



Firth of Clyde Forum Core Group Meeting

Thursday 7th December 2006

Royal Northern and Clyde Yacht Club, Rhu

Agenda

		Time	Lead
1	Welcome and Apologies	10:00	Chris Nevin (CN)
2	Minutes from last meeting and matters arising	10:05	CN
3	Project Officer Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conference feedback (two way feedback) • Membership and subscription charging update • Work planning update • Business plan and terms of reference 	10:15	Claire Pescod (CP) /All
4	Conference workshops feedback and AGMACS Update	10:45	Isabel Glasgow (IG)
5	Future Events/Work <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beach spring clean event • Climate change information event • Aquaculture workshop/training event • MPA study paper 	11:05	CP
6	Coastal and Marine National Park Consultation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion on consultation submission. 	11:35	All
7	ERD Marine Environment Inquiry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion on written and oral evidence submission. 	11:55	All
8	Update from Core Group members	12:15	All
9	Any other business	12:45	All
10	Next meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set date for August/September meeting. 	12:50	All
11	Continuation of Chair	12:55	CN/All
12	Lunch	13:05	All



Firth of Clyde Forum
Minutes of Core Group Meeting
Thursday 7th December 2006
The Royal and Northern Clyde Yacht Club, Rhu

Present

Isabel Glasgow (IG) (Chair)
Claire Pescod (CP) (FoCF Project Officer)
John Eddie Donnelly (JED) (SSMEI Project Officer)
Kate Thompson (KT) (SSMEI Project Assistant)
Danielle Casey (DC) (SNH, Secretary)
Robin Edgar (RE) (Glasgow and Clyde Valley Structure Plan Joint Committee)
Zoe Clelland (ZC) (RSPB)
Ethel-May Abel (EMA) (Glasgow City Council)
David Ross (DR) (SEPA)
Alistair Sinclair (AS) (Scottish Creelers And Divers)
Kirsten MacDonald (KMacD) (Scottish Enterprise)
Patrick Stewart (PS) (Clyde Fishermen's Association)
Ron Bailey (RB) (Clydeport)
Jason Combes (JC) (Clyde Fisheries Development Project)

Apologies received from:

Chris Nevin (SNH, Chair of FoCF Core Group)
Ian Johnson (Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan)
Mike Balmforth (British Marine Industries Federation Scotland)
Paul Bancks (The Crown Estate)
Rhona Fairgrieve (RF) (Scottish Coastal Forum)
John Taylor (The Assurance Department, HM Naval Base)
Audrey Martin (Argyll and Bute Council)
Kevin Williams (Argyll and Bute Council)

ITEM 1: Welcome And Apologies

IG particularly welcomed Kirsteen Macdonald to the meeting as the new Scottish Enterprise representative on the FoCF Core Group.

IG thanked those involved in organising the conference. It was successful, the venue was a plus point and it attracted a large number of people from a wide audience base.

ITEM 2: Minutes, Action Points And Matters Arising

2.1 Minutes

Page 1 – EMA not listed. Chris Nevin should be listed as Chair of core group rather than Vice Chair of FoCF.

Page 4 – RF asked (in an email prior to the Core Group meeting) that the minutes be altered to reflect that 'Executive financial commitment to all the coastal partnerships would be roughly comparable to **one-tenth** of the proposed financial contribution to the yet to be established Marine and Coastal National Park'.

Page 6 – RE asked for minutes to reflect (in members update) that a team of people were involved with drafting the Structure Plan and not just him.

EMA stated that the application for a sustainable village was for the Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre and asked for addition of web address www.riverclydemap.com.

2.2 Action Points from August meeting

Action point August 06 1 – EMA to send Chris Nevin (after JM's departure) details on the study and the planned workshops. Passed to CP.

Completed

Action point August 06 2 - JM to send the Clyde Coast framework consultants and Scottish Enterprise details of the FoCF, its work, membership scheme etc. Passed to CP.

Completed

Scottish Enterprise now represented on the Core Group by Kirsteen Macdonald. Discussions ongoing about further future work with Scottish Enterprise.

