity

“The Bailiwick Fisheries Management Commission (BFMC) met earlier in June to discuss the progress being made with the Bailiwick Fishing Vessel Licensing Scheme. The Chairman of the Sark Sea Fisheries Committee and Alderney Harbour Master are both Commissioners and are fully involved with the fishing vessel licensing and management of Bailiwick waters extending from 3nm -12nm.

The BFMC have been consulted on all the licenses issued to UK/Jersey fishing vessels and the Commerce and Employment Department have now licensed all pending applications for Bailiwick Fishing Vessel Licenses. The Commerce and Employment Department have granted 34 fishing vessel licenses to UK and Jersey applicants and 160 licenses to Bailiwick vessels. Not all of the 34 UK/Jersey vessels have been granted the right to the exclusive 0-3nm limits around Alderney, Guernsey and Sark.

In May 2014, the Commerce and Employment Board also approved a new series of technical controls applicable to all licensed vessels to help ensure that Bailiwick waters are fished in a sustainable manner. The technical controls were implemented following consultation with the BFMC and all licensed fishermen – the technical controls approved were;-

- A limit on the number of Scallop dredges in the 3-6nm limit to 8 dredges (4 dredges per side) as well as limiting the tow bar length to not more than four metres
- A limit on the number of Scallop dredges in the 6-12nm limit to 12 dredges (6 dredges per side) as well as limiting the tow bar length to not more than 5.8 metres,
- The introduction of an aggregate (total) Beam Trawl length restriction to 6.5 metres in the 3-6nm limit. (Each of the Bailiwick Islands restricts the use of Beams in their own retrospective legislation).
- The introduction of Wreck Netting Prohibition in the 3-12nm limit.
- The introduction for the requirement for all vessels over 15metres to constantly transmit their position via Automatic Identification System (AIS).
- The requirement for vessels using towed gear to have their gear lashed and stowed if they are transiting through Alderney or Sark territorial waters if they are not licensed to fish in those waters.

The new controls were approved on the 4th May and were implemented by licence condition later that month. These technical controls will be reviewed in 2015 to ensure that they are meeting their key objectives.

Moving forward, the BFMC continues to ensure that the licensing policies in place are compliant with the Fisheries Management Agreement and will propose to meet with DEFRA in the earlier part of 2015 for an annual review meeting. This meeting, it is hoped, will be held in Alderney in the Spring/Summer 2015.”

The full time local fishing fleet remains at 6 vessels.

Leisure Activity

The island continues to be a popular destination for the south coasts’ charter angling community; in excess of 800 anglers visited the island between the months of April and September. These visiting anglers frequent the islands bars and restaurants providing a very welcome boost to Alderney’s economy. The settled weather throughout the season saw an increase in the number of vessels visiting the island with 72 recorded vessels visiting the island, an increase of more than 20. As always these regular visits provide a healthy influx to the islands tertiary industry and a welcome boost to the local economy.

Environmental Monitoring

The marine radiological monitoring program is administered on behalf of the States by the Harbour staff. Numerous set sizes, weights and quantities of shellfish, seaweed, sediment and sea water samples are collected on a quarterly program, processed and forwarded to CEFAS (Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science) at Lowestoft. The samples are analysed for radioactivity concentrations. Samples have shown that radioactive concentrations within the marine environment around Alderney are too low to be able to ascertain whether the concentrations are from natural or manmade sources.

Staff

After the audit on the Harbour Authority carried out by Stephen Taylor it was agreed at committee level that the PSE position of Harbour Foreman was obsolete and was subsequently removed. This resulted in the holder of that position being made redundant, rather than employ another PSE as a boatman/crane driver it was deemed that three PSE’s were enough to carry out the full range of the Harbours operational needs. This reduction in numbers has created problems in completing routine maintenance tasks and coping with the demands of overtime working and maintaining staff morale whilst honouring staff annual leave.

Due to the nature of the jobs held by all at the Harbour Authority flexibility is an essential quality demanded of all employees. The working environment is such that a great deal of anti-social overtime is required of all staff in order to keep the Harbour running at all hours, all team members are thanked for commitment, hard work and personal sacrifices throughout the year.