



**Agenda for  
Firth of Clyde Forum Core Group Meeting  
Tuesday 16th November 2010,  
Millennium Hotel Glasgow**

	<u>Time</u>	<u>Lead</u>
	9:30	
Tea, coffee and pancakes!		
1 <b>Welcome and Apologies</b>	10:00	Isabel Glasgow
2 <b>Minutes and Action Points from last meeting</b>	10:05	IG/All
4 <b>Plan Adoption – Update</b>		
➤ Date of meeting in your area	10:10	IG/Kirstie Dyson
➤ General response from meetings so far		
5 <b>Action Plan – Update</b>		
1. Data collection strategy	10:20	KD
2. Seascape / Landscape study		
3. Marine Litter Project		
3 <b>Funding – Update</b>		Marine Scotland
➤ Options outlined by Marine Scotland	10:30	
6 <b>Clyde breakers – discussion</b>		
➤ Do we need a new lay out?	10:50	KD
➤ Who are the target audience?		
➤ Where do we want it distributed?		
➤ How many should we print, should we be encouraging electronic mailing?		
Tea/Coffee served with Cookies & Smoothies	11:15	
7 <b>Information request – discussion</b>		
➤ Enquiry from Largs Academy	11:30	KD
➤ Should we put together a teacher pack?		
➤ Is this something we think worth while?		
➤ Who is available within the Stakeholder group (and beyond) to offer educational experiences/presentations?		
8 <b>Update from Core Group members</b>	12:50	All
9 <b>Any Other Business</b>	12:05	All
10 <b>Future Meeting Dates</b>	12:10	All
Close and lunch	12:15	

## Draft minutes of Core Group Meeting

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2010

Millennium Hotel, Glasgow

### Present

Isabel Glasgow, IG  
Ian Bray, IB  
Kirstie Dyson, KD  
Rhona Fairgrieve, RF  
Paul Bancks, PB  
John Esslemont, JE  
Ethal-May Abel, EMA  
Roger Horne, RH  
Danielle Casey, DC  
Mark Steward, MS  
Mike Balmforth, MB  
Zoe Clelland, ZC  
David Adams-McGilp, DAM  
David Palmer, DP  
Ken Clark, KC

### Apologies

Andrew Flockhart  
Phillip Smith  
Archie MacFarlane  
Sarah Brown  
Anne Marie Burns

### ITEM 1 Welcome

- IG welcomes everyone to the meeting.

### ITEM 2 Minutes and Action Points from last meeting

#### Action points from last meeting

<b>AP 21/04 2</b>	Find recipients list of the Draft Plan	<b>KD</b>	<b>Discharged</b>
<b>AP 21/04 9</b>	Contact Historic Scotland regarding wrecks event	<b>KD</b>	<b>* Ongoing</b>
<b>AP 28/01 1</b>	Set up links to other websites	<b>KD</b>	<b>Discharged</b>
<b>AP 4/08 1</b>	SEPA (Katriona Lundberg) to email names of rivers within the intertidal/coastal stretches with associated catchment summaries, objectives, classification and measures.	<b>KD/KL</b>	<b>Discharged</b>
<b>AP 4/08 2</b>	Organise workshop for 16th September	<b>KD</b>	<b>Discharged</b>
<b>AP 4/08 3</b>	Contact Keep Scotland Tidy to find out what data is held on the Firth of Clyde	<b>KD</b>	<b>Discharged</b>
<b>AP 4/08 4</b>	RF and KD to discuss possibility of Oil and Gas funding for seascape survey.	<b>KD/RF</b>	<b>†Carried Forward</b>
<b>AP 4/08 5</b>	Contact Hebridean Seaweed Company for an article for the next addition of Clydebreakers	<b>KD</b>	<b>Carried Forward</b>

\* Due to recruitment freeze within SNH a project assistant has not been appointed. The Work Plan has allocated hours for Information Events to the PA and PM has not had time to address this issue.

### ITEM 3 Plan Adoption

Initiation of meetings with local authorities is slow. The plan is not a priority for councils as it is not a statutory requirement. A meeting has been arranged with South Ayrshire; one

with North Ayrshire will be held soon; West Dunbartonshire Council soon thereafter. Renfrewshire are happy to put a paper to the council but that is it for the moment. The plan would benefit from a higher profile before being established as a statutory requirement.