Action point August 06 3 - FoCF to invite Clyde Waterfront to make a presentation on their work on marine developments. Passed to CP.

Ongoing

Clyde Waterfront information and web link added to the FoCF website (and vice versa). They will be approached about possible future presentations.

Action point August 06 4 - All to tease out the overlaps between the Clyde Pilot Project and the FoCF Business Plan projects in order to rationalise Business Plan, and forward comments to Chris Nevin at CLYDEFORUM@snh.gov.uk by 15th April 2006. CP and members to look at Business Plan (and ToR)

Ongoing

No comments received, BP and ToR to be presented at next core group meeting for sign off.

Action point August 06 5 - Julia MacPherson to send Patrick Stewart draft marine protected areas study specification for comments. CP to circulate this round Core Group.

Completed

CP to circulate restructured draft brief in time for next core group meeting.

Action point August 06 6 - Forum Core Group members to send any further comments on ToR to Chris Nevin at CLYDEFORUM@snh.gov.uk by 15th April. CP to pick this up.

Completed

Action point August 06 5 - CP to think of ways to promote FoCF and encourage uptake of membership

Ongoing

Promotion of membership done through discounted conference places for members, membership promoted on website. New membership form has been designed and was included in conference delegate packs, sent to all previous FoCF members by post and now easily downloadable from the website.

2.3 Matters Arising

None.

ITEM 3: Project Officer Update

3.1 Conference and Membership Scheme Update

CP thanked core group members for publicising the conference. Feedback was good. Comments on the feedback forms were positive; workshops were helpful. Some thought the screen was too low and it was difficult for those sitting down at the back of the room to see the bottom of the presentations. One problem was the Minister pulling out of the event and a speaker dropping out at the last minute but thanks sent to the Executive for the stand-in. A profit was made after accounting for all on the day costs, pre-conference speakers dinner and travel costs. Seventy-one delegates attended – 23 public body/private company non-members; 21 public body/private company members; 19 NGO/voluntary body members; 1 NGO/voluntary body non-member; and 7 individual members. Presentations will be on FoCF website by end of week beginning 11th December (completed).

The 3-tier pricing system encouraged uptake of membership with 40 members at present – 16 individual; 12 NGOs; 11 public body/private company; and 1 non-paying.

Other comments from Core Group about the Annual Conference:

- time was saved by not feeding back to whole group what was discussed at break-out session. (DR)
- it was good to have more opportunity for discussion rather than just listen to presentations. (RE)
- there was a feeling of covering old (policy) ground. (ZC)
- what was the outcome? Do delegates see Marine Spatial Planning as a good idea? Some remain to be convinced. (PS)
- discussion of presentations during CP's workshops indicated general agreement that MSP is a good idea and the benefits from MSP described in the presentations were considered correct. (CP)

- it was concluded from the workshops (and the AGMACS MSP workshop) that there is no real knowledge of what MSP involves. Stakeholders should be made aware of and encouraged to take part in MSP overall. It was suggested that a session on Local Marine Spatial Planning should be held for stakeholders.
- a joint Scottish Executive and SSMEI logo was suggested. (IG)
- the Maritime and Coastguard Agency should have been there (RB), along with more people from the SE.
- The Local Clyde MS Plan should be tested in a workshop in September next year. (JED)
- we should hold an interim workshop that is more focused for people who do not have day-to-day involvement with MSP. (PS)
- a write-up of the conference is being compiled, it will be available on the website and in the conference proceeding in the New Year. (JED/CP) *The summary report is now available on the website_CP*
- a conference edition of Clyde Breakers is due out in early 2007. (CP)

Many thanks to Michelle McKenna of Glasgow and Clyde Valley Structure Plan Joint Committee for assistance with invoicing delegates and members. Invoices will be issued from Renfrewshire Council on behalf of GCVSPJC, although the FoCF will be referenced in the invoice text.

3.2 Work Planning Update

Business Plan and Terms of Reference

- No further comments on either have been received from Core Group. BP and ToR to be presented at next core group meeting for sign off.

