



**Agenda for  
Firth of Clyde Forum Core Group Meeting  
Tuesday 25th January 2011,  
Exchange House, 231 George Street, Glasgow.**

		<b>Time</b>	<b>Lead</b>
	Tea and coffee	9:30	
1	<b>Welcome and Apologies</b>	9:45	Isabel Glasgow
2	<b>Minutes and Action Points from last meeting</b>	09:50	IG/All
3	<b>Annual Conference</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Do we want one?</li> <li>➤ Joint conference with other partnerships?</li> <li>➤ Theme - Marine Renewable Energy?</li> </ul>	09:55	IG
4	<b>Morphological Scoping Brief – Update</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Do we want to continue with project?</li> <li>➤ Next step applying for Restoration Funding</li> <li>➤ Do we need a sub-group? Who?</li> </ul>	10:00	Kirstie Dyson
5	<b>Bio-security Plan – Update</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Progress update with Fisheries Trust</li> <li>➤ Funding update</li> <li>➤ Do we need a sub-group? Who?</li> <li>➤ External groups involved?</li> </ul>	10:45	KD
	Tea/Coffee	11:30	
6	<b>Pressures on benthic habitats and species – Update</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Update from SNH</li> <li>➤ Do we want to continue with this?</li> </ul>	11:45	KD
7	<b>Landscape/ seascape project brief</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Do we need a subgroup to thrash out details for project brief?</li> <li>➤ Who should the subgroup be?</li> </ul>	12:30	KD
8	<b>Update from Core Group members</b>	13:15	All
9	<b>Any Other Business</b>	13:20	All
10	<b>Future Meeting Dates</b>	13:25	All
	Close and lunch	13:30	

**Minutes**  
**Firth of Clyde Forum Core Group Meeting**  
**25th January 2011**  
**Exchange House, 231 George Street, Glasgow**

**PRESENT**

Isabel Glasgow (IG) FoCF Chair  
 Kirstie Dyson (KD) FoCF Project Manager  
 Ian Bray (IB) SNH  
 Zoe Clelland (ZC) RSPB  
 Roger Horne (RH) Clydeport  
 John Esslemont (JE) Ayrshire Joint  
 Structure Plan  
 Paul Bancks (PB) The Crown Estate  
 Rhona Fairgrieve (RF) Scottish Coastal  
 Forum  
 Sarah Brown (SB) The Green Blue  
 Phillip Cowie (PC) UMBSM  
 Ethel-May Abel (EMA) GCC  
 Ken Clark (KC) HMNB Clyde  
 Carmel Rowlands (CR) LLTNP  
 Mark Steward (MS) A&BC  
 Mike Balmforth (MB) British Marine  
 Federation  
 Rebecca Dean (RD) Scottish Salmon  
 Company

**APOLOGIES**

Archie MacFarlane (AMacF) Clyde  
 Fishermen's Association  
 Michelle Carroll (MC) GCVSPJC

**ITEM 1 – Welcome and apologies**

IG thanked EMA and Glasgow City Council (GCC) for the use of the room.

Marine Scotland has verbally assured that LCF will get roughly the same funding in 2011/12 as last year. This needs to be put in writing so contracts can be sent to Fiona Mills (FM) and KD who will both work part-time as project managers.

**ITEM 2 – Minutes and action points from last meeting**

Corrections to minutes from previous meeting

Under Item 8

RF – change 'ides' to 'idea'

PB – remove 'Friend of'

ZC – add text to reflect that bird nest boxes will be incorporated into the development at James Watt dock. Replace 'development' with 'habitat management'.

Page numbers to be added.

<b>AP 4/08 4</b>	RF and KD to discuss possibility of Oil and Gas funding for seascape survey.	<b>KD/RF</b>	On Hold
<b>AP 4/08 5</b>	Contact Hebridean Seaweed Company for an article for the next addition of Clydebreakers	<b>KD</b>	Discharged
<b>AP 16/11 1</b>	Contact Cathy Tilbrook about ENV 1 Data collection and recording strategy	<b>KD/IB</b>	On going
<b>AP 16/11 2</b>	Circulate draft Seascape/Landscape project brief	<b>KD</b>	Discharged

	(ENV 10) when it is ready. Deadline for comments should be 2 weeks from circulation.		
<b>AP 16/11 3</b>	Contact KIMO regarding their initiative on disposal facilities for marine litter collected by fishermen. Do they have a process whereby litter is recorded along with the possible source?	<b>KD</b>	Discharged
<b>AP 16/11 4</b>	Get a snapshot of the status quo on litter collection with local authorities	<b>KD</b>	Discharged
<b>AP 16/11 5</b>	Obtain a copy of the Argyll & Bute Shoreline Protection Plan and forward to KD	<b>MS</b>	Carried forward
<b>AP 16/11 6</b>	Review the distribution list for Clyde breakers and contact different designers for ideas on a new layout	<b>KD</b>	Discharged
<b>AP 16/11 7</b>	Create a webpage with links to the member's educational material, all members to provide KD with links to their organisations education web pages.	<b>KD/ALL</b>	Ongoing

