



Firth of Clyde Forum Core Group Meeting
Thursday 28th January 2010, GCVSDPA office, Glasgow
Agenda

	<u>Time</u>	<u>Lead</u>
Coffee and Tea	09:30	
1 Welcome and Apologies	10:00	Ian Bray
2 Minutes and Action Points from last meeting	10:05	IB/All
3 Marine Plan - Plan Finalisation - Consultation Report - Lessons Learned - Implementation	10:15	IB/ Isabel Glasgow/ Fiona Mills
4 Structure Paper	11:00	FM
5 Conference 2009 - debrief	11:15	FM
6 Clyde Breakers 2010	11:30	FM/Danielle Casey
7 Information Event	12:00	FM
8 Cotton Buds	12:15	IG/FM
9 Update from Core Group members	12:30	All
10 Any Other Business	12:45	All
11 Future Meeting Dates	12:55	All
Lunch	13:00	
Close	14:00	



Minutes of Firth of Clyde Forum Core Group Meeting

Thursday 28th January 2010

GCVSDPA Office, Glasgow

Present:

Ian Bray (IB), SNH, meeting Chair
Fiona Mills (FM), FoCF Project Manager
Danielle Casey (DC), SNH
Rhona Fairgrieve (RF), Scottish Coastal Forum
Michelle Carroll (MC), Glasgow and the Clyde
Valley Structure Plan Joint Committee
Ian Johnson (IJ), Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan
Mike Balmforth (MB), British Marine Federation
Roger Horne (RH), Clydeport
David Adams-McGilp (DAM), Visit Scotland

Apologies:

Isabel Glasgow (IG), FoCF Chair
Paul Bancks (PB), The Crown Estate
Zoe Clelland (ZC), RSPB
Mark Steward (MS) Argyll & Bute Council
Ethel-May Abel (EMA), Glasgow City Council
Rebecca Dean (RD), Lighthouse Caledonia
David Mallon (DM), Marine Scotland
Philip Robertson (PR), Historic Scotland
Jim McKie (JM), Marine Scotland
Ken Clark (KC), HMNB Clyde

ITEM 1: Welcome and Apologies

IB welcomed everyone present and informed the meeting of apologies received. DAM was welcomed to the core group meeting as a new member representing Visit Scotland's marine interests.

ITEM 2: Minutes, Action Points and Matters Arising

2.1 Minutes

One minor amendment (date correction) was noted to the minutes of the last meeting and then they were signed off.

2.2 Action Points from last meeting

AP 22/06 1	Include BAP on next meeting Agenda	FM	Ongoing
AP 22/06 2	Implement agreed changes to website	DC/FM	Done
AP 22/06 3	Send Marine Scotland logo to FM for the website	AB	Done
AP 22/06 4	Send new reports and projects to FM for the website	All	Done
AP 22/06 5	Confirm copy deadline for Clyde Breakers	FM	Done
AP 22/06 6	Confirm Scottish Water contact and suitable candidate for the Day in the Life article	RH	Done
AP 22/06 7	Contribution on Arran Wildlife Festival for Clyde Breakers	ZC	Done
AP 22/06 8	Investigate venue and key speaker options for Conference	FM	Done
AP 22/06 9	Discuss appropriate NGO involvement in fishery impact research	JED/ZC	Ongoing
AP 22/06 10	Venue, external facilitation and running order of workshop for next meeting	JED/FM	Done

2.3 Matters Arising

MB suggested that in order to increase traffic to the website, the web address should go out on all correspondence and that links should be established with other organisations. He also suggested that the Project Manager send out a quarterly email to core members requesting they forward any relevant new reports or projects to be included on the website.

- Action

FM

ITEM 3: Marine Plan

3.1 Finalisation and Implementation of Plan

IB confirmed that due to the departure of the SSMEI Project Assistant, the Plan along with the SEA, Consultation Report and Lessons Learned Report will be finished by the Firth of Clyde Forum with a target completion date of May 2010. The Government see it as the FoCF's role to take the plan forward and are considering the funding of a Project Assistant to help with the workload.

FM presented a work plan for Jan 2010 to March 2011, covering finalisation and the start of implementation of the Plan, along with integration in stakeholders' businesses, communication (Clyde Breakers and Information Events), and ongoing business of the FoCF. The work plan is for a Project Manager and Project Assistant with an increased number of days for the Chair. The £76k currently sitting in the SSMEI Clyde bank account can be carried over into the next financial year.

