



Firth of Clyde Forum Core Group Meeting

Friday 6th June 2008, 13:30 – 16:30

Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT) Office, Consort House, 12 West George Street, G2 1HN, Glasgow

Agenda

		Time	Lead
1	Welcome and Apologies	13:30	Chris Nevin (CN)
2	Minutes from last meeting and matters arising	13:35	CN
3	Chair Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COAST • Sustainable Seas Task Force 	13:50	Isabel Glasgow (IG)
4	Project Manager Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clyde Breakers • Scottish Marine Bill Consultation 	14:10	Claire Pescod (CP) /All
5	Annual Conference 2008 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conference sub-group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Topics ▪ Format ▪ Ideas ▪ Contacts 	14:30	CN/All
6	Hovercraft and Clyde Riverbus Studies	15:00	CN/All
7	Update from Core Group members	15:30	All
8	Any other business	16:00	All
9	Next meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reschedule date for 2 September meeting to w/c 8th Sept • Date and venue for end of November meeting – w/c 17th or 24th Nov 	16:15	All
	Close	16:30	

Directions to venue and a map can be found at: <http://www.spt.co.uk/About/location.html>



Firth of Clyde Forum

Minutes of Core Group Meeting Friday 6th June 2008 SPT Offices, Consort House, West George Street, Glasgow

Present:

Chris Nevin (CN), SNH, Chair of Core Group
Isabel Glasgow (IG), FoCF Chair
Claire Pescod (CP), FoCF Project Manager
John Eddie Donnelly (JED), SSMEI
Allen Doyle (AD), SPT
Zoe Clelland (ZC), RSPB
Alice Bayles (AB), Scottish Government
Roger Horne (RH), Clydeport
Ken Clark (KC), Ministry of Defence
Ian Johnson (IJ), Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan
David Ross (DR), SEPA
Ethel-May Abel (EMA), Glasgow City Council
Alasdair Henderson (AH), CalMac
Ruth McIntosh (RM), Caledonian Maritime Assesses
CMAL

Apologies:

Paul Bancks (PB), The Crown Estate
Mark Steward (MS), Argyll & Bute Council
Ron Bailey (RB), Clydeport
Alistair Sinclair (AS), Scottish Creelers & Divers
Patrick Stewart (PS), Clyde Fishermen's Assoc
Mike Balmforth (MB), British Marine Federation
Rhona Fairgrieve (RF), Scottish Coastal Forum
Michelle Carroll (MC), Glasgow and Clyde Valley
Structure Plan Joint Committee

ITEM 1: Welcome and Apologies

IG welcomed everyone present and informed the meeting of apologies received. Thanks given to SPT and AD for use of the meeting room at Consort House and for the lunch.

ITEM 2: Minutes, Action Points and Matters arising

2.1 Minutes

There were no comments on the March minutes and they were signed off.

2.2 March Action Points

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

Discharged

AP March 08 2 – All to let CP know in advance if attending the Kintyre event.

Discharged

AP March 08 3 – CP to send Kintyre event poster to ZC.

Discharged

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

Discharged

➤ **AP June 08 1** – CP to send EMA 20 copies of Clyde Breakers.

➤ **AP June 08 2** – CP to send ZC copies of Clyde Breakers for Lochwinnoch reserve.

AP March 08 5 – All to let CP know of any thoughts on the new design/layout.

Discharged

AP March 08 6 – All to send any photos they think suitable for future newsletter covers to CP.

Discharged

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

Discharged

AP March 08 8 – CP to visit Parish Halls and test acoustics.

Ongoing

➤ **AP June 08 3** – EMA to confirm booking of Parish Halls for November conference.

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).

Discharged

AP March 08 10 – CP to circulate date of sub-group's first meeting.

Ongoing

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.

Discharged

AP March 08 12 – MS to forward to CP information about AAG RBM work on invasive species.

