



## COUNTY COUNCIL OF SUTHERLAND

YOUR REF.

OUR REF. JBR/ET

J. B. RODGER, M.A., LL.B.

COUNTY CLERK

COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE

GOLSPIE

SUTHERLAND

Telephone Nos. 392 & 393

25th March, 1971

G.F. Trowbridge, Esq.,  
Town Clerk,  
Town House,  
Dornoch

Dear Sir,

### Dornoch Airstrip

The County Planning Officer has been investigating the future of the airstrip in Dornoch with Officials of the Board of Trade. The Board of Trade's advice at the moment is that the strip in its present form seems to be satisfactory for the known traffic conditions. Any proposal for licensing the strip would presumably be made to take advantage of scheduled services and the existence of a licensed strip at Dornoch, in itself, would not contribute very much to the operation of a scheduled service.

The Board of Trade point out that the authority which would apply for a licence, in this instance the Town Council, would have to satisfy themselves, after consultation with the local operator, who, in this case, is Loganair, that the licence is necessary. If the Town Council so decide the requirements are laid down in the Board of Trade's letter to the Town Council dated 26th February, 1970. These are as follows:-

1. Fire-fighting Equipment It might be possible to get a vehicle cheaply through the Scottish Development Department, who are at present auctioning off vehicles and pumps.
2. Manpower for Fire-fighting - This could be reduced from/

G.F. TROWBRIDGE,

XXXXXXXXXXXX

Our Ref: 5B

26th August, 1971

J.B. Redger, Esq.,  
County Clerk,  
County Offices,  
COLSPIE.

Dear Sir,

Bernoch Air Strip

I refer to my letter of 7th April, 1971 intimating that the Town Council, having regard to the outcome of the meeting between the County Planning Officer and the Board of Trade, that it was not necessary to make application to the Board for the licensing of the Bernoch Air-Strip.

With regard to the various other improvements, the costs of which I understand were to be borne by the Highlands and Islands Development Board, the County Council and the Town Council, would you please be kind enough to give me some indication when these are likely to be implemented.

I might add that a telephone coin box has already been installed at the Caravan Site.

Perhaps you would also let me know if any progress has been made with the Army Authorities regarding the laying of a metalled access road from the end of the existing tarmac. road to the air-strip.

These questions are bound to be raised by members of the Town Council and I shall be glad to hear from you in this connection.

Yours faithfully,



Town Clerk.

Our Ref: SE

17th September, 1971

J.B. Redger, Esq., M.A., LL.B.,  
County Clerk,  
County Offices,  
GUILDFORD.

Dear Sir,

Dorchester Air Strip

I refer to my letter of 26th August, 1971 and your acknowledgement of 30th August, 1971 regarding the proposed improvements to the Dorchester Air-Strip.

The current position regarding my enquiry was reported to the Town Council at their meeting on 7th September, 1971 when they noted the position and further instructed me to write to you further, as Clerk to the Joint Committee on the Air-Strip, and enquire regarding the possibility of Sutherland County Council staff being employed on the work of levelling and ridding the site; laying a metalled access road from the end of the existing tarmac., road to the air-strip; the construction of stock-proof fencing for the parking area and the provision of an open-sided building for protecting aircraft.

I shall be glad to hear from you regarding the Town Council's enquiry.

Yours faithfully,

John Clark



COUNTY COUNCIL OF SUTHERLAND

YOUR REF.

COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE

GOLSPIE

OUR REF. **DWM/EDM**

SUTHERLAND

Telephone Nos. 392 & 393

J. B. RODGER, M.A., LL.B.  
COUNTY CLERK

21st September, 1971.