- Amend work plan to clarify time and money spent on project and /or staff **FM**

Core Group members should submit any comments on the Lessons Learned Report by 12th February.

- Action

Core Group All

IJ suggested that full consideration be given to the order in which Action Points from the Plan are implemented. This will be reviewed at the next meeting.

- Agenda item for next meeting – Discussion on priorities within Action Plan **FM**

3.2 Maternity Cover

IB confirmed that maternity cover is being sought for FM's post of Project Manager. Interviews will be on 23rd and 24th February.

ITEM 4: Structure Paper

FM presented a summary of the paper which considered legal structure for the FoCF going forward. The options at this stage are to remain an unincorporated association or to become a company limited by guarantee. It was agreed that, given uncertainties about the future role of the Forum in relation to the establishment of Scottish Marine Regions, the Forum should remain an unincorporated association for the time being. IB confirmed that SNH is comfortable with the current arrangement but asked that the Terms of Reference be updated and a formal agreement with GCVSDPA is established.

- Update Terms of Reference for consideration at next meeting **FM**
- Draw up Memorandum of Understanding with GCVSDPA **FM**

ITEM 5: Conference Debrief

FM thanked RH, IB and ZC for their help in organising the event and assistance on the day.

FM concluded that the Conference had been a success with very positive feedback on the speakers and the workshops from most delegates. There were a few housekeeping issues such as the low temperature, labelling vegetarian food at lunch and minimising feedback through the PA system. It was also noted that delegate turnout was low, probably due to many organisations being involved in the Marine Bill process at that time.

It should be noted that there will be no Conference this year given resources available, however, there will be Information Events.

ITEM 6: Clyde Breakers 2010

DC presented a list of potential articles for the next edition of Clyde Breakers, due May/June 2010. Other suggestions from the Core Group were an update on the Marine Act, a summary of Scottish Enterprise report on marine recreation, an article on the Sustainable Glasgow initiative and an article on the "Fishing for Litter" campaign. Thanks to all members for their suggestions and support.

- Contact BAE Systems for article on Type 45 Destroyers **FM/RH**

ITEM 7: Information Events

There will be 2 Information Events organised in the next year. Suggestions for themes include invasive non-native species and a joint event with Historic Scotland about wrecks. MC requested a more strategic event to suit Local Authorities and this may tie in with work to integrate the Marine Plan into LAs' Plans. MB suggested Fisheries Biodiversity and the depletion of species in the marine environment as a theme. He also suggested that the Green Blue would be able to contribute to an invasive species event and that Sarah Brown, who is now focussed on Scotland may be a good addition to the FoCF Core Group. RF indicated that the Scottish Coastal Forum may be willing to contribute to an

invasive species information event as part of their contribution to the International Year of Biodiversity. MC requested that one of the events be more strategic in nature for the Local Authorities – this could be tied in with the workstream of integrating the Marine Plan into relevant stakeholders' businesses.

- Invite Sarah Brown, Green Blue Scottish Project Officer, to join the Forum. Details from MB. **FM**

ITEM 8: Cotton Buds

The FoCF has received a letter from the East Esplanade Protection Group requesting written endorsement of their aims to tackle the issue of the huge number of cotton buds found in marine litter during beach cleans. Their aims are

- a) to contact the manufacturers and retailers of cotton buds with a view to persuading them to use, for example, pressed paper stems instead of plastic in the manufacturing/sourcing process
- b) to ask them to label cotton-bud packaging clearly with the advice not to flush used buds away
- c) to petition MPs and MSPs to secure a nation-wide ban on the use of plastic for the stems of cotton-buds.

It was agreed that the FoCF should support them in their objectives and that it would be appropriate for them to write an article for Clyde Breakers.

- Draft letter of support from FoCF **FM**

ITEM 9: Update from Core Group Members

MC

- GCVSDPA focus has been on developing the Main Issues Report and the technical reports supporting them including those on wind energy, minerals, open cast coal and housing. Target delivery is September 2010.

RF

- SCF held a meeting with Mike Nielson, Marine Scotland, about the future of the organisation given the new Marine Strategy Forum. The SCF will remain in place over the next 2 years to fill a need at the operational level. The group's Terms of Reference will have to be revised. Staffing options are being considered.
- One of the first priorities for Marine Scotland once the Marine Bill has obtained Royal Assent, will be to consult on Scottish Marine Regions (SMRs). It is likely that SMRs will be identified by April 2011 and that the following year will see a roll-out programme to set them all up.

