



Firth of Clyde Forum Core Group Meeting
Wednesday 5th March 2008
Scottish Enterprise Headquarters, Atlantic Quay, Glasgow
 5 Atlantic Quay, 150 Broomielaw, G2 8L 8LU

Agenda

		Time	Lead
1	Welcome and Apologies	10:00	Chris Nevin (CN)
2	Minutes from last meeting and matters arising	10:05	CN
3	Chair Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COAST • Sustainable Seas Task Force • 2007/2008 review 	10:20	Isabel Glasgow (IG)
4	Project Officer Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kintyre Information Event • Inner Clyde education leaflet • Annual Conference 2008 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Conference sub-group • Budget FY07/08 	10:40	Claire Pescod (CP) /All
5	Priorities for FY2008/2009 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSMEI • River Basin Management Planning • Others... 	10:55	CN/All
6	Membership <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership options paper – <i>Paper 1</i> 	11:25	CN/All
7	Update from Core Group members	11:40	All
8	Any other business	12:10	All
9	Next meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Venue for meeting on 2 September 	12:20	All
10	Presentation: Clyde Riverbus Study – <i>Paper 2</i> Professor Alfred J. Baird, Napier University - Transport Research Institute	12:30	
	Lunch	13:15	

Directions to venue and a map can be found at:
<http://www.scottish-enterprise.com/publications//shareddocs/semap1.pdf>



Firth of Clyde Forum

Minutes of Core Group Meeting

Wednesday 5th March 2008

Scottish Enterprise Headquarters, Atlantic Quay, Glasgow

Present

Isabel Glasgow (IG) (Chair)
Claire Pescod (CP) (FoCF Project Officer)
Chris Nevin (SNH, Chair of FoCF Core Group)
Danielle Casey (DC) (SNH, Secretary)
John Eddie Donnelly (JED) (SSMEI Project Officer)
Kate Thompson (KT) (SSMEI Project Assistant)
Ron Bailey (RB) (Clydeport)
Mike Balmforth (British Marine Federation Scotland)
Kirsten MacDonald (KMacD) (Scottish Enterprise)
Zoe Clelland (ZC) (RSPB)
Rhona Fairgrieve (RF) (Scottish Coastal Forum)
Michelle Carroll (MC) (Glasgow and Clyde Valley Structure Plan Joint Committee)
Alice Bayles (AB) (Scottish Government)
Roger Horne (RH) (Clydeport)
Ken Clark (KC) (Ministry of Defence)
Mark Steward (MS) (Argyll & Bute Council)

Apologies received from:

Ethel-May Abel (EMA) (Glasgow City Council)
Paul Bancks (The Crown Estate)
Ian Johnson (Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan)
David Ross (DR) (SEPA)
Alistair Sinclair (AS) (Scottish Creelers And Divers)
Patrick Stewart (PS) (Clyde Fishermen's Association)

ITEM 1: Welcome and Apologies

IG welcomed everyone present and informed the meeting of apologies received.

Thanks given to Scottish Enterprise and KMacD for use of room at Atlantic Quay for the meeting.

ITEM 2: Minutes, Action Points and Matters arising

2.1 Minutes

Page 2 – RF highlighted APs 2 and 3 were a duplication of each other.

Page 4 – LCP working group – Cathy Tilbrook leading on paper with input from CP.

2.2 Action Points

AP Sep 07 8 – CP to look into IFGs for future information events.

CP had spoken to Ian Thomson. Three pilot IFGs will be up and running by summer. PS will give an update of Clyde IFG at next meeting.

Discharged

AP Dec 07 1 – IG suggested that the Forum should consider borrowing a microphone with a view to investing in one for future events.

Discharged

AP Dec 07 2 – CP to bring a short paper to the next core group meeting on membership issues and rate charges in comparison to other similar groups.

Discharged

AP Dec 07 3 – EMA to provide Community Councils contacts for January meeting.

Discharged

AP Dec 07 4 – PS to provide examples of constitutions and work with CP to draw one up for the Forum.

Ongoing

AP Dec 07 5 – PS to follow up suggestion for Loch Fyne Oysters to become Forum members.

Discharged

AP Dec 07 6 – EMA to check availability of the City Chambers for the 2008 Conference.

Discharged

AP Dec 07 7 – Allan Doyle (SPT) to provide information on the brief for the viability of the Yoker/Renfrew ferry.