Information Event

- suggestions for information event topics after the climate change event were asked for – suggestions to be emailed to CP.
- CP (after discussions with CN) suggested that an aquaculture workshop could be held as an information event. It would/could look at changes in the planning of fish farms and statutory consultees for fishfarms etc. It would be by invite only, inviting FoCF members and relevant individuals – again trying to promote the benefits of Forum membership. Suggestions for speakers requested – emails to CP.
- suggested venues for climate change information event - James Watt College, Clydebank, Braehead, Largs Sailing Club, Rothesay Winter Gardens.

Spring Beach Clean-Up

- looking at a national campaign with press to be co-ordinated by Scottish Coastal Forum with local coastal partnerships organising and publicising the clean-up in their own areas. All LCPs will try to hold a clean up in the same week to maximise publicity.
- If possible the Beach Clean CD Rom will be used which fits into the curriculum.
- In discussions with Keep Scotland Beautiful about the Spring Clean it was determined that contact with schools will be directed through the KSB schools co-ordinator to try to maximise interest and uptake.
- Eco-Schools will be targeted, a joint letter will be sent from the FoCF and KSB.
- to encourage uptake by schools/groups who do not have a beach in their area the Spring Clean will include 'black spot cleans' as well as beach cleans. Kits

can be obtained from Keep Scotland Beautiful and there is currently money in the budget for a prize.

- The cleans will use the Marine Conservation Society's (MCS) survey methods so that the information collected will be added to the national database so that it can be of use scientifically through the MCS and their work. The MCS adopt a beach scheme will also be promoted.
- The Spring Clean could also target LA rangers if schools are unable to fit it into their timetable.
- senior eco-schools could take part in climate change conference. (IG)
- example given of a project for which the Argyll & Bute Trust paid ½ the cost and the local authority paid the other half by supplying equipment. (PS)
- the Spring Clean could become an annual event to encourage continued interest and commitment – this will depend on resources and time commitments.

3.3 Funding Update

CP attended the re-launch event of the Scottish Communities Action Research Fund (SCARF). The fund is for community driven projects of up to £5,000 and aims to help communities identify a problem in their area, research possible solutions and then implement the identified best solution. The fund could be of limited use to the Forum, however Forum members could find it very useful for their own specific projects. Details of the fund will be put on the Forum's website directing interested parties to the (currently unadvertised) SCARF website.

Discussions with Scottish Enterprise are ongoing and further meetings will be organised for December 2006 (completed) and early 2007.

ITEM 4: IG Update

4.1 AGMACS – MSP workshop

Graham U'ren gave a presentation much like the one at the MSP conference (paper circulated to the core group). Papers tabled include information papers on the State of the Marine Environment. Feedback from the MSP workshop in November was that it was rambling and disparate. There was, however, general consensus that a system of MSP based on a statutory basis with variable control and at least a 3-tier system should go ahead. It should include a Scottish tier, a regional seas approach based and an ecosystem based approach. There should be a Scottish Marine Management Organisation as well as a UK MMO.

Next meeting is Monday 11th December. Papers will include:

- a joint SEA by 2 consultancy firms and SNH on the effects of tidal technology along the Solway and Pentland Firths; and
- an update on the Marine Bill on which there will now be a White Paper.

On MSP PS said that not everyone wants a Scotland level, preferring a UK/regional/local approach, and that conflict has arisen from sensitivities due to devolution. The Core Group agreed that it is important to have an overall UK approach as with the Water Framework Directive to ensure consistency.

The Core Group would like to see a paper to be tabled by Michael Scott (Marine Biodiversity Working Group) at AGMACS on 11th December on Marine Nature

Conservation Legislation. The Core Group cannot comment until the paper has been seen.

4.2 COAST

The Scottish Executive requested that IG, on behalf of the FoCF, act as an independent chair for discussions between COAST, the Clyde Fishermen's Association, SNH and the Scottish Executive. A meeting with all parties was held in Glasgow in November. The outcome was positive, with agreement that a solution could not be progressed through nature conservation or fisheries legislation and that a voluntary approach could and would be taken forward. All parties are enthusiastic and optimistic about working towards a positive solution. Further meetings will be held in the New Year.