RH

- There is a busy season for cruise ships ahead but with good feedback from operators and passengers on their experience at Greenock. Inverclyde tourist group are involved in promoting local tourism. There is potentially an opportunity for the FoCF to work with them to put up some information panels about the Firth of Clyde at the arrival point.
- Cargo business is strong with grain, feed, plywood cargos busy. Salt cargo has also been busy given the recent weather conditions. Equipment for windfarm development has also been arriving by sea. Hunterston continues to deal with coal cargos.
- Container vessels remain held up in Loch Striven until economic conditions improve.
- Contact Ian Hay of the East Grampian Coastal Partnership about information boards at cruise ship docks.

FM

MB

- The Scottish Boating Alliance is on the Recreational Boating and Marine Tourism Cross Party Group, chaired by Stuart MacMillan, which meets quarterly (next meeting 10th March). It is open to all interested parties and offers an avenue of communication with the Government.
- Some amendments proposed to the Marine (Scotland) Bill have been adopted.
- The marine leisure and recreational boating report currently being prepared by Scottish Enterprise will improve the accuracy and extent of information on these industries around Scotland.
- There is a proposal to build a causeway across the sound at Luining. This would have consequences for the environment, safety (lifeboat access) and marine leisure activities. Whilst not in the Clyde, this may be of interest to other Core Group members with National responsibilities.

DAM

- DAM represents Visit Scotland on various Fora and working groups including the Recreational Boating and Marine Tourism Cross Party Group and the Marine Strategy Forum. DAM is also on the GCVSDPA futures group which looks at visions for the future and offers an opportunity to embed visitor planning into the planning process now, and to consider the relationship between land and marine infrastructure for the future.
- There is a workshop on SEAs for windfarms organised by Halcrow on behalf of the Government.

IJ

- North Ayrshire Main Issues Report is in consultation to March 2010. South Ayrshire will be 3-6 months later. One of the issue themes is rural and coastal so the FoCF may be interested in responding.
- Engaged in looking at offshore servicing requirements for future windfarms located to the West of Kintyre.
- Sail West has a green light as European Interreg funding is in place.

IB

- Draft EIA for Hunterston is in development including mitigation for potential destruction of a Northern part of the local SSSI.
- FoCF has been successful in bids for project funding last year and this year totalling £48k for ENV 1 and ENV 2 of the Action Plan.
- The offshore renewables team has been set up in SNH with 6 posts. The team is already very busy.
- SNH is working on criteria for MPA creation for the Government.
- Get more information on proposal for barrage in the Clyde from Greenock to Ardmore Point **FM**

ITEM 10: Any Other Business

RF requested an income and expenditure plan for 2010/11 for discussions on LCP funding with Marine Scotland.

- Action

FM**ITEM 11: Next meeting**

The next meeting will be 21st April 2010 at the GCVSDPA office in Glasgow. It will begin with buffet lunch at 1pm followed by the meeting from 1.30pm to 4pm.

Summary of Action Points

AP 28/01 1	Set up links email links to other websites and ask members for latest reports on quarterly basis	FM
AP 28/01 2	Amend work plan to clarify time and money spent on project and /or staff	FM
AP 28/01 3	Comments on the Lessons Learned Report by 12 th Feb latest	Core Group
AP 28/01 4	Agenda item for next meeting – Discussion on priorities within Action Plan	FM
AP 28/01 5	Update Terms of Reference for consideration at next meeting. Include MoU with GCVSDPA	FM
AP 28/01 6	Contact BAE Systems for article on Type 45 Destroyers	FM/RH
AP 28/01 7	Invite Sarah Brown, Green Blue Scottish Project Officer, to join the Forum. Details from MB	FM
AP 28/01 8	Letter of support for East Esplanade Protection Group – Cotton Buds Campaign	FM
AP 28/01 9	Contact Ian Hay of the East Grampian Coastal Partnership about information boards at cruise ship docks	FM
AP 28/01 10	Get more information on proposal for barrage in the Clyde from Greenock to Ardmore Point	FM
AP 28/01 11	Income and expenditure plan for 2010/11	FM
AP 22/06 1	Include BAP on next meeting Agenda	FM
AP 22/06 9	Ensure appropriate NGO involvement in fishery impact research	FM/ZC