The group discussed use of words such as 'adoption' and 'formal' – these terms should be dropped from discussions on the plan.

MS informed the group that Argyll & Bute Council adopted the Sound of Mull marine spatial plan due to its specific guidance. The Clyde Plan does not have this so it will only be used as a material consideration, not adopted as such.

## **ITEM 4**

### **1 – Data Collection Strategy**

For this strategy to be successful help is needed from the bigger organisations such as SNH, SEPA and Marine Scotland but, they are not at the stage where they can start to look at this on a regional level. SNH is in discussion with Marine Scotland. Data on species and habitats in the Clyde – State of the Clyde Biodiversity Report - is expected in April-May next year and will be worked in to a GIS database. SNH is collating the data which includes existing information and details from the new survey. Previous 'hot spots' reflect areas where lots of data was collected and not of actual 'hot spots' for certain species or habitats.

There are problems with licensing - Defra are not giving permission for their data to be released to the public.

RF attended a meeting with Cathy Tilbrook (SNH) and Martin Cox. Martin suggested utilising existing data in the Medan datastream and collation. Cathy agreed this is a good idea.

- AP KD/IB to speak to Cathy Tilbrook.

MB suggested that data collection can be compartmentalised once regions are known.

### **2 – Seascape/Landscape Study**

KD is in the process of putting the project brief together.

- KD to circulate draft project brief when it is ready. Deadline for comments should be 2 weeks from circulation.

### **3 – Marine Litter**

KD has collected information from all local authorities in the area – which beaches are cleaned manually, which ones by tractor, etc. Different authorities have different approaches - Ayrshire has 'primary beaches' whereas for Argyll & Bute marine litter is not a priority. Waiting for 10 years worth of data from Marine Conservation Society, for which they have requested payment. This will be plotted onto GIS.

KD spoke to GRAB – they recognise that there is not enough information on sources of litter. Part of the strategy could be to create a form that litter collectors complete, entering information on the likely source of the rubbish.

DP confirmed that a National Strategy on Litter will be developed at some stage. The FoCF strategy could inform this process. As far as he is aware, the strategy is for marine-derived litter only, not land-derived litter.

The strategy must differentiate between approaches that are beneficial and those that are not. The oil & gas industry uses different approaches to cleaning oil spills according to the type of shoreline involved. This methodology should be incorporated into the strategy. Local authorities have Shoreline Protection Plans which could also be incorporated into the strategy.

- RF to let KD know who in Marine Scotland is dealing with the National Strategy on Litter.
- KD to 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?
- KD to get a snapshot of the status quo on litter collection with local authorities.
- MS to obtain a copy of the Argyll & Bute Shoreline Protection Plan and forward to KD.

## **ITEM 5 Funding Update**

### **General Update**

The Consultation on Marine Licensing for Scotland ends on 1 December 2010. The aim is to have a Scottish end of UK marine licensing by 6 April 2011. Work is continuing on the Marine Plan. A pre-consultation draft is due on 22/23 March 2011. Having the pre-consultation draft means there is no need for clearance from Whitehall which could cause delay.

The State of Scotland's Seas Atlas is expected next year Marine Scotland is starting an IT project to deliver a public-facing portal with a GIS facility. Hopefully up and running by March 2011.

### **Update on Funding**

This year, Marine Scotland provided £63k to FoCF. Their budget is likely to take a 10% cut next year. DP will inform the forum of the position before Christmas.

## **ITEM 6 Clyde breakers**

KD asked the group if the newsletter would benefit from a new layout. There are also concerns about the number being printed. At the moment, too many are being printed and there is always a lot left over after distribution. MB suggested asking the existing audience what they think about the layout and also the content of the newsletter. This could be done electronically at low cost. The group discussed the benefits of e-newsletter and hard copies. Successful newsletters these days are electronic ones with either links to full articles/websites or with the full newsletter within the email. The counterview is that the audience should not be a predetermined list of people. One point of Clyde breakers is to give out information at events but unfortunately this output has been lost.

KC stated the newsletter is very informative but queried whether the content and format is suitable for where the forum is going in the future – should it be more like a gazette; should there be a change of focus; inform people how they can get involved in the forum? RF suggested that the timing is not right – that we should wait until marine regions have been established. RH suggest both – official web-based communication on official business as well as a “glossy” publication for the wider public.