G. F. Trowbridge, Esq.,  
Town Clerk,  
Town Clerk's Office,  
DORNOCH.

Dear Sir,

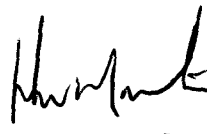
Development of Dornoch Air Strip  
1st October, 1971

I write to inform you that it has been decided that a Meeting of the representatives considering the Dornoch Air Strip be held within the Council Chamber, County Offices, Dornoch, on Friday, 1st October, 1971. The Meeting of representatives regarding Dornoch Air Strip will be preceded by a short meeting of other representatives in connection with business not related to the Air Strip. That first meeting will commence at 11 a.m. and it is proposed that the Air Strip Meeting should follow immediately thereafter. As the first meeting may not take too long, I would suggest that it would be appropriate for your representatives to be at the County Offices, Dornoch, in time to commence the Air Strip Meeting at 11.30 a.m. or shortly thereafter.

I trust that the foregoing arrangements are convenient.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

  
County Clerk.

*Letter. 1st October*

G.P. TROWBRIDGE,  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Our Ref:4B

6th October, 1971

J.B. Rodger, Esq., M.A., LL.B.,  
County Clerk,  
GOLSPIE.

Dear Sir,

Dornoch Air-Strip

I refer to the Joint Meeting between representatives of Sutherland County Council, the Highlands and Islands Development Board and the Town Council at the County Offices, Dornoch on 1st October 1971 on the development of the Dornoch Air-strip, when it was resolved to recommend to the respective authorities as follows:-

- (i) that the Air-strip be developed at an approximate cost of £3,000;
- (ii) that the cost involved be borne equally by the Highlands and Islands Development Board, Sutherland County Council and Dornoch Town Council.
- (iii) that application be made to the Board of Trade for a 'J' licence; and
- (iv) that work involved in the development of the Air-Strip be carried out as expeditiously as possible, in order to enable the strip to be available for scheduled flights by April, 1972.

These recommendations were approved by the Town Council at their meeting on 5th October, 1971 and I have to advise you accordingly.

Yours faithfully,

  
Town Clerk.

Our REF: 5B



## COUNTY COUNCIL OF SUTHERLAND

J. J. McMILLAN, ~~COUNTY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER~~, COUNTY OFFICES, DORNOCH. TEL. 332

PLANNING OFFICER,

26th October, 1971.

G. F. Trowbridge, Esq.,  
Town Clerk,  
DORNOCH.

Dear Sir,

### Dornoch Airstrip - Fire Fighting Equipment

We are asked by the Suppliers of the personnel equipment required for the fire fighting services at the above airstrip to supply sizes of the helmets, waterproof coats, rubber knee boots and flame resisting gloves.

I would be obliged if the personnel who are to man the fire fighting equipment could state their requirements in so far as this equipment is concerned.

Yours faithfully,

*John A. McMillan*

County Planning Officer.

HTG/JAP (411/273/2)

26th October 1971

Dear Mr. Rodger,

Dornoch Airstrip

I refer to your Council's application for financial assistance under Section 8 of the Highlands and Islands Development (Scotland) Act 1965.

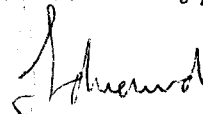
The Board have considered the application and I have pleasure in informing you that in connection with the proposed improvement of the airstrip at Dornoch it has been decided to offer Sutherland County Council a grant of £1,000 or one-third of the total approved cost whichever is the lesser sum.

The main Conditions upon which this Grant is offered are set out in the attached Appendix. If these are acceptable please let me have written confirmation to that effect by 9th November 1971. If no reply is received by that date the amount, terms and Conditions may be subject to review or withdrawal.

In the event of your Council's accepting financial assistance on the Conditions referred to, the Board will duly instruct their Solicitor to prepare a formal Undertaking regulating the Grant, as well as such other documents as may be necessary.

It is possible that in the future the Board may wish to publicise the assistance which has now been approved for this project and perhaps you would let me know if your Council would be agreeable to this if the occasion arose. You would, of course, be consulted beforehand and the terms of any publicity decided upon would be as agreed between your Council and the Board.

Yours sincerely,



S. Edmond  
Assistant Secretary

J.B. Rodger, Esq., M.A., LL.B.,  
County Clerk,  
Sutherland County Council,  
County Clerk's Office,  
GOLSPIE,  
Sutherland.