ITEM 5: Future Events/Work

5.1 Marine Protected Areas study

The MPA study draft brief was circulated prior to the Core Group meeting. The brief is in the process of being re-drafted to take into account current policy changes and discussions on costings/time considerations. The re-drafted brief will be circulated before the next Core Group meeting for discussions at the meeting. It is to be discussed further with KM to try to secure Scottish Enterprise funding.

ZC and CP emphasised that the paper is to encourage discussion on possible options of MPAs rather than to set out where MPAs should be placed in the Clyde. The paper is generic and further comments are welcome.

5.2 Clyde Area Advisory Group

CP attended the SEPA's CAAG for River Basin Management Planning. A number of Core Group members also attend the CAAG. The Core Group agreed that CP should continue to attend as FoCF representative but also that individual members should attend if they wish. CP to continue to circulate CAAG papers prior to each meeting.

ITEM 6: Coastal And Marine National Park Consultation

The Core Group agreed that their response should include the following comments and queries:

- there is considerable concern that money that could be spent on a network of coastal fora, MSP and a suite of MPAs will instead be spent on one national park;
- cannot comment on powers of the park as there is not enough detail within the consultation;
- based on the Ministers' two additional selection criteria of accessibility and economic benefit to the area, the Clyde is particularly suitable.
- dissatisfied with the whole process; and
- what would the relationship between the Park and MSP be? Where/how do they link up?

There is a link on the Forum's website to the Scottish Exec's consultation and associated papers. CP has a limited number of consultation papers in hard copy, contact her if you would like a set. Once the FoCF response is completed it will be put on the website.

ITEM 7: ERDC Marine Environment Inquiry

IG will jointly represent FoCF and SSMEI Clyde Pilot at the oral evidence session on 24th January. The session will focus on MSP and SSMEI. The deadline for written submissions for oral evidence is 15th January. CP/JED and IG will write a joint paper in response to the inquiry. The Scottish Coastal Forum will also put a paper forward. The local coastal partnerships will pull together a joint response.

There is a link on the Forum's website to the inquiry and papers. Once the FoCF/ response is completed it will be put on the website.

ITEM 8: Update From Core Group Members

DR informed the group that:

- Scotland's Water Framework Directive surveillance and operational monitoring networks for transitional and coastal waters have now been finalised. The network details the where, when, why and how of marine monitoring for the WFD. The monitoring networks will be sent to Scottish Executive in December and EU in March.

RE informed that group that:

- Structure Plan is ongoing. Document will be submitted to Minister around Easter. Will await response subject to the EIP – probably June/July – as there are issues of developing on a contaminated site.
- partnership taking forward the idea of setting up a Green Network. A biodiversity sub-group will be set up to look at retaining biodiversity and the use of a soft approach to waterfront development. One example would be the creation of bird habitat sites.

RB informed the group that:

- Inverclyde bidding for Tall Ship for 2011. Bid to be in by February 2007. £3.5M will be required for it to go forward. Possible site is the Kingston Dock.
- River Festival – 70,000 people attended last year. Planning ongoing.
- no developments on the high-speed craft.
- Exercise Redshank - an oilspill exercise will look at the effects on Redshank and will be held on the 6th and 7th February. Suggested that CP and JED observe. It was noted that if oil comes onto beaches after a spill there is no statutory obligation for a council to clean it up.
- no mention of Marine Bill in Queen's Speech.
- a report on Trust Ports has been published; a review of Municipal Ports in England and Wales is due.

AS informed the group that:

- SCAD are helping Argyll & Bute Council with ICZM on Lochs Fyne and Etive.
- A market has been found in Japan for Paleamon shrimp (£15/kg for frozen shrimp).

- Trials are ongoing with four types of creel at Loch Fyne, Mull, Eyemouth and on the North East coast. Trials will take 6 months.