Discharged

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

Discharged

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

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

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

2.3 Matters arising

KC highlighted that BBC Scotland is putting together a programme on gear conflict in the Firth of Clyde. MoD, Strathclyde Police, CFA and SCAD have been contacted. The recording of the Radio 4 programme going out later this month triggered the interest in the issue.

ITEM 3: Chair Update

3.1 COAST

The Lamlash Bay Marine Reserve consultation closed yesterday. The Scottish Government will make the responses available on its website in due course. There is still disagreement between members of the Lamlash Bay Working Group (the Clyde Fishermen's Association [CFA] and COAST) regarding the boundary of the No Take Zone and both organisations have included this in their response to the consultation.

COAST agrees with the boundary proposed in the consultation, but not an alternative boundary proposed during the consultation by the CFA and has responded favourably to the consultation. The CFA has lodged a formal objection to the consultation proposal pending further discussions.

The next steps are unknown but are likely to depend on the Cabinet Secretary. There is still hope that discussions between LBWG parties will be able to come up with a compromise.

COAST have just heard this week that they have won the Observer ethical conservation award for their work in Lamlash Bay, see: http://observer.guardian.co.uk/ethicalawards/0,,1704194,00.html#article_continue

KC commented that there are ongoing boundary issues in Loch Fyne and in restricted (MoD) areas.

3.2 SSTF

There appeared to be much more agreement at this plenary than earlier ones. Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) and its links to Marine Spatial Planning was recognised much more than previously. There was a lot of discussion on the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) and how it is to be set up – this was the most talked about issue. The need for local delivery and for local delivery to reflect local circumstances has been very much taken onboard.

Comment from Clydeport - The Task Force had not sustained its sympathy with industry which needs to have a far less complicated set of regulations and there are still some concerns that things must and need to move forward.

ITEM 4: Project Manager Update

In addition to June 2008 Quarterly Report circulated:

4.1 Inner Clyde Wildlife Education Leaflet

The distribution of the leaflets is well underway and is being seen at numerous locations around the Firth. It was suggested that if members see the leaflet in a stand around the Firth to feedback to CP.

- **AP June 08 4** – CP to circulate leaflet distribution list to Core Group members.
- **AP June 08 5** – All to feedback to CP if they see the leaflet around the Firth.

We still hope that this will be the first in a series of leaflet produced by the Forum in conjunction with other partners. There is still the possibility that the Forum will produce a leaflet in partnership with the Clyde and Argyll AAGs promoting the health of the Clyde with particular reference to septic tanks.

- **AP June 08 6** – All to feedback ideas for future joint leaflets in collaboration with their own organisation/department.

It was suggested that a leaflet on heritage trails in association with the local councils would be interesting and well received.

4.2 Clyde Breakers

CP is hoping to be able to produce the next issue of Clyde Breakers by the autumn/late summer. She is again looking for articles from members for the next issue. She already has an article on 'Clyde in the Classroom' from Dr Willie Yeomans of the Clyde River Foundation (CRF) and an article from SNH on access and dog walking. DR has already offered another SEPA article. CP intends to include an article on the Scottish Marine Bill consultation and the SSMEI draft plan consultation.

Deadline for articles: mid August.

- **AP June 08 7** – KC to send CP an article from the MoD for Clyde Breakers.
- **AP June 08 8** – AH to speak to CalMac marketing department about an article for Clyde Breakers and get back to CP.
- **AP June 08 9** – RM to send CP an article from CMAL for Clyde Breakers, probably about (1) the establishment of CMAL and (2) the Largs pier.
- **AP June 08 10** – AD to ask SPT for an article for Clyde Breakers.
- **AP June 08 11** – EMA to send CP a GCC article for Clyde Breakers.

4.3 Scottish Marine Bill consultation

The Scottish Local Coastal Partnerships have been asked by the Scottish Government to be involved with the SG's consultation for a Marine Bill which is expected to be launched on 15th July and run for 12 weeks. The Forum has been asked to help with consultation events in the FoC. It is likely that SG officials will be able to offer 2 half days of time to attend events in the FoC. The SG has said that a number of 'satellite meetings' could be arranged by Partnerships in their area but it is unlikely that SG representatives will be able to attend and present information on the consultation.

