

Buckie sea wall rethink likely

BUCKIE Town Council are likely to have to accept an amended and less costly scheme of coast protection works in the area west of Buckpool Harbour than their consulting engineer originally proposed nearly four years ago.

Reporting to the council on a recent visit made to the Buckpool site along with the Scottish Development Department's engineering inspector, the engineers Archibald Henderson and Partners, Aberdeen, said that while the inspector felt it was desirable to have some form of protection to prevent further erosion, the cost of the high mass concrete wall which they had originally proposed was likely to make our approval in the 1974/75 financial year.

It was possible, however, that the Department might be persuaded to approve a lesser scheme of protection at or near the present line of the top of the bank.

This protection, the engineers explained, could take the form of a heavy stone revetment overlying the existing bank of shingle. Access to the beach would be provided by concrete stairways or ramps at intervals along the shoreline.

This type of construction had proved extremely successful at Forraze, while a further example could be seen between Buckpool and Port Gordon.



STORM clouds over Loch Carron and Loch Kishorn, south-west Ross-shire. Immediate left foreground is the proposed site for the Howard/Doris partnership, who want to build a series of concrete production platforms for North Sea oil and gas.

Fish landing fees up from Monday

By JIM KINNAIRD

FISHING boats are going to have to pay more to land their catches at Aberdeen from Monday—because they have been landing fewer fish.

Charges for labour and the use of boxes are being raised substantially by Aberdeen Fishing Vessel Owners' Association, who employ the fish porters and provide catch-landing services at the market.

In addition, a surcharge of 1p will be applied to each category of landing rate to meet the cost of a stand-by emergency generator.

The generator is being provided to minimise the effect of power cuts. It is estimated that the surcharge will remain until the end of next year.

Circulars detailing the new charges say the increases have been necessary because of the drop in volume of fish landed and an increase in overheads.

The substantially higher box charges are blamed on inflationary trends in the supply of gear and replacement parts.

Concrete-hulled vessel — built last year at Scrabster — has had recently. Six weeks ago, she went aground near Kirkwall.

The Wings of the Morning is skippered by Mr Edwin Groat and the other crewman is Mr Jimmy Leslie.

Lerwick revenue
Lerwick Harbour revenue for the last month was £348 — an increase of £1761 on the period last year.

Salmon nets record

THE FIRST fish of the new salmon-net season at Aberdeen caught on 12th February fetched a record £2.02 a lb. at Aberdeen Harbour Board's sales yesterday.

The bid was made by Aberdeen fishmonger Mr Dennis Nicoll (35), who said to BBC disc jockey Jimmy Young he intended to offer the fish for a charity of his choice.

Other fish on the salmon table, although priced, fell well below Mr Nicoll's bid.

Protest

Quick to register his protest at the higher charges was Aberdeen shipping agent and fish salesman Mr Alex Whyte.

He said it grieved him to see the shortage of fish being landed for the increased charges when Aberdeen trawling companies continued to divert a ship occasionally to the English markets.

Mr Whyte said the latest round of increases reinforced the case for the transfer of labour management and administration to the independent control of the harbour board.

"I've maintained for years that this change is long overdue," said Mr Whyte.

The charge-out rate for fish consigned to Aberdeen from British vessels goes up by 6p a box to 37p and up to 42p for foreigners.

The charge on boxed fish landed at the market is raised by 7p a box to 41p for British and 46p for foreign.

The rate for loose fish will be 46p a cwt. for British and increase of 6p.

Monarch earns title

A RECORD grossing of £275,000 for a year's fishing was set up at her home port yesterday by the Aberdeen stern trawler Grampian Monarch.

It was a year ago today that Grampian Monarch sailed on her maiden voyage. In that time she has more than justified the faith of owners George Craig and Sons Ltd. in investing in this class of ship.

Under Skipper Bob Catto's command the vessel has fished consistently well and ended her year's operations with a bumper haul — 2488 cwt. on a 10-day trip, which alone earned £23,540.

Both in weight and value, the trip is a home-water record for Aberdeen.

Although a couple of distant-water trips bettered these figures, Grampian Monarch can also claim a record daily average for Aberdeen — 2254.

Yesterday's achievement was all the more remarkable since the catch included 2296 cwt. of coley — a species which has only begun to be appreciated on the British market in the last couple of years.

No Aberdeen trawler is thought to have landed a bigger shot of coley before — a fact which prompted one market wit to observe: "She's not only the Grampian Monarch, she's Old King Coley as well!"

