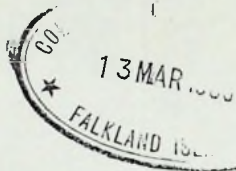


1482 | II

Pest Houlage

Hon. R. H. D. Manders Esq.,
Colonial Secretary,
Stanley.

162
STANLEY
11th. March 1962.



Your Ref. 1482/II

Dear Sir,

162 I have received your letter of today's date and note what you write.

With regard to the formation of a peat haulage Committee and your request for my services thereon I am pleased to say that I shall be glad to be of any service to you that you may require in this capacity.

I thank you for your confidence in me and shall be glad to hear further from you in the near future on this matter

Yours faithfully,

F. Whitney

(F. Whitney.)

11th March,

63.

Sir,

I am directed to inform you that concern is again expressed with regard to the problems of peat haulage and it would be greatly appreciated if you would consent to become a member of a Committee which it is proposed to appoint to report on the present situation and to advise on a future policy which may provide some solution to the problem.

2. Other persons being invited to become members are the Government Peat Officer, the Chairman Stanley Town Council, Mr. R. W. Hills and Mr. F. Whitney, with the Colonial Treasurer acting as Chairman.

3. Since the matter is somewhat urgent I should be pleased to receive your reply not later than Friday, 15th March.

I am,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,

(Sgd.) R. H. D. Manders

COLONIAL SECRETARY.

The Superintendent,
Public Works Department,
STANLEY.

NLE/TB.

Mr. D. L. Browning,
STANLEY. *Reply at 163*

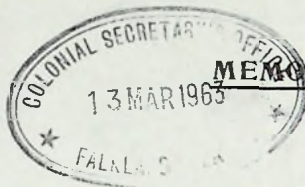
Reply at 164
Mr. R. W. Hills,
STANLEY.

The Chairman Town Council, *Reply at 164*
STANLEY.

Mr. F. Whitney,
STANLEY. *Reply at 162*

No. _____

It is requested that in any reference to this memorandum the above number and date should be quoted.



MEMORANDUM

13th March, 1963.

From: Superintendent of Works,
P.W.D.

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

To: The Honourable,
The Colonial Secretary,
STANLEY.

SUBJECT :-

I and the Peat Officer consent to become members of a committee to discuss peat haulage.


R. P. Pulton.
Supt. of Works.

Ru. 16363

164

Jfc

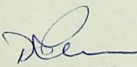
Pl. note on file that ^{Mr Hills} ~~Mr. Hill~~ & Chairman T/C have both agreed to serve on Pest Haulage Committee. Chairman T/C would be free to attend at any time next week but is pretty well committed after Rat.

 15.3.63

165

ACS

All agree.




15.3.63

166

Hon C.T.

Accordingly Jfc.

 15/3/63

167

H.C.S.

Report attached,

L.C.

2.4.63



Stanley,
Falkland Islands.

1st April, 1963.

Sir,

161
future In accordance with the request contained in your letter 1482/11 of 11th March, 1963, the Committee appointed to consider the problems of peat haulage, to report on the present situation and to advise on a ~~future~~ policy met on the afternoon of Wednesday, 20th March and again on Saturday, 30th March.

Surveying the present position the Committee agreed that there was still a considerable amount of peat on the hill awaiting homeward transport and that there were doubts whether the regular contractors (all of them operating on a part time basis) would be able to handle it before the tracks became too soft. They remarked that the season had been reasonably good and that considerable quantities of peat had been transported by small trailers drawn by jeeps or Land Rovers - a method not previously used to any great extent.

The Superintendent of Works explained that last year the Public Works Department had transported peat for 28 people and that so far this season he had had only a few requests. It was the opinion of the Committee that there would again be the need for Government assistance unless the season proved to be of exceptional dryness well beyond the usual deadline.

Looking towards the future most of the Committee were pessimistic. They pointed out the rather precarious condition of most of the vehicles engaged on peat haulage and expressed the view that some, at least, had just about carried their last load. Next year, they said, would see fewer vehicles engaged on this work and this trend would continue. More people might bring in their peat with small trailers but the tendency would be for Government's annual assistance to steadily increase until the greater part of public haulage fell to the lot of the Public Works Department.