APPENDIX

Sutherland County Council - 411/273/2

Conditions

1. The grant shall be given in respect of the following expenditure, and shall be the lesser sum of £1,000 or one-third of the total approved cost of the provision of:

Fire fighting equipment including

4 wheel drive ex W.D. Land Rover	at estimated cost of	£1,200
Threshold markers and site works	at estimated cost of	350
Telephones	at estimated cost of	50
Stockproof fence for airstrip	at estimated cost of	300
Metal road to the airstrip	at estimated cost of	800
Contingencies	at estimated cost of	300
		<hr/>
		£3,000
		<hr/>

All at the airstrip at Dornoch, Sutherland.

2. The grant will not be paid over until all the legal formalities have been completed and all the relevant detailed receipted vouchers in respect of materials and labour shall have been seen by the Board and the work inspected and a certificate in terms satisfactory to the Board shall have been submitted to them in regard to the cost of the several works in respect of which the grant is offered.
3. The Council shall fully insure against fire and other risks all property and buildings belonging to it or used by it at the said airstrip, as well as all plant and machinery, equipment, stock and other assets belonging to it or for which it may be responsible thereat, and the relative policy or policies as also the receipts for all premiums paid in respect thereof shall be exhibited to the Board.
4. The airstrip on which the grant is paid shall not be ~~used for any other purpose or be~~ sold or otherwise disposed of nor shall the use thereof be discontinued within a period of five years from the date of the last payment of grant otherwise the whole amount of the grant paid in respect thereof, or such portion of the same as the Board may at its sole discretion decide shall be immediately repayable to the Board.
5. The Board have approved this financial assistance on the firm understanding that they accept no liability for further work to ensure that the airstrip will qualify for any type of licence for charter and/or air ambulance flights.



Our Ref:5B

16th November, 1971

The Airport Manager,  
Inverness Airport,  
Dalcross,  
Nr. Inverness.

Dear Sir,

Dornoch Air-Strip

Dornoch Town Council, with the help of Sutherland County Council and the Highlands and Islands Development Board are carrying out certain requirements in order to meet the Board of Trade conditions for a 'J' Licence for Dornoch Air-Strip.

Fire fighting equipment is being obtained for use at the Air-Strip and the question has arisen regarding the training of personnel for the use of such equipment. I have made enquiries with the Fire Brigade but understand that they do not operate such a course. They advised me to get in touch with yourself as I understand you have your own fire-fighting school for this purpose.

The Town Council only employ a small Burgh Squad but it is intended to utilise their services as and when Scheduled flights are due. In order that they might be qualified to undertake such fire-fighting duties it will be necessary for them to receive the appropriate training and accordingly I shall be glad of any help you might be able to offer in this connection. Would you be kind enough to inform me of any course that might be available. How many men would be involved, how long the course would take and the cost involved.

An early reply would be appreciated.

Yours faithfully,

*Tom Clark*  
Tom Clark

Mr. Brownbridge for information  
and retention.

MINIMUM QUANTITIES OF RESCUE EQUIPMENT.

ITEM.	AERODROME CATEGORY			
	I & II	III & IV	V - VII	VIII - ABOVE
AXE, RESCUE, LARGE NON-WEDGING TYPE.	—	1	1	1
AXE, RESCUE, SMALL NON-WEDGING A/C TYPE.	1	1	1	1
CROPPERS, BOLT, 24 INCHES.	1	1	1	1
CROWBAR 3 FT. 6 INS.	1	1	1	1
CROWBAR 5 FT. 6 INS.	—	—	1	1
CHISEL, COLD 1 INCH.	—	1	1	1
HAMMER, 4 LB.	—	1	1	1
HAMMER, 14 LB.	—	—	—	1
HOOK, GRAB OR SALVING.	1	1	1	1
HACKSAW, HEAVY DUTY C/W 6 BLADES.	1	1	1	1
BLANKET, FIRE RESISTING (ASBESTOS).	1	1	1	1
LADDER, EXTENDING.	—	1	1	1
LINE, 2" ■■■, 50 FEET IN LENGTH.	1	1	—	—
LINE, 2" ■■■, 100 FEET IN LENGTH.	—	—	1	1
PLIERS, SIDE CUTTING (7 INCHES) PAIRS.	1	1	1	1
SAW, DOUBLE EDGED, OR CARPENTERS 20/24"	1	1	1	1
SCREWDRIVER, SLOTTED (LARGE)	1	1	1	1
SCREWDRIVER, LARGE PHILLIPS TYPE.	1	1	1	1
SNIPPERS, TIN.	1	1	1	1
POWER RESCUE SAW WITH 1 SPARE BLADE.	—	—	1	1
PNEUMATIC RESCUE CHISEL, PLUS SPARE	—	—		
(CYLINDER, CHISEL AND RETAINING SPRING)*	—	—	1*	—
KNIVES, QUICK RELEASE C/W SHEATH †.	1	2	3	4.
GLOVES, FLAME RESISTING, PAIRS. †.	2	3	4	8.