The Forum is very happy to assist with events in its area that SG officials will attend, however it is wary of arranging an event, presenting the consultation and being questioned on the consultation on behalf of the SG. It was thought that this was not appropriate for the Forum. It was noted that there was a difference between this and the Forum arranging an event to gather views and local opinion on the consultation

which could then be submitted as part of a consultation response. It was thought that an event to 'gather local views' would be useful and informative but not possible in such a short time scale and with limited PM time due to other work commitments.

It was decided that the Forum would offer to be involved with 2 half day events (or full if necessary), 1 in Glasgow and 1 possibly in Ayr (with the assistance of IJ and the Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan if in Ayr), as well as to take along information on the consultation to any events CP was attending during the consultation period. It was thought that Ayr would also be suitable due to its close proximity to Dumfries and Galloway. Core Group members were asked to provide CP with the dates and venues of any events their organisations were holding/hosting to see if it was possible to arrange for consultation information to be provided. It was thought that banners could be displayed and leaflets distributed at the local AAGs.

- **AP June 08 12** – All to provide CP with the dates and venues of any events their organisations were holding/hosting in case consultation information could be provided.
- **AP June 08 13** – IJ to look into the possibility of using Ayr County Hall for a consultation event.
- **AP June 08 14** – IJ and CP to discuss Ayr consultation event further.
- **AP June 08 15** – CP to circulate information on the Marine Bill consultation events in the Firth of Clyde once they become available.

It was thought that the September meeting would be a good chance for the group to discuss the Marine Bill consultation and to prepare a response at the meeting. The response would focus on the future of the Forum, its role in ICZM, MSP and local delivery and how it can contribute to the process.

IG asked that members come to the next meeting informed of their organisation's position on local delivery and how this relates to the Forum. It is thought that a consultation response from the Forum signed by each individual organisation would be very beneficial and we will strive to do this. The discussions in the September meeting will form the basis of the consultation response, which will then be circulated to all Core Group members before being submitted in early October.

- **AP June 08 16** – All to familiarise themselves with their organisations position on the future role of Local Coastal Partnerships, ICZM and MSP in time for the September meeting to enable constructive discussions to shape the Forum's consultation response to the Scottish Marine Bill.

ITEM 5: Annual Conference 2008

5.1 Conference update

The conference sub-group has not yet met. Kirsteen MacDonald of Scottish Enterprise who had volunteered to sit on the sub group has since left SE and more sub group members are sought. Richard Lochhead has agreed in principle to give the keynote speech on the 11th November. Eon has been approached for sponsorship, however there has been no response and it looks unlikely that sponsorship will be forthcoming. A major sponsor would be useful, but time is now limited – IG will follow this up.

- **AP June 08 17** – IG to look into major sponsorship for the 2008 conference (since Eon appears to be unsuccessful.)

- **AP June 08 18** – CP to contact the Crown Estate to see if they would be willing to sponsor the lunch (as they did at the 2007 Conference.)

Feedback from last years' conference included the suggestion that workshops would be welcomed at the 2008 conference. It was thought that workshops would be good but only if there was to a specific outcome from them.