- KD to review the distribution list for Clyde breakers.

- KD to contact different designers for ideas on a new layout.

PR, using editorials and advertorials, is a good way to raise the profile of the group and the newsletter. The main cost with this though is staff time.

### **ITEM 7 Information Request - discussion**

KD informed the group that teachers at Largs Academy are joining up with others in the region on the 'Curriculum for Excellence' programme. She asked the group for ideas for getting school children involved in learning about marine issues outside the classroom. Suggestion include:

- MCS's educational resource could be utilised;
- Sea & Learn package – available through the Argyll & Bute Council website's Biodiversity page - <http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/biodiversity/Publications.htm> . Hard copies are also available but there would be a charge for printing;
- RSPB website. Educational staff at RSPB would be happy to speak to KD. <http://www.rspb.org.uk/ourwork/teaching/scotland/index.asp> ;
- 'On Board' – RYA programme introducing young people to sailing and windsurfing - <http://www.rya.org.uk/programmes/onboard/Pages/default.aspx> ;
- Titan Crane – cultural heritage trip;
- Clyde Riverbus; and
- Clydewaterfront Education - <http://www.clydewaterfronteducation.com> .

IG stated that it would be too ambitious for the forum to put an educational pack together – there is already a lot of good stuff out there.

- KD to create a webpage with links to the members educational material

### **ITEM 8 Update from Core Group Members**

RH - went to the SAMS MSP seminar in Oban. SAMS is proposing a MSc course in marine spatial planning. The seminar included talks, presentations and workshops looking at pulling together the course. The course will cover the marine system, policy, mapping, facilitation and stakeholder engagement and a project in the final semester. Delegates at the seminar pointed out that they do not have funds for an MSc course and that shorter more focused courses would be better.

RF - also attended the seminar in Oban. SAMS is still wedded to the idea of a full MSc course. Spoke to David Kirk at Dundee University and the 4<sup>th</sup> year planning students on MSP. Short courses expected in first ¼ of next year. There will be no prerequisite in planning for the short courses or the MSc course.

JE - the 2 Ayrshire LDPs are going to committee at the end of November.

- On the Ayrshire Biosphere – a meeting will be held on Thur 18 Nov; the community have shown huge support for this project.

PB - Rhu marina is currently installing a floating breakwater with pontoon. The old one is available to anyone who wants it.

- Weather permitting, Clydeport will be going to Bute to remove moorings.

EMA – See appendix 1

KC – A survey is being done within MOD water to investigate the absence of fishing on habitats, looking specifically for dominant species

MB - trying to fill gaps in data on recreational boating

- cross-party group at Holyrood is meeting on 8 December. This is open to anyone interested in recreational boating.

DAMcG - in discussion with research department at VisitScotland about filling the gaps in data on all types of marine recreation

- confirmed that, as of April next year, there will be an 18 seat passenger ferry running from Campbeltown to Ballycastle (Northern Ireland)

- attended the Mid Argyll Chamber of Commerce Business Breakfast with Mike Russell MSP. Kenneth MacNab spoke at the event. Concerns were raised by an environment group in Argyll about the 3 mile limit

- attending updates on the Oban Bay Marina

ZC - Local – RSPB have requested that development at James Watt dock include bird nesting boxes.

- Irvine Bay Company will get money from CSGN for potential habitat management

- RSPB will be responding to the Hunterston consultation. They are doing a lot of campaigning in opposition to the proposal. 16,000 objections have been lodged with the Scottish Government

IG – spent 2 days at the COAST symposium on Arran. Good speakers and well organised.

### Action Points

<b>AP 4/08 4</b>	RF and KD to discuss possibility of Oil and Gas funding for seascape survey.	<b>KD/RF</b>
<b>AP 4/08 5</b>	Contact Hebridean Seaweed Company for an article for the next addition of Clydebreakers	<b>KD</b>
<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 2</b>	Circulate draft Seascape/Landscape project brief (ENV 10) when it is ready. Deadline for comments should be 2 weeks from circulation.	<b>KD</b>
<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>
<b>AP 16/11 4</b>	Get a snapshot of the status quo on litter collection with local authorities	<b>KD</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 6</b>	Review the distribution list for Clyde breakers and contact different designers for ideas on a new layout	<b>KD</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	<b>KD/ALL</b>

	organisations education web pages.	
--	------------------------------------	--