Moves to revive dockers' club

MOVES are being made to re-establish a social club for dock workers at Aberdeen.

But Aberdeen dockers' chairman Mr Ron Findlay said yesterday there was no substance to a rumour that a proper society was being formed.

Mr Findlay said preliminary discussions had taken place but no definite plans had been laid.

The proposal being examined was that dockers in co-operation with the welfare section of the fish-market porters, who are also registered dock workers, should combine to form a social club with backing from the National Dock Labour Board.

Mr Findlay said preliminary discussions had taken place but no definite plans had been laid.

£25m. sub New isle strike may be better than thought

THE Department of Trade and Industry are studying a proposal by Vickers Oceanics for a joint £25,000,000 industry-government venture to develop a nuclear-powered submarine system for laying and burying underwater pipelines.

A nuclear submarine reactor system generating 10,000 h.p. would transport, join and bury large pipelines, all work being done underwater so that pipelaying could continue in bad weather. The proposal was put to the Government almost two years ago as part of a package policy for achieving a significant British presence in the new offshore technology being inspired by harsh conditions in the North Sea.

Accounts for 50,000 sq. ft. offices, 1300 silos, 14,000 and outdoor storage 6200.

TWO new harbour pilots have been engaged by Lerwick Harbour Trust to handle the steadily increasing oil-related traffic. They are George Sutherland (37), and Simon Roy — Fox, British consul-general designate in Houston, Texas, who takes up his post next month, met officials of the North East Scotland Development Authority.

Protest!

TELEGRAMS ON SCOTS OIL MOVES

TELEGRAMS are being sent today to Mr Edward Heath, Lord Carrington, Mr Harold Wilson, Mr Jeremy Thorpe and Mr William Wolfe signed by an unprecedented number of conservationists and other groups and individuals.

For the first time, it is claimed, groups with diverse interests have joined together to protest against Government proposals to seek special powers to acquire sites for the construction of onshore oil developments.

The signatures on the telegrams represent a formidable body of opinion throughout Scotland, England and Wales numbering hundreds of thousands.

It was said the telegram was initiated in Scotland, but that the immediate and nationwide support for the content indicated the concern over moves which would attempt to sweep aside public participation in planning procedures.

The text of the telegram: "We wish to express our unanimous objection to the Government proposal to appropriate land for onshore oil development, or to any subsequent Government's similar proposal. This would abolish the accepted process and those most affected have an opportunity of questioning the need for the development, or examining the motives and expertise of the developers and of publicly expressing their opinions. Such a move strikes at the heart of democratic involvement and civil liberties."

Then follows a lengthy list of signatures including Sir Frank Fraser-Darling, Dr Manson, Shetland Civic Society, Sir Peter Scott, Wildlife Trust, Saltire Society, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, National Council for Civil Liberties, John Gavoll, director, Conservation Society, Lord Harlech, Council for Nature, J. Wakefield, Coastal Anti-Pollution League, Scottish Georgian Society, Friends of the Earth Ltd., National Council of Social Service Association for the Protection of Rural Scotland, Town and Country Planning Association.

It was argued that there is need to go slow on the extraction rate of North Sea oil.

Tayside development — is it wanted?

DEAN OF GUILD R. R. Spink told Arbroath Town Council that he was perturbed about a remark made by Mr Harvey Mitchell, Tayside development officer, when he spoke to Arbroath Civic Society last week.

Mr Mitchell, he said, had stated that something being discussed at the moment, which would be of great significance to Arbroath, was the introduction of a massive chemical operation between Arbroath and Dundee.

If this came off it would revolutionise employment in the region.

Dean of Guild Spink said: "It is important that we should know what is taking place on this very important coastline of ours. I have always been against the Tayside attitude to the Buddon Links area. I do not want to see any petrochemical or other massive development such as is envisaged here because it would not only affect Arbroath, but our near neighbour, Carnoustie and Monifieth."

He suggested that Provost David Chapel should call a meeting of representatives from Carnoustie and Monifieth town councils in Arbroath to discuss whether or not the people of the area wanted a development of this kind.

Invitations could also be extended to the chairman of the Tayside Development Authority, the Tayside development officer, the Department of Trade and Industry, the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, Arbroath Fishermen's Association and the Fifth of Forth Fishermen's Association.