The Committee felt that to depend on part time haulers was inadvisable mainly because they must always have played-out second hand vehicles (the capital required for a new one would not be a reasonable investment when used only part time) and that the ideal solution to the problem would be to have three or four full time contractors. Two problems likely to influence would-be fulltime contractors were :

1. The lack of capital to purchase new vehicles.
2. The difficulty of obtaining work for themselves and their assistants during the winter months.

The Committee were assured that Government would view very favourably any application for loans with which to purchase new vehicles. Winter work was a much more difficult matter. The Superintendent of Works explained that his Department - Government's largest employer of labour - usually found itself overstaffed during the winter and would not particularly welcome additional men during this period. The Committee in general were of the opinion that careful planning, especially of projects related to peat and peat tracks, might enable those men to be given suitable employment (not necessarily work for their vehicles) during the winter. They felt that in view of the importance to the community of an adequate peat hauling service Government should do all

it could to assist the men if they were unemployed during the winter. If the alternative of a Government operated peat hauling service had to be resorted to the problems of winter work would still arise and the Committee felt that there must be some suitable answer.

Reference was made to the recently advertised concessionary freight rates on cars doing the double journey Falklands/U.K./Falklands and the Committee wondered whether it would be possible to introduce a specially reduced (or subsidised) freight rate for lorries and trailers being imported into the Colony. This might be a means of encouraging people to undertake the transporting of peat.

Finally the question of tracks to the main deposits of peat was discussed and it was agreed that there should be annual programmes, however small, of extending and improving the tracks. Several members referred to the intelligent use of ashes in this respect and contended that all ash should be spread on the common (free of rubbish of course) as a means of improving the going for peat lorries. This, they said, could be a part answer to the winter employment problem.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

L. Lawrence

Chairman.

15

The Honourable,
The Colonial Secretary,
STANLEY.

Given to the go on to
Jend to Ec Co
* to be submitted to the
for 4/4/63.

Stanley PC

Stanley,
Falkland Islands.

1st April, 1963.

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If/...

- 2 -

If the alternative of a Government operated peat hauling service had to be resorted to the problems of winter work would still arise and the Committee felt that there must be some suitable answer.

Reference was made to the recently advertised concessionary freight rates on cars doing the double journey Falklands/United Kingdom/Falklands and the Committee wondered whether it would be possible to introduce a specially reduced (or subsidised) freight rate for lorries and trailers being imported into the Colony. This might be a means of encouraging people to undertake the transporting of peat.

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I am,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,

(Sgd) L. Gleadell

CHAIRMAN

The Honourable
The Colonial Secretary,
STANLEY.

LG/LH

*S/c Please circulate main
comp. slips to all members
of Ex Co.*

1-6-63

A.C.S.

Circulated to members today.

4/6/63

KIV 170

H.C.S.

In the report of the Chairman of the Committee appointed to consider the problems of peat haulage, the following statement appears:

"The Superintendent of Works explained that his department - Government's largest employer of labour - usually found itself overstaffed during the winter and would not particularly welcome additional men during this period."

We have recently been considering that we might have to import ordinary labourers, and this statement of S.P.W. makes nonsense of such a policy. We cannot hope to import men for the summer only. Winters here are not extremely severe and on occasions can be mild, as was the case last year. Presumably there are outside jobs which can be done during the winter. If a few extra men cannot be employed during the winter, as this report suggests, we certainly cannot consider importing men from Britain or from Chile.

2. Members of Council will no doubt pick up this statement by the S.P.W. and Government will come under fire. We must be quite clear on this position, and I should be grateful if you would go into it with Mr. Picton.

April 10, 1963.

BA

171

Discussed with S.P.W. & H.C.S. & various briefings
to H.C.S.

K. W. for E.C. meeting

20/4/63

BW 30.5.63 E.C.

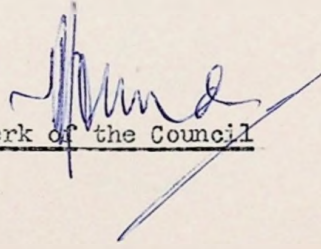
EXTRACT FROM MINUTES OF MEETING NO. 2/63 OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

HELD ON THE 28TH 29TH 30TH & 31ST MAY, 1963

1482/II

11. PEAT HAULAGE

It was resolved that consideration should be deferred on the Report of the Committee appointed to enquire into the difficulties of peat haulage on Stanley Common and that meanwhile copies should be circulated to Honourable Members for information.