Discharged

➤ **AP March 08 1** – KT to get Allan Doyle's contact details when at a meeting with SPT.

2.3 Matters arising

None.

ITEM 3: Chair Update

3.1 COAST

Marine Harvest's proposed fish farm went to the NAC's Planning Committee on 4 March for consideration. The application was lodged before April 2007 and therefore follows the interim process. There were many objections to the proposal. The council recommended and qualified acceptance on the grounds of objection by a statutory consultee. SNH maintained its objection on the grounds of landscape but not on species. IG gave evidence on behalf of the Lamlash Bay Working Group. Votes were 9-2 against the proposal.

The Lamlash Bay No Take Zone consultation was announced by the Cabinet Secretary for the Environment and Rural Affairs, Richard Lochhead on 21 January.

3.2 SSTF

To date IG has attended the 1st plenary session and 3 workshops. She informed the Forum that there appeared to be many disparate views held amongst the stakeholders.

- MMO workshop – discussions covered issues including whether or not there should be a SMMO and the consultation process (scope of consultation and how many alternatives should be offered). There was no clear view on level of engagement, eg. local, regional.

- Marine conservation workshop – protection of threatened/unthreatened areas and the consultation were included in matters discussed at this workshop.
- Licensing and enforcement workshop – interesting discussion.

The general feeling from the workshops was that a mix of organisations will be required for delivery and advising at local level.

The marine planning and ICZM workshop is due to be held on 12 March. The Forum is very involved here as there are implications for the future of the Forum. How the Forum interacts with the MMO needs to be considered. MS stated that this workshop is an important one for local authorities and there is a concern that one only representative, from CoSLA, will be attending. It was noted, however, that numbers are limited and that each LA had a chance to feed in to the CoSLA representative.

The UK Marine Bill will be launched in April.

3.3 2007/08 Review

IG is please with the way the Forum has worked over the past year, highlights include the conference, an increasingly positive working relationship with Government officials and continued commitment from partners.

COAST - It was useful for the Forum to chair these meetings, keeping the groups profile high among coastal partnerships.

North Sea Inshore Fisheries - IG chaired this international meeting in Glasgow.

Forum's 2007 Annual Conference - This event helped the profile of the Forum.

SSTF - It is useful that the Forum is on this and has a voice.

ITEM 4: Project Officer Update

4.1 'Celebrating Scotland's Seas' – Kintyre Information Event

CP has been working with the Argyll & Bute Beach Forum on publicising the Kintyre Information Event. The event will be held on 29/30 March.

On Sat 29 presentations will be given by: Stan Phillips (SNH) – Wildlife of Machrihanish Dunes SSSI; Robin Harvey (SAMS) – Celebrating Scotland Seas: what make Argyll & Bute so special?; Eddie McGuire (Machrihanish Seabird and Wildlife Observatory) – Wildlife Photographs; and Professor Ronald J Roberts – Key Cradle of Fish Farming. There will also be children's workshops and an open day at the Lifeboat Station. Tea, coffee and lunch will be free to all.

A beach clean will take place in the morning of Sun 30, followed by a Machrihanish Station open event in the afternoon. Natural jute bags will be given away free at the event if people sign up to a pledge to reduce their plastic bag use.

- **AP March 08 2** – All to let CP know in advance if attending the Kintyre event.
- **AP March 08 3** – CP to send Kintyre event poster to ZC.

4.2 Clyde Breakers

The next issue of Clyde Breakers is with the designer and will go to the printer in March. Thanks again to all who submitted articles - the number of pages in this edition has been increased to accommodate them all. Once printed, core group members will receive a copy.

- **AP March 08 4** – All to let CP know if require further copies of Clyde Breakers.

Paul Naylor, keynote speaker at 07 Annual Conference has given permission to use one of his photos as a front cover, moving away from the usual text heavy front page used in the past. It is hoped this move will increase interest in the newsletter. If successful, eye-catching photos will continue to be used as the front cover.

- **AP March 08 5** – All to let CP know of any thoughts on the new design/layout.
- **AP March 08 6** – All to send any photos they think suitable for future newsletter covers to CP.

4.3 Inner Clyde Wildlife Education Leaflet

This is hopefully the first of a series of leaflets by the Forum. CP is discussing with the Clyde and Argyll AAGs the possibility for further joint leaflets which will cover, for example, septic tanks and promoting the health of the Clyde.