Dean of Guild Spink said that such a development would be detrimental to some of the richest fish-breeding ground round the coast of Britain. He was disappointed that the fishermen had not seen fit to take some action in the matter.

LANDINGS AND PRICES	
ABERDEEN — 11 Boats, 418 tons; 4 ton consigned. Good quality demand. Official prices: cod £1.60; North Sea — Cod £1.67; 50lb. large codling £1.78; 50lb. small £1.44; 50lb. medium £1.40; 50lb. tusk £1.46; 50lb. salmon £1.40; 50lb. haddock £1.40; 50lb. medium £1.30; 50lb. large prawn £1.20; 50lb. small £1.10; 50lb. whitefish £1.10; 50lb. sole £1.10; 50lb. plaice £1.10; 50lb. halibut £1.10.	Home market 720 cran £18-622 cran; kionobking 680 cran £20-1021 cran; trout £16-622; kionobking 65 cran £20-60 cran.
ABERDEEN — 1 Salmon £1-20; 15 totalled £5493, compared with £4404 in the corresponding month last year. Fish landing dues were £3677, more than £1900 up.	SALMON ABERDEEN — Salmon £1-20; 15 totalled £5493, compared with £4404 in the corresponding month last year. Fish landing dues were £3677, more than £1900 up.
BUCKIE — 12 Boats, 135 boxes. Cod £1.85; 50lb. tusk £1.40; 50lb. salmon £1.40; 50lb. haddock £1.40; 50lb. medium £1.30; 50lb. large prawn £1.20; 50lb. small £1.10; 50lb. whitefish £1.10; 50lb. sole £1.10; 50lb. plaice £1.10; 50lb. halibut £1.10.	TIDES Aberdeen ... 1755 0626 1858 Arbroath ... 1825 0726 1958 Montrose ... 1625 0555 1720 Macduff ... 1617 0441 1707 Buckle ... 1634 0511 1727 Inverness ... 1710 0541 1844 Peterhead ... 1243 0413 1644 Scrabster ... 1255 0124 1554 Aberdeen ... 1253 0356 1628 Fort-William ... 2010 1046 2513
FRASERBURGH — 66 Boats, 1050 tons. Cod £1.40; 50lb. tusk £1.40; 50lb. salmon £1.40; 50lb. haddock £1.40; 50lb. medium £1.30; 50lb. large prawn £1.20; 50lb. small £1.10; 50lb. whitefish £1.10; 50lb. sole £1.10; 50lb. plaice £1.10; 50lb. halibut £1.10.	SHIPPING ABERDEEN Arrived — St Ronwald, Lerwick, general and passenger; Kamm, Okonbamm, timber; Polathar, North Sea, survey gear. Oil research: Alster II, Hamburg, salt; Fawnet, Dundee, light; Carisale, North Sea, oil research; Morsø, Hamina, general; Euroman, North Sea, oil research; St Magnus, Kirkwall, general.
ST OLA talks Four members of Thurso Town Council are to visit Stromness on Friday to discuss with the Stromness council the proposed timetable for the new St Ola. They will suggest that daily morning sailings from Scrabster would best serve the interests of passengers and traders as it would enable gay trips to be made to Orkney.	RECORD PRICE Monkfish landed at Lerwick yesterday fetched £2.15 per stone — a port record.

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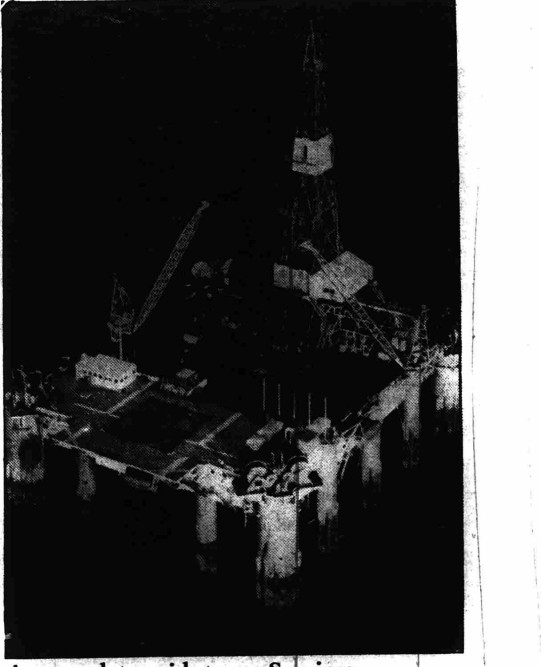
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