Clerk of the Council

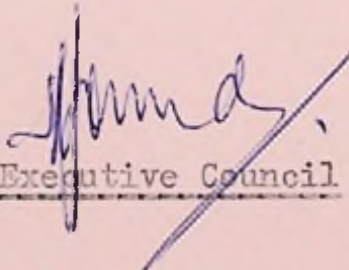
LH

~~BU Exco. 14.6.63~~
BU Exco. 15¹¹/63

Extract from Executive Council Minutes of Meeting No. 4/63 held on
the 20th, 21st & 22nd November, 1963

PEAT HAULAGE

It was observed that with the advent of so many vehicles with trailer attachments, the problem of peat haulage did not appear to be so acute.


Clerk of the Executive Council





Colonial Secretary
Stanley



William Blackley
Brandon Rd
Stanley

Dear Sir

2/4/05

Would be most grateful
if Government could, I will
my part for me

Thank you

Yours respectfully
Blackley.

He says he cannot get it home. His
carter Clifton cannot do it, Mission is
fully occupied & Whiteroy is off the road at
present.

WJ

7 Observations

Reply at 178.

Li

BH 15.4.60

Bu 22.4.60

Stanley.

14th April 1965.

177

Colonial Secretary,
Stanley.



C/f w
hee

Dear Sir,

as I have this summer only been able to get three loads of peat to my shed, would you consider giving permission for me to buy peat from

Government if I am unable to bring the balance of 100 yards from the bog.

Yours sincerely,

D. Bridgen.

Reply at 178.

KIV 176

22nd April,

65

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your letter about peat haulage. I
am very sorry to say that Government is at present unable
to assist you.

Yours faithfully,

(W.H. THOMPSON)

COLONIAL SECRETARY

176
Mr. W. Blackley,
STANLEY.

177
Mr. D. Bridgen,
STANLEY.

LS

PAG

Port Stanley,

29th November 1970.



To The Hon. Colonial Secretary,
Port Stanley.

Dear Sir,

We have for several years been engaged in the business of peat hauling and wish to enquire if Government can offer us any protection from what we consider unfair competition.

The competition we refer to is that at present being carried out by the Royal Marines who we believe are able to offer the service at a reduced price owing to the fact that they are permitted to use service vehicles and possibly other side benefits. In addition they are already in receipt of a fair income and consequently the fee charged for any additional work they undertake need not be related to current rates for the service.

We would add that considerable capital has been sunk in acquiring our business and the high maintenance costs of the vehicles together with increased petrol costs makes it impossible to reduce our charges and compete with this form of competition.

Trusting to receive your early reply

We remain,

Yours faithfully,

Ack'd.

[Handwritten signature]

1.12.70.

W. Whitney
H. Stewart
H. Jennings
J. Morrison

Y.G.

§ 179 we discussed.

I have since discussed with Capt. Leicester of the Royal Marines who has investigated the claim & finds that his men are helping two chanky cases in this manner but they also have two other clients who cd. not be classified in the same category.

He approves the position & has ~~issued~~ issued instructions for work to cease in the latter two cases & work if necessary withdrawn from the charitable exercise.

I explained that I did not wish to see this & after further discussion with Mr. Whiting, the first signatory of § 179, it was agreed that they did not oppose these cases.

The complainants are happy with the arrangement & all seems well.

J. 4.12.7.

A.C.S. Thank you. I am glad to see the matter satisfactorily settled since, as I mentioned in our discussion, I do not want to discourage philanthropic activity: equally I cannot countenance unfair competition.

J. 4/12

Ra

1482/5

Peat Haulage.

off 11/3/63

Bu 16/3/63.

off 16/3/63.

c/T 15/3/63.

off 2/4/63.

Bu. 30/5/63.

off 27/5/63

Bu. 1/9/63.

off. 1/9/63

Bu 15/10/63

off 15/10/63

Bu 15/11/63

off 15/11/63

C/T 29.1.65

off 8/4/63

Bu 16/4/65

off 16/4/65

Bu 22/7/65

off 22/7/65

off 4-12-70.