- **AP March 08 7** – All to let CP know if they would like further copies of the leaflet.

4.4 Annual Conference 2008

The success of the last conference gave members the feeling that the next should be a bigger event, perhaps being held over 2 days – which could include separate events and a celebration of the Clyde. This will of course be dependant on funding. Eon has been approach for sponsorship as the topic is climate change. The Glasgow City Chambers are unavailable for this year. EMA is looking into different venues, including the Parish Halls (would be free, has side rooms for workshops, but bad acoustics however this may be overcome with use of microphones). Richard Lochhead has agreed in principle to be the keynote speaker.

The conference sub-group set up last year to input to the organisation of the conference was very useful and it is thought that a sub-group for the 2008 conference will be very beneficial. The sub group will not be too time consuming and will be to input ideas on format, theme, discussion topics, speakers, contacts etc.

- **AP March 08 8** – CP to visit Parish Halls and test acoustics.
- **AP March 08 9** – Anyone wishing to volunteer for the conference sub-group to let CP know (KMacD has volunteered but only until 28 March; ZC available from 1 April; and IG will input).
- **AP March 08 10** – CP to circulate date of sub-group's first meeting.

4.5 Budget

Thanks to funding organisations for their continued support. The FY07/08 outturn looks healthy, with a small carry forward into FY08/09. Some funding, however, comes to an end this year. The Scottish Government have offered a contribution of £22,000 as a one-off payment. They will of course require a breakdown of how money is being spent. Long-term financial stability, however, is still uncertain.

ITEM 5: Priorities for Financial Year 08/09

From list in CP's handout, SSMEI, AAG and River Basin Management Planning, Annual Conference 08, Clyde Breakers, the Lamblash Bay Working Group, beach cleans and Information events were identified as priorities for the coming year. Tangible work should be prioritised and care should be taken not to duplicate work being done elsewhere.

Eg. - Forum agreed, in relation to beach cleaning, that a strategic overview of marine litter, its sources and who is responsible for it would be useful – with less actual

involvement in individual beach cleans, however we should continue to promote groups to carry out beach cleans.

Eg. - Clydeport's navigation leaflet – Marine Leisure Guide – is being re-done with input from KC. There is scope for Forum input and the logo to appear on the leaflet.

Eg. - The issues between fishermen and creelers need to be sorted out. One member believed that there is the possibility that these issues may lead to legislation being put in place.

Eg. – Invasive species.

- **AP March 08 11** – CP to scope what can be done in terms of a strategic overview of marine litter in the Firth of Clyde.
- **AP March 08 12** – MS to forward to CP information about AAG RBM work on invasive species.

The policy work that the Forum is involved with (though important) is often not recognised by others and there is a need for people to see tangible outputs.

ITEM 6: Membership

General concerns were that administration of the membership scheme was time consuming (in relation to the amount of money it brought in), membership was too expensive and that fitting people and organisations into the categories as they stand was proving to be difficult at times. It was agreed that the categories should be reviewed. It was highlighted that having a membership fee means that the Forum currently has fewer members than it has had in the past when membership was free and that 'numbers count' in some circumstances.

Of the options shown in CP's Membership paper, Option 5 – corporate membership only - was the most popular. It was stated, however, that it would be unfortunate to lose the monetary benefits, i.e. discounted conference tickets and free entry to information events, however this was balanced in some ways by the lack of membership fee need to receive the benefits.

It was therefore decided that membership fees for individual and NGO categories would be scrapped and that public bodies and private companies would be encouraged to become a 'supporter and to contribute corporate sponsorship with no fixed amount stated, perhaps proportionate to the particular business and subject to a minimum amount.

It was agreed that the Forum would approach BAE and Loch Lomond Seaplanes regarding corporate membership. A balance must be found between money received from organisations and the influence they have on the Forum. At the same time, it should be expected that the Forum will have some tangible benefit for those contributing money, especially on a sponsorship basis. Option of a lifetime fee was tabled but it was suggested that this would be difficult as the Forum may fold and money would have to be returned. A broad representation of groups of people and organisations should be sought to make the Forum as viable as possible.

ITEM 7: Core Members Update

RB

- Peel Ports has a new Chief Executive – Stephen Baxter, based in Liverpool.
- 28 vessels are expected for the cruise season.
- Finnart - getting busier.
- Hunterston – coal still coming in.
- Seaplane – proved successful.
- River Festival – ongoing this year.

