RURAL ECONOMY AND CONNECTIVITY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

24th Meeting, 2018 (Session 5)

Wednesday 26 September 2018

Present:

Peter Chapman  John Finnie
Jamie Greene   Richard Lyle
John Mason     Edward Mountain (Convener)
Gail Ross (Deputy Convener)  Mike Rumbles
Colin Smyth  Stewart Stevenson
Maureen Watt

The meeting opened at 9.00 am.

1. **Salmon farming in Scotland (in private):** The Committee considered a draft report.

2. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee agreed (by division: For 10, Against 1) to take item 4 in private.

3. **Pre-Budget Scrutiny:** The Committee took evidence as part of its Pre-Budget Scrutiny from—

   Robbie Drummond, Managing Director, and David McGibbon, Chairman, CalMac Ferries Limited;

   Kevin Hobbs, Chief Executive Officer, and Jim Anderson, Director of Vessels, Caledonian Maritime Assets;

   Angus Campbell, Chair, CalMac Community Board;

   Ranald Robertson, Partnership Director, Highland and Islands Transport Partnership;

   Roy Pedersen, Author and Consultant;
Rob McKinnon, Chief Executive, Outer Hebrides Tourism.

Stewart Stevenson declared an interest as Honorary Vice President of the Scottish Association for Public Transport.

John Finnie declared an interest as a member of the Scottish Parliament's Cross Party Group on Rail and the National Union of Rail, Maritime and Transport Workers (RMT) Parliamentary Group. He also declared he was a personal friend of Roy Pederson who was due to give evidence during this session.

4. **Work programme (in private)**: The Committee reviewed its work programme.

The meeting closed at 12.36 pm.

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