### **ITEM 3 – Annual Conference**

The decision to not hold an annual conference in 2010 was made due to the reduced level of staffing. This decision was made reluctantly given the Forum's role in dissemination of information to the wider public. The group has now decided that a workshop-style event focusing on biosecurity is worth exploring. The aim is to hold the event in late October/November. A small group consisting of SB, RF, CR and PC will take this forward.

### **ITEM 4 – Morphological Scoping Brief – Update**

KD has been in discussion with Katriona Lundberg of SEPA regarding funding. Money may be available. If less than £10k is required, the application can be made anytime. If more than £10k, the deadline is in the summer – exact date tbc.

This project will provide useful data for marine planning but, if there is no money available from SEPA, the project will not go ahead as Marine Scotland has other priorities. It is a large project which will need to be phased properly. The core group's partners could help with mapping and possibly funding – East Ayrshire Council, SNH, SEPA. The AAG meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> May could be a good opportunity to discuss this further with SEPA. They may want a figure for match-funding purposes. Marine Scotland, however, will not allow core funding to be used against match-funding.

The overall feeling was that the group wanted to this work to be done. They agreed that it should focus on a small area and for that area to be mapped thoroughly. The exact area cannot be agreed until the extent of funding is known. Once this is known, KD/FM can discuss possible areas with Julia MacPherson of SEPA. EMA will present the project brief to the group working on the GCC Metropolitan Drainage Plan for advice.

The 1<sup>st</sup> 8 features on the list are not in the Clyde area; Easdale Island is in the Firth of Lorn.

### **ITEM 5 – Biosecurity Plan – Update**

KD has contacted Chris Horril, RAFTS Biosecurity Planning Project Officer. He is keen to progress this project and has submitted an application to SNH for funding on behalf of the Forum. SNH, however, is not likely to fund this work in the Clyde as SNH funding in kind already equates to around £7k. Any further funding would be double-funding. Should funding be received from somewhere, a sub-group will need to be set up. KD will speak to groups outwith the Forum; the sub-group does not have to be core group members only.

Deliverables from this project should include outline of processes for disseminating information, raising awareness and implementing the action plan.

The Argyll & Bute Invasive Species Forum is supported by the Argyll & Bute Local Biodiversity Partnership. The Clyde Forum should contact them for any information that may be useful. A RSPB specialist is working on this at the national scale. Someone from the Scottish Salmon Company could provide practical and specialist advice if required.

- KD to set up biosecurity plan sub-group and arrange an initial meeting. This meeting will consider how the work of this sub-group could tie in with the proposed biosecurity event.

#### **ITEM 6 – Pressures on benthic habitats and species – Update**

There is no obvious source of funding (from SEPA) for this work at the moment. The brief was sent to SNH for comments. Their response stated there are many strands to this project and a lot of information will need to be gathered, relating to:

- Status of Clyde Nephrops Marine Conservation Stewardship application
- Establishment of MPA network
- Conservation of relevant priority marine features
- Proposal for restriction of mobile gear
- Bill Turrell's work of assessing habitats (on parliamentary request)

The research method, as currently postulated, is not scientifically robust and therefore needs to be improved. The marine safety implications of the possible 300-500 more creels should be borne in mind when doing this work.

- KD to set up a meeting with those involved in the work listed above to establish the state of play. COAST to be included in this meeting.

#### **ITEM 7 – Landscape/seascape project brief**

Kryssia Campbell, SNH, helped write the project brief. Local authorities are very interested in this work and meetings are currently being set up to take it forward. Kryssia will be available to assist at these meetings. Sub-group members will include MB, RD (currently working on Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) guidance with SNH) and MS. CR will speak to her landscape colleague in LLTNP.

- KD to send out a Doodle link to arrange the first meeting.
- KD to amend and recirculate the project brief.
- IG to forward to KD the Eurosite report on seascape.

#### Litter Project

KD has received data from most local authorities and MCS. She is awaiting more information from KIMO before collating all the information into a report. Marine Scotland has asked the Macaulay Institute and SAMS to look at SG's Marine Litter Strategy. This is in development and a workshop is being held on 18 Feb. IG is attending the workshop.

#### **ITEM 8 – Update for core group members**

KC

- Reports a higher usage of facilities in the Clyde due to an increase in number of submarines and small ships.
- The MOD is facing budget cuts but commitment to groups such as the Forum will remain.