- Former John Brown shipyard is developing at pace.

KMacD

- SE not spending any money at the moment, it is in a state of flux.
- New structure and strategy due on 1st April.

MB

- The Scottish Boating Alliance has been formed with the RYA – a lobbying organisation to inform Government of the potential of recreational boating.
- Launch event w/b 25 Feb attended by Minister.
- Welcome anchorages publication – free publication put together by BMF and Yachting Life magazine.

➤ **AP March 08 13** – MB to send CP 40 copies of Anchorage.

MS

- Aquaculture meetings ongoing – meeting industry and shellfish interests to id constraints within the shellfish sector. This feeds into the review of Shellfish and Aquaculture consultation.
- Meeting with Michael Russell addressing issues in fin and shellfish industry.
- Expert group on siting of aquaculture set up by Government.
- Sound of Mull SSMEI project up and running. Several meetings have been held.
- Loch Fyne ICZM plan ongoing.
- Guide to anchoring in Loch Creran has been published.

➤ **AP March 08 14** – MS to send CP copies of Loch Creran guide.

ZC

- Thanks to CP for help with the wildlife leaflet.
- Revised Ayrshire LBAP out for consultation - can be found on the Ayrshire Structure Plan website and the 3 Ayrshire LA websites.
- Proposal of work at Largs
 - Proposed infilling of beach at Largs to create dingy access.
 - Local consultation ongoing
 - No formal objection from RSPB but concerns have been raised with the council
 - Contact North Ayrshire Council if require more information.

RF

- SCF on SSTF – interesting discussions – peoples perceptions of what the SSTF can deliver depends on who sits at your table during each meeting.
- A marine and terrestrial planning training event for LCP officers will take place on 6/7 March.
- Joint Scottish Coastal Forum/AGI Scotland event planned for 22/23 April, Quality Hotel, Glasgow.
- The future of the SCF is caught up in the discussions on the future of the LCPs.

MC

- Structure plan – Ministers came back with comments at the end of 2007, the consultation ended Jan 2008, awaiting further comments/modifications from Ministers.

ITEM 8: Any Other Business

None

ITEM 9: Next Meeting

Wednesday 4th June, SPT offices in Glasgow.

Tuesday 2nd September, Royal Gourock Yacht Club a possibility.

- **AP March 08 15** – MB to check availability of Royal Gourock Yacht Club for September meeting.

ITEM 10: Presentation – Clyde Riverbus Study by Prof Alf Bair, Napier University

Study to be completed before the end of March. They are undertaking a modelling exercise to compare times and prices with other modes of transport, and are looking at demand from commuters and other possible users. Cross Clyde movements are being looked at.

Ship designers have concluded that two vessel types will be required as there is a demand for vehicle ferries as well as passenger ferries – a fast craft for foot passengers, a slower vessel for vehicles.

Issues raised by the group include:

- Carbon outputs?
 - A party within the MVA consortium are looking at this.
 - Technology is well developed and still improving.
 - Alternative fuels, fuelling and storing are also being looked at.
- Disturbance effect?
 - Noise and wash disturbance
 - Different at different points – connection, acceleration.
 - Vessels will be highly manoeuvrable.
- Noise levels?
 - Will be below those permissible.
- Interchanges?
 - Looking at boat to other modes of transport.
 - Looking at park and ride.
 - Different terminals could be put in place for different requirements.
- Set-up?
 - Will be rapid and economic.
 - £5M for vessels (supplied by the private sector) and £5M for terminals.
 - Burden being placed on the public sector will not be onerous but it may need to support the operating costs.
- Will it tie in with other modes?
 - Looking at development of a Fastlink.
 - The Riverbus may take people away from buses and trains.
 - It will be a tourist product.
- Bicycles?
 - There will be dedicated spaces for bicycles.
 - In-built at design stage.

Riverbuses are cheaper than trams and the risks are low. The cultural change, however, may take a number of years. The aim is to make terminals user friendly with easy access and waiting rooms on site.

The next stage is to determine likely demand and feasibility. Proposals will be based on case studies. There is interest from private transport companies. The tendering process will be flexible. Stakeholders have already given their input. It is important, however, that comment can be made on the final proposal, at draft specification stage, before it goes to tender.

The Clyde is one of few urban rivers without a proper waterborne transport system. The Forum may be useful in pulling together interests and concerns on this issue.

Summary of Action Points

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