\* AN ALTERNATIVE TO RESCUE SAW AT CATEGORY V AND VI AERODROMES ONLY.

† APPLIANCE EQUIPMENT, UNLESS ISSUED TO INDIVIDUAL CREW MEMBERS.

TABLE VI-1

## MINIMUM QUANTITIES OF EXTINGUISHING MEDIA REQUIRED

CATEGORY	MAXIMUM AUTHORIZED TAKE-OFF WEIGHT OF A/C	PRINCIPLE AGENTS			SUPPLEMENTARY AGENTS		
		WATER (GALLONS)	FOAM LIQUID (GALLONS)	G.P.M. OUTPUT WATER/FOAM LIQUID SOLUTION	C.O. <sub>2</sub> (lbs)	OR DRY CHEMICAL (lbs)	OR APPROVED VAPORISING LIQUID
I.	3,000 lbs. OR UNDER	30	5	20	25	30	THESE SHOULD BE PROVIDED IN AMOUNTS REPRESENTING AN EXTINGUISHING CAPACITY AT LEAST EQUAL TO THE AMOUNT OF CO <sub>2</sub> OR DRY CHEMICAL IN COLS. 6 AND 7.
II.	3,001 to 6,500 lb.	100	5	40	50	30	
III.	6,500 lb. to 15,000 lbs.	300	15	100	100	50	
IV.	15,000 lb. to 30,000 lbs.	600	30	150	200	100	
V.	30,000 to 60,000 lbs.	900	45	200	300	150	

## MINIMUM SCALES OF MEDICAL EQUIPMENT.

		(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
BANDAGES						
ELASTIC ADHESIVE, 3" x 3YDS.	ROLLS	2	3	12	24	72
CREPE, 3"	ROLLS	6	6	12	36	100
LOOSE WOVEN 3"	ROLLS	12	12	48	96	200
TRIANGULAR	NO.	6	12	24	48	150
DRESSINGS						
LARGE MEDICATED	NO	6	12	24	48	150
MEDIUM MEDICATED	NO.	6	12	24	48	150
WOUND ABSORBENT, 8oz. PKGS.		3	5	12	36	100
ADHESIVE PLASTER, ZINC OXIDE 3"	REELS	1	1	4	12	50
ABSORBENT COTTON WOOL 16oz. PKGS.		2	4	12	36	100
ASPIRIN TABLETS	TABS.	25	50	100	200	500
SALVOLATILE (SCREW TOP BOTTLE)	OZ.	1	2	3	6	12
SPIRIT, METHYLATED OR SURGICAL	PINTS	1	1	2	2	4
TOURNIQUETS	NO.	2	2	4	12	25
CURVED SAFETY PINS	DOZ.	2	4	8	24	50
SCISSORS 6 INS.	NO.	2	2	4	12	30
STRETCHERS	NO.	2	4	12	36	70
SINGLE BLANKETS	NO.	6	12	36	100	300
HOT WATER BOTTLES (RUBBER)	NO.	4	6	12	36	70
WATER BOTTLES (SUNG AND CUP)	NO.	1	2	6	18	30
ANTISEPTIC CREAM	OZ.	2	4	16	48	80

A/C WEIGHT. :- CAT. I 3,000 OR UNDER. CAT. II, III & IV 3,001 to 30,000 lb. CAT. V, VI, VII & VIII 30,001 to 200,000 lb. CAT. IX 200,000 to 500,000 lb. CAT. X 500,000 OR OVER.