5.2 Suggestions for topics, speakers and general comments:

- George Lees from SNH re sea level rise.
 - Bill Turrel from FRS re fisheries and climate change
 - Flooding Bill
 - SEPA re flooding
 - The firm working with the National Park – showing co-operation between councils.
 - GCC drainage plan – Sandy Gillon.
 - Food wastage – Scotstoun food recycling community project.
 - Ron Gilchrist's wormery.
 - The energy saving trust.
 - The Institute of Civil Engineers.
 - EMEC Orkney.
 - Changes in shipping in the Clyde.
 - SNIFFER are trying to orchestrate a process called LCLIP to engage authorities in how they look at climate change. SNIFFER have run a couple of courses and may be interested in running a course as a workshop at the conference.
 - Invasives.
 - RSPB perspective on climate change nationally and in the FoC.
 - The sustainable development commission are a possible sponsor and speaker.
 - Start with the impacts of climate change (generally the more negative side) and build up to the positives.
 - Use case studies – eg eco- schools, eco-churches (there are 2 in the FoC, including Fairlie) – 'eco-projects'.
 - Transport links.
 - The exhibitions at the 2007 conference were interesting and useful.
 - There was a discussion on whether it should be a 1 or 2 day event. Some thought that a 2 day event was too onerous for the PM if no funding could be found to employ an events organisation company to help. Some thought that a 2 day event was not much more work than a 1 day event.
 - A 1 day event is easier to put delegates on from the public sector.
 - A 2 day event allow us to target 2 different audiences – eg schools on 1 day for a change
 - One day of the conference could be targeted at students and linked to one of the Universities (however it was thought that for 2008 this may be too late – perhaps for 2009).
 - There is no strong feeling against having a commercial sponsor as long as the event is not 'hijacked'.
- **AP June 08 19** – RM to send CP contact details for The Institute of Civil Engineers.
 - **AP June 08 20** – KC to send CP contact details for EMEC.
 - **AP June 08 21** – RH to look into changes in shipping wrt climate change and Clydeport.
 - **AP June 08 22** – CP to look into SNIFFER LCLIP courses.
 - **AP June 08 23** – ZC to look into a speaker from RSPB.
 - **AP June 08 24** – CP to contact Liz Cook from SAMs re invasives.

- **AP June 08 25** – DR to look into SEPA speaker for conference.

5.3 Possible sponsors:

- Toyota
- Power companies
- Shell
- The sustainable development commission
- SPT?

- **AP June 08 26** – AD to ask SPT re conference sponsorship – highlighting the link with public transport and climate change etc.

5.4 Possible venues:

- the City Chambers are not available as the Forum is not a charity.
- The Mitchell library – this venue may be too large.
- Barony Hall at Strathclyde Uni.
- The Science Centre
- Govan Town Hall – using the church for the conference and the hall for lunch and exhibitions.
- The Citizens theatre.

The conference sub-group meeting will take place in the week commencing 23rd June, provisionally the 25th June in Clydebank or the RSPB offices in Glasgow. *[Editors note – I have since received a request to change this date from the 25th to another day that week, I will circulate the revised date once it is agreed – CP 09/06/08.]*

- **AP June 08 27** – EMA to ask the GCC sustainability team if they would like to input to the conference sub-group.
- **AP June 08 28** – AB to see if she is able to attend the sub-group meetings.

ITEM 6: Hovercraft and Clyde RiverBus studies

6.1 The Hovercraft

Due to the high cost of fuel, particularly on short trips, the Hovercraft is unlikely to be feasible. Unfortunately Alistair Maclead of Clydefast was unable to attend the meeting. He can be contacted on am@clydefast.com or 01475 540331.

6.2 The Clyde RiverBus

Tony Hughes from Glasgow City Council gave an update on the Clyde RiverBus study. Tony can be contacted at GCC on anthony.hughes@land.glasgow.gov.uk.

Discussions after the RiverBus update concluded that SNH are the competent authority for the Appropriate Assessment that will need to be carried out for the RiverBus. The discussion was based on a meeting the Forum had facilitated the previous day between Clydeport and SNH on dredging in the Inner Clyde.

ITEM 7: Core Members Update

RH

- Clydeport thanked the Forum for arranging a meeting between themselves, SNH and EnviroCentre to discuss dredging in the inner Clyde and Appropriate Assessment.

- The property side of Peel Ports is now very separate from the rest of the organisation.