RH

- Clydeport is busy with coal imports and movement of windfarm components.
- Container business is busier than ever.
- Cruise schedule is bigger than ever.
- Possibility of Clydeport hydrographer working with SEPA to improve water quality and habitat by adding features.

#### MB

- The Scottish Boating Alliance (SBA) is suffering from consultation overload – 20-30 ongoing local schemes that require a response.
- National consultations include the Marine Strategy and the proposed reorganisation of the MCA. The latter requires responses from individual group members; the consultation document has been released.
- Funding for economic data research on recreational boating is not forthcoming. Crown Estate have said they will help.
- SBA will hold a parliamentary reception once the new Government is in place.
- The cross-party group on recreational boating and marine tourism meets once every ¼. The group is chaired by Stuart McMillan MSP. KC chairs the sub-committee looking at the designation of leisure anchorage to protect against encroachment.

#### RD

- SSC is pushing forward with new development in the Clyde
- Pre-application of proposal will be available to the core group soon.

#### MS

- Finalising the Loch Etive plan. Awaiting outcome of discussion on how to continue with ICZM. Main Issues Report will be out for consultation in March. It will prioritise for future investment and mitigation against impacts of climate change. This will inform the 2012 LDP

#### CR

- Provided a response to the draft spatial plan but now getting more involved.
- Working on LDP.
- Will draft the new NP Plan this year.
- Working on initiatives looking at visitor management in high pressure areas.

#### JE

- Felt the meetings with 2 Ayrshire councils were positive.

#### RF

- Meeting with 6 of the 7 chairs of coastal partnerships to discuss ICZM.
- David Palmer has verbally assured RF that Marine Scotland will be able to provide support at the same level as last year. Marine Scotland's budget, however, has not yet been fixed. Coast Hebrides, who don't currently receive funding, may apply for some in 2011/12.
- Business Plans are required from each partnership.
- The pre-consultation draft of the National Marine Plan is due in mid March.
- Anne Donald is replacing David Palmer.

#### PB

- Moorings have been removed. They are being held in the yard at Greenock until 26 June.
- 2011 is the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Clyde Moorings Committee. There will be a retrospective look at the committee's work to celebrate the occasion. Yachting Life will publish a piece on this and it should be considered as a possible article for Clydebreakers.

#### SB

- Will be speaking to audiences of around 800 on recreational boating, tourism, etc.
- Non-native species program is looking at pathway management in relation to sea-squirrels. Eradication of the species will not take place.
- Working on anti-fouling in inland waterways.

#### PC

- Trying to get published papers on plastic pollution in the Clyde.

- Some is being done to improve information available to local authorities of beach cleaning practices and the impacts
- The station now runs a 1 week coastal management course
  - PC/Philip Smith to send information on the 1 week coastal management course to KD.

#### IB

- MPA surveys should be complete by spring. These will give a clearer picture of biodiversity in the Clyde.
- Analysis is being carried out on the impacts of activities of sensitive species. This information will feed into marine planning.
- SNH restructuring has resulted in a reduction in the number of operational areas from 11 to 7. The 3 areas around the Clyde are Argyll & the Outer Hebrides, Strathclyde & Ayrshire and Forth.

#### IG

- Had a productive meeting with the LCP chairs.
- Her attendance at the Marine Strategy Forum has changed slightly from just representing the Clyde Forum to include SSMEI and LCP, depending on the topic.
- Attended the Coastal Futures conference in London.

#### Action Points

<b>AP 16/11 1</b>	Contact Cathy Tilbrook about ENV 1 Data collection and recording strategy	<b>KD/IB</b>
<b>AP 16/11 5</b>	Obtain a copy of the Argyll & Bute Shoreline Protection Plan and forward to KD	<b>MS</b>
<b>AP 16/11 7</b>	Create a webpage with links to the member's educational material, all members to provide KD with links to their organisations education web pages.	<b>KD/ALL</b>
<b>AP 25/01 1</b>	Set up biosecurity plan sub-group and arrange an initial meeting. This meeting will consider how the work of this sub-group could tie in with the proposed biosecurity event.	<b>KD</b>
<b>AP 25/01 2</b>	Set up a meeting with those involved in pressures on benthic habitats and species to establish the state of play. COAST to be included in this meeting.	<b>KD</b>
<b>AP 25/01 3</b>	Send out a Doodle link to arrange the first Seascape Landscape Assessment meeting. Resend amend project brief.	<b>KD</b>
<b>AP 25/01 4</b>	IG to forward to KD the Eurosite report on seascape.	<b>IG/KD</b>
<b>AP 25/01 5</b>	PC/Philip Smith to send information on the 1 week coastal management course	<b>PC/PS</b>