56.



COUNTY COUNCIL OF SUTHERLAND

YOUR REF.

OUR REF. JBR/ET

J. B. RODGER, M.A., LL.B.

COUNTY CLERK

COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE

GOLSPIE

SUTHERLAND

Telephone Nos. 392 & 393

23rd November, 1971

G.F. Trowbridge, Esq.,  
Town Clerk,  
Dornoch

Dear Sir,

Dornoch Airstrip

I have to-day instructed the County Surveyor  
to carry out as soon as possible the major works involved  
in preparing the Dornoch Airstrip.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

County Clerk

Ref: 5B

24th November, 1971

S. Edmond, Esq.,  
Assistant Secretary,  
Highlands & Islands Development Board,  
Bridge House,  
27, Bank Street,  
INVERNESS.

Dear Mr. Edmond,

Dornoch Air Strip

I refer to your letter dated 26th October, 1971 addressed to Sutherland County Council regarding the conditions under which the Board were prepared to make a grant of up to £1,000 for the development of Dornoch Air-Strip to meet the requirements for a 'J' licence.

A copy of your letter was passed to me by Mr. J.B. Ridger, the County Clerk, whom I understand has informed you that we would be writing to you direct on the matter.

Your letter has been considered by the Town Council and they have, for their interest approved of the conditions, with one small proviso - namely No.4.

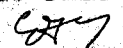
The land on which the Air-Strip is situated is Common Land and as such there are certain reservations which have to be complied with under legislation covering such land. The Town Council are of the opinion that the reference contained in item 4 which reads "The airstrip on which the grant is paid shall not be used for any other purpose be sold or otherwise disposed of nor shall the use thereof be discontinued within a period of five years from the date of the last payment otherwise ....." is slightly restrictive.

Whilst there is no likelihood of the discontinuation of the Airstrip for the period mentioned or any intention whatsoever for any other use or disposal thereof the Town Council do not feel that they can altogether restrict the use of Airstrip for such purposes as local residents have a hereditary right thereto. It is therefore suggested that a slight amendment might be made to the condition so as to safeguard this interest.

There is no suggestion whatsoever by the Town Council that there is any other difficulty to restrict the development of the Airstrip as proposed. They are in full agreement with the said conditions apart from this small point.

I took this matter up with Mr. Ridger and he suggested that perhaps condition 4 might be modified by adding a phrase to the effect that none of the conditions specified in it will apply as a result of statutory enactment. This might well suit the circumstances and I shall be glad to hear from you.

Yours faithfully,

  
Town Clerk.



COUNTY COUNCIL OF SUTHERLAND

YOUR REF. 5B

COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE

GOLSPIE

SUTHERLAND

Telephone Nos. 392 & 393

J. B. RODGER, M.A., LL.B.  
COUNTY CLERK

OUR REF. DWM/EDM

25th November, 1971.

G. F. Trowbridge, Esq.,  
Town Clerk,  
Town Clerk's Chambers,  
High Street,  
DORNOCH.

Dear Sir,

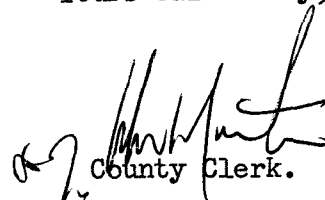
Dornoch Air Strip

I am in receipt of your letter of 22nd current enclosing my Minute of Meeting of Representatives held on 1st October, with amendments thereto made by your Council. I should mention that the Minute has been approved in its entirety by the County Council for their interest.

I note that your Council wish to have included the provision of telephone coin box and metalled access road. It was my understanding that these items were not required and that, in particular, there was no necessity for a metalled access road to meet the requirements of 'J' Licence. It was my understanding that the meeting of representatives had agreed to omit the provision of metalled access road and indeed that it had been explained that the provision of a telephone would not be required. If a telephone coin box is, in fact, required there would seem to be no problem particularly as the cost is minimal. The cost of providing a metalled access road is, of course, considerable and, as stated, it was my understanding that since a metalled access road was not essential, a saving could be effected by its omission.