JC informed that group that:

- Sustainable Supply Chain Project is 6 months through its 12 month sampling programme. Results so far are positive, with low by-catch of cod, retained catch higher than thought and low Nephrops damage.
- Fishermen are struggling with crew and finance. Next CFDP meeting will be held at the end of January 2007.

ZC informed the group that:

- 3 conservation officers covering the Clyde – Glasgow; Inner Clyde; and Ayr and Arran.
- A report is being written on the death of hundreds of guillemots found washed up, probably due to starvation.
- The Arran Wildlife Festival including boat trip, coastal walks etc will be in May 2007 – all please circulate details.

EMA informed the group that:

- M74 to go to tender. Hoping to have contractor onsite by October 2007 and completed by December 2010.
- SPT airport link Bill is approved. SPT should be invited to join forum.
- The City Council has given priority to the repair of 2 quay walls- Pointhouse and Lancefield and Anderston Quay for the development of the New Transport Museum and the proposed Clyde Fastlink respectively. The former is now on site for completion early 2008. The planning application for Lancefield and Anderston is currently being considered.
- The Clyde Arc opened in September 2006.
- The contract for the Broomielaw and Tradeston Quay walls was let to Nuttals. This is to prepare the quayside for the new pedestrian bridge linking Broomielaw with Tradeston.
- Helicopter pad to be relocated.
- Sea Plane looking to base itself next to the Science Centre.
- Council are hoping to deliver new pontoon in 2007. It will be suitable for large tonnage – 200T.
- River users are concerned the Water Framework Directive does not cover human usage of water.

Summary of issue: EMA raised the issue of bacteriological quality in the lower river Clyde and inner Clyde estuary. EMA was concerned that the Glasgow strategic drainage plan was not seeking to deliver improvements in bacteriological water quality which would allow increased recreational use to be made of the river and estuary close to Glasgow city centre. EMA hoped that the Water Framework Directive (WFD) would provide a driver to seek improvements in these water bodies. However, the WFD does not require good bacteriological status to be achieved outside protected areas such as bathing waters or shellfish growing waters, and as such cannot be used to seek bacteriological improvements. A meeting will be convened by CP to progress discussions.

ITEM 9: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

ITEM 10: NEXT MEETING

On the request of the Chair it was agreed to change the date of the next meeting from 28th February to 26th February 2007. CP will check with Ian Johnson to see if it will still be possible to hold the meeting in the Council Chambers in Prestwick. *CP_Ian has since confirmed that this is possible.*

Core group meeting confirmed for 30th May 2007.

September meeting arranged for 3rd September 2007.

ITEM 11: CONTINUATION OF CHAIR

The Core Group agreed that IG should continue as FoCF Chair if possible through SNH. If SNH can not provide a Chair other options need to be investigated.

CLOSE: 13.05

ACTION POINTS

Action point December 06 1 – CP to circulate Fisheries Research Services report on Climate change and Scottish fisheries to core group members.

Action point December 06 2 – EMA to provide details of litter contact at Glasgow City Council.

Action point December 06 3 – CP to circulate paper tabled by Michael Scott at AGMACS on Monday 11th December to core group members.

Action point December 06 4 – CP to draft Coastal and Marine National Park consultation response and circulate round Core Group for comment. A null response will be taken as agreement with the paper.

Action point December 06 5 – Core group members to forward their individual CMNP responses to CP.

Action point December 06 6 – CP to circulate SCF CMNP response paper.

Action point December 06 7 - CP/JED and IG to write response to the ERDC inquiry and circulate round Core Group for comment.

Action point December 06 8 – CP to put both the CMNP and the ERDC responses onto the Forum's website.

Action point December 06 9 – RE to send Green Network Strategy to CP for circulation to core group members.

Action point December 06 10 – RB to secure invite for CP and JED to observe Exercise Redshank.

Action point December 06 11 – ZC to send details of Arran Wildlife Festival 2007 for core group members to promote.

Action point December 06 12 – CP to ask SPT to join FoCF Core Group.

Action point December 06 13 – FoCF to arrange a sub-group with EMA/RE/DR to discuss strategic drainage plan.