



**Firth of Clyde Forum Core Group Meeting**

**1<sup>st</sup> Nov, 13:00 for lunch, 13:30 start**

GCVSDPA Office, Lower Ground Floor, 125 West Regent Street,

Glasgow, G2 2SA **Tel: 0141 229 7730**

<http://maps.google.co.uk/maps/place?q=G2+2SA&hl=en&ftid=0x4888442748beda7b:0xf5b86e716dd8b2c0> Please note this is a basement office.

**Agenda**

		<b>Time</b>	<b>Lead</b>
	Sandwich Lunch Available	13:00	
1	<b>Welcome and Apologies</b>	13:30	Isabel Glasgow
2	<b>Minutes and Action Points from last meeting</b>	13:40	IG
3	<b>Marine Planning Partnership structure and governance</b> ➤ Update	13:55	IG / Marine Scotland
4	<b>Consultations</b> ➤ National Marine Plan ➤ Planning circular ➤ Marine Protected Areas ➤ Offshore Renewables	14:15	Marine Scotland
5	<b>Project updates</b> ➤ Biosecurity Planning ➤ Sea Level Rise ➤ Marine Tourism and Recreation Data Collection	14:45	SB
6	<b>Any Other Business/Update from Core Group members</b>	15:15	ALL
7	<b>Future Meeting Dates (suggested dates for 2014)</b> • 6th Feb, 2014 (setting annual work plan) • 8th May 2014 • 7th August 2014 • 6th Nov 2014	15:45	ALL
	<b>Close</b>		



**Firth of Clyde Forum Core Group Meeting  
1st November 2013, GCVSDPA, Glasgow**

**PRESENT**

Isabel Glasgow (IG) FoCF Chair  
  
Sarah Brown (SB) FoCF Project Manager  
Archie McFarlane (AMcF), Clyde Fishermen's Association  
John Esslemont (JE) South Ayrshire Council  
Michelle Carroll (MC), GCVSDPA  
Mark Steward,(MS) Argyll & Bute Council  
Paul Bancks,(PB) The Crown Estate  
Phillip Cowie (PC)  
Charley Rattan (CR), SSE  
Roger Horne(RH), Peel Port/Clyde Port  
Liv Burns (LB), LLTNP  
David Palmer (DP), Marine Scotland  
Donald McLaren (DMcL) RYAS  
Carolyn Elder (CE), BMFS  
Arthur Keller (AK), SNH  
Rob Lucas-Field Studies Council (Guest)

**APOLOGIES**

David Adams-McGilp (DAM), Visit Scotland  
Toby Wilson, (TW) RSPB  
  
Clive Hayward (CH) HMNB Faslane  
Rebecca Dean (RD), Scottish Salmon  
Richard Millar (RM), Scottish Canals

1) **Welcome** to all, including David Palmer from Marine Scotland and guest Rob Lucas from the Field Studies Council. Thanks to GCVSDPA for the use of the meeting room again.

2) **Minutes of the previous meeting** were agreed and there were no matters arising. All actions have been discharged.

**3) Update from David Palmer (DP) on Marine Scotland activity**

a. The spending review settlement for Marine Scotland (MS) has reduced the budget considerably but should not have an impact on the budget for the Clyde Forum; no cuts will be made unless it is absolutely unavoidable.

b. The Statutory Instrument (SI) to establish the Scottish Marine Regions has been held up with legal difficulties but should be laid before Parliament shortly (aiming for pre-Christmas). It is likely that the boundary preferred by FoCF will be included in the SI. Map will be available when the SI is submitted and this is also when discussions about setting up the Regional Marine Planning Partnership (MPP) will begin. The need for resources and capacity is acknowledged but likely to prove challenging.

c. Transition from existing structure to MPP will be undertaken at an appropriate pace and stakeholders in the Clyde Forum will have a significant role to play in the new structure.

d. Decision on principles of MPP structure will be taken before the end of this FY although details are likely to evolve over time. Staff roles will remain the same until at least the end of the following FY (March 2015).

e. It is a reflection of the strength of FoCF group of stakeholders and the work of the Clyde SSMEI that it is likely (but not yet endorsed) the Clyde will be one of the first two regions to become MPPs.

#### **4) Marine Consultations 2013**

a. Clyde 2020 – Sustainable fisheries programme is emerging as a result of the Bill Turrell paper. (Clyde Ecosystem Review, Scottish Marine and Freshwater Science Vol. 3 Number 3) FoCF is a key player and engagement will begin shortly. The paper identified the fact that there is significant biomass of fish in the Clyde but species diversity is poor. Work is underway, including a sampling programme to begin filling relevant data gaps.

b. National Marine Plan – Consultation ongoing since July 25<sup>th</sup>, closes 13<sup>th