Since your Council take the view that the Minute referred to does not correctly specify the decisions taken at the meeting, I shall require to take further instructions.

I am,  
Yours faithfully,

  
County Clerk.

9th December, 1971

J.B. Rodger Esq., M.A., LL.B.,  
County Clerk  
County Offices,  
Golspie

Your ref. JBR/NT  
Our ref. 5B

Dear Sir,

Dornoch Air-strip

I refer to your letter of 8th December, 1971 regarding the proposed works to be carried out at the Dornoch Air-strip.

I regret the misunderstanding that appears to have arisen in this connection, but perhaps should refer you to letter dated 26th October, 1971 addressed to yourself from the Highlands and Islands Development Board with the conditions on which they were prepared to make a Grant of £1,000 or one-third of the total approved cost, whichever is the lesser sum. Item 1 of the Appendix reads as follows:-

1. The grant shall be given in respect of the following expenditure, and shall be the lesser sum of £1,000 or one-third of the total approved cost of the provision of:

Fire fighting equipment including

4 wheel drive ex W.D. Land Rover at estimated cost of	.....	£1,200
Threshold markers and site works	do. do.	..... 350
Telephones	do. do.	..... 50
Stockproof fence for air-strip	do. do.	..... 300
Metal road to the air-strip	do. do.	..... 800
Contingencies	do. do.	..... 300

£3,000

Both items in respect of the telephone and metal road are included in the above and it would appear that the Board are in agreement with the Town Council in their recollection of the meeting.

Both the Minute of the Joint Meeting of 1st October, 1971 and the Board's letter regarding the conditions were considered by the Town Council at their meeting on 2nd November, 1971 when the minute was approved; subject to the amendments; and the conditions suggested by the Board, subject to a slight amendment of clause 4 in respect of the Air strip being on Common Lands.

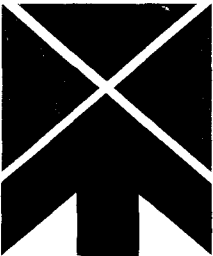
I shall be glad to have your observations on the points mentioned.

Yours faithfully,

*J.B. Rodger*  
Town Clerk.

5B  
DMcC/MH 411/273

20th December 1971



Dear Sir,

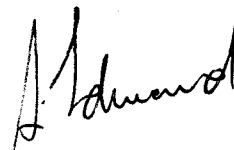
Dornoch Airstrip

I refer to your letter of 24th November on the point raised by the Town Council with regard to one of our conditions pertaining to the grant.

As far as Condition 4 is concerned, we are quite prepared to delete the words - "used for any other purpose or be".

I trust this will now resolve the matter.

Yours faithfully,



S. Edmond  
Assistant Secretary

Town Clerk,  
Town Clerk's Chambers,  
Royal Burgh of Dornoch,  
High Street,  
Dornoch,  
SUTHERLAND.



1971

DORNOCH AIR STRIP

Minute of Meeting of representatives of Constituent Authorities held within the Council Chamber, County Offices, Dornoch, on Friday, 1st October, 1971, at 11.30 a.m.

Present:-

Representing Sutherland Councillor George Fraser,  
County Council Councillor D. M. McBain.

Representing Dornoch Provost H. Clunie,  
Town Council Bailie W. J. Manson,

Representing Highlands Mr Prophet Smith,  
& Islands Development Dr. W. I. Skewis.  
Board

D. W. Martin, Depute County Clerk,  
in attendance,

also

J. N. M. Green, County Development  
Officer; J. G. Edmond, County  
Surveyor; G. F. Trowbridge,  
Town Clerk, Dornoch.

CHAIRMAN

?  
The representatives unanimously agreed that the Convener be appointed  
Chairman.