ZC

- The Ayrshire LBAP consultation is now closed but there has been no official adoption or launch. Coastal habitat is still a priority and there have been no great changes due to the consultation.
 - The Ayrshire LBAP will be launched in September.
 - RSPB has produced a new publication on Ailsa Craig.
 - RSBP submitted a consultation response to the Lamlash Bay Marine Reserve consultation.
- **AP June 08 29** – ZC to send AH copies of the Ailsa Craig leaflet.
- **AP June 08 30** – ZC to send CP paragraph on the Ailsa Craig leaflet, a pdf of it and a high resolution photo to accompany the article for Clyde Breakers.

RM

- Caledonian Maritime Assets is the company that owns the ferries, ports, harbours and infrastructure on the West Coast of Scotland and the Clyde Estuary.
- CMAL's remit is wider than just the FOC and extends up the West Coast.
- Largs pier is being rebuilt and passenger facilities at Cumbrae are being improved, work starts after the September weekend.
- Website: www.cmassets.co.uk
- CMAL is responsible for taking landing fees from fishermen – a paper on this is currently out to consultation.

DR

- The Scottish Government and SEPA will go out to consultation soon on the classification for WFD soon. It is hoped that it will be published in October. Unfortunately, in the meantime the AAGs etc will be unable to discuss the classification scheme.

IJ

- AJSP if still awaiting re-organisation.

EMA

See handout (Appendix I), in addition and including:

- There will be a new bridge across the river at Auchenshuggle. It will be made from Core ten steel which will need no painting and have no maintenance issues.
- Outflows from the motorway – there will be 2 downstream of the weir and 6 upstream. They are causing problems for river users. The issue is that surge from the CSOs can tip a recreational boat over and there is no warning when a CSO will discharge water.
- Rainfall and storm surge is having an impact on river users – it decreases the number of days it is possible to use the river recreationally.
- Hovercraft pilot – fuel cost is the limiting issue. Noise is also a problem.
- The Govan to Pointhouse ferry study is completed but is not yet in the public domain.

AD

- The Yoker Renfrew ferry study is complete but it is not yet in the public domain.

AH

- *A recent Ministerial announcement about the Gourock to Dunoon ferry service. (AH please confirm.)*

KC

- The Clydeport leisure guide is ready. It is a more informative document than the earlier edition.
- It has been a quiet year so far, there is a large amphibious shipping exercise being undertaken. We will see a greater use of military ships in the Clyde from next year onwards, for the next 2 to 3 years.
- There is an issue of gear conflict with fishing vessels as was mentioned before (in matters arising).

AB

- The consultation on the SPA extension (with SNH) is anticipated to start on 16 June.
- Marine Directorate are looking into the extension of the SSMEI pilot projects.

ITEM 8: Any Other Business

None

ITEM 9: Next Meeting

The September meeting was changed from Tuesday 2nd September to one day in the week commencing 8th September, probably the 9th, 10th or 11th September depending on venue availability. There will be no full SSMEI meeting in September although JD will give an update at the meeting on the SSMEI and the draft plan consultation launch currently planned for the 12th September. MB has offered to host the meeting at the Royal Gourock Yacht Club and is looking into availability.

- **AP June 08 31** – MB to check availability of Royal Gourock Yacht Club for the revised date for the September meeting.

The date for the November meeting was set as Tuesday 25th November. SPT have offered to host the November meeting, however they anticipate some works towards the end of the year and if the SPT office is not available SNH have offered to host the meeting in Clydebank.

- **AP June 08 32** – AD to book a meeting room in SPT for the 25th November. *CP will book a room in the SNH Clydebank office in case SPT is not available.*

Summary of June Action Points

Action Point:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Member:	CP	CP	EMA	CP	All	All	KC	AH	RM	AD	EMA	All	IJ	IJ&CP	CP	All

Action Point:	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Member:	IG	CP	RM	KC	RH	CP	ZC	CP	DR	AD	EMA	AB	ZC	ZC	MB	AD

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