DORNOCH AIR STRIP

The Depute County Clerk reported the terms of Minute of Meeting of representatives held on 12th October, 1970, and there was submitted a report dated 30th September, 1971, by the County Planning Officer and County Development Officer. This report is appended as an annexation to this Minute. The Meeting also heard a report by the County Development Officer who explained the circumstances in which it would not be possible to look for military assistance for any work on the Air Strip under the OPMAC Scheme for some considerable time.

The meeting heard a report by Provost Clunie who explained the action taken by the Town Council since the last meeting and who stated that the Town Council were satisfied that they did not wish to pursue the licensing of the Air Strip under J. Licence conditions in the meantime. He stated that the Town Council were agreed that there should be carried out at the Air Strip the minimum work necessary to improve it but without regard to the needs of J Licence conditions. He observed that matters had been held up pending a decision on whether work would be done as an OPMAC Scheme but he felt that it would now be appropriate for the constituent Authorities to themselves carry out the basic work required, which should include threshold markers, and omit work necessary to satisfy J Licence conditions until justification for these arose.

Mr Prophet Smith stated that the costs specified in the report of the Planning Officer and Development Officer did not appear to be excessive in regard to the provision of J Licence facilities and he stated that it was/

was the Board's view that the Air Strip should be licensed to meet J Licence conditions. The Board considered that this is an essential Air Strip, that therefore it must be licensed and that accordingly the constituent Authorities should accept the attendant costs. The meeting also heard a report by Dr. Skewis who explained the possible use of the Air Strip in the event of its being licensed and pointed out that the Board were examining the possibility of introducing an air service from Caithness to Inverness which would have an optional call at Dornoch if a licensed strip were available there. He believed that the cost of providing a licensed strip was not excessive and he believed that it would be a worthwhile investment. He explained that a metalled access road and an open ended building were not essential pre-requisites for licensing and that these could be omitted. In reply to a query by Provost Clunie - who explained that the Town Council were worried by the need to provide specially trained men constantly available at the Air Strip and the attendant cost thereof - Dr Skewis explained that it would be ideal to use existing Council employees on a part-time basis who could be trained by Dalcross personnel, the training being fairly nominal.

Provost Clunie suggested that, having heard the Board Representatives, it appeared that the only items holding up the project were the levelling and rolling of the site and the County Surveyor explained that the work principally entailed keeping the grass cut on both runways as the foundations were good. Provost Clunie pointed out that a telephone box already existed at the Strip and that by a sharing of the work, the necessary provisions could be made to meet licensing conditions.

The Convener stated that, having heard the various parties represented at the meeting, he was satisfied that the constituent Authorities should proceed to carry out work necessary to meet J licensing conditions and that the Strip should be submitted to the Board of Trade for licensing as quickly as possible. Provost Clunie concurred.

The meeting accordingly unanimously agreed to recommend to the constituent Authorities that they proceed forthwith to carry out all work at the Strip necessary to meet J licensing conditions, having noted the agreement previously reached with the County Council, the Town Council and the Highlands and Islands Development Board that each meet one third of the cost, and that the County Surveyor prepare a report on the detailed costs involved in bringing the strip up to J licence standard, the necessary work being specified in the Appendix attached hereto with the ~~exception of telephone coin box~~ open ended building and laying ~~metalled access road~~, the County Surveyor's report to be submitted to the constituent Authorities as soon as possible. The meeting further agreed that the constituent Authorities should aim for the provision of a full licensed Strip by April 1972, that the Town Council should forthwith report to the Board of Trade the intentions of the constituent Authorities and, following completion of the necessary work, should apply to the Board of Trade for the necessary J Licence. The Meeting noted that the report to be submitted by the County Surveyor would be in respect of both runways.

The meeting, after hearing Councillor A. M. Gilmour (who although not a member of the Air Strip Committee, was invited to speak), agreed that Councillor Gilmour make whatever investigations and approaches he could with a view to keeping the work required at the Strip before the Military Authorities in case these Authorities found it possible to carry out the work as an OPMAC Scheme before the constituent Authorities were ready to proceed. The meeting further agreed that, in the likely event of the Military Authorities being unable to carry out the work as an OPMAC Scheme, the work should be carried out by the County Roads Department.

Bailie W. J. Manson suggested that consideration be given to the question of responsibility for maintenance of the Air Strip but the meeting, after/

after hearing the Convener, agreed that this matter be considered further once a J Licence had been obtained and that, in addition, there would be considered at that stage the question of the charges to be levied at the Air Strip and the management thereof.

The meeting noted the view of Provost Clunie that the Air Strip Committee would require to continue in existence, once the Strip had been licensed and was operating, in order to deal with all matters pertaining thereto, ~~until such time as the Re-organisation of Local Government had been completed.~~

The meeting instructed the County Clerk to make a formal approach to the Highlands and Islands Development Board in regard to their meeting the agreed share of the cost of the work.

---

## APPENDIX

### DORNOCH AIR STRIP

A quick summary of the proceedings to date are as follows:-

1. The Town Council, the County Council, and the Highlands and Islands Development Board have agreed, in the course of previous meetings to each bear  $33\frac{1}{3}\%$  of the total costs of equipping and bringing Dornoch Airstrip up to the standard required for a 'J' Licence.
2. These standards were laid down in a letter of 22nd March, 1971, a copy of which is enclosed for information.
3. Further additional works have been suggested as being desirable to the functioning of the airstrip. Some of these items were suggested as being suitable subjects for an OPMAC exercise.

At the moment, there seems little prospect of the Military Authorities having personnel available for these tasks until late 1972. In view of this, I would suggest that the constituent bodies interested in this development should now proceed as early as possible, to have the necessary works completed and the airstrip licensed. The estimated costs are now as follows (updated from 1969).

- |  |          |                                       |
|--|----------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. *Fire-fighting equipment - 3/4 gallon foam engine, refills and trailer .....  | £ 435 40 |                                       |
| 2. *Personnel equipment, safety helmets, grab hooks, protective clothing, medical dressings .....                                    | 350 00   |                                       |
| 3. *Four wheel drive vehicle suitable for above trailer and foam engine (Ex W.D. Landrover) - estimate .....                         | 400 00   |                                       |
| 4. *Threshold markers .....  | 40 00    |                                       |
| <i>now included</i> X 5. Telephone Coin Box .....  | 35 00    | (estimate) - omit, already installed. |
| 6. Stock-proof fence for aircraft parking area .....   | 275 00   |                                       |
| 7. Open-ended building .....   | 950 00   | - omit, not required for J Licence.   |
| 8. *Levelling and rolling site .....   | 300 00   |                                       |
| <i>included</i> 9. Laying metalled access road from the end of the existing tarmac road to the airstrip area - 500 yds x 12'0" ..... | 750 00   | - omit, not required for J Licence.   |

Items marked \* are obligatory for a 'J' Licence.

These estimates show appreciable increases since first set out in 1969. It can be expected that further delays will result in greater increases.

The/

The reservations concerning the worth of the expenditure above estimated in relation to the traffic potentially attracted by the licensing of the airstrip still obtain. The interested authorities may wish to consider restricting their intentions, as suggested in the letter of 22nd March, 1971, to a bare minimum without seeking a 'J' licence.

Planning and Development  
Department,  
DORNOCH.  
30th September, 1971.

John J. McMillan, County Planning Officer.  
John N. M. Green, County Development Officer.

Our Ref: 5B

20th December, 1971

J.J. McMillan, Esq.,  
County Planning Officer,  
County Offices,  
DORNOCH.

Dear Mr. Macmillan,

Dornoch Air-Strip - Fire Fighting Clothing

I refer to my letter of 9th November, 1971 and your subsequent telephone communications regarding the purchase of clothing etc., for use by personnel engaged on fire fighting at the Air-Strip.

I understand that you have already received the necessary information for Mr. H.M. Morrison. The other person to be engaged on fire-fighting duties will be Mr. A. Robichaud and his measurements are as follows:-

Hat - 7½      Gloves - large      Shoes - 7½

Chest - 40 ins.      Waist - 36 ins.      Leg (inside) 27½ ins.

I trust this is all the information you require.

Yours faithfully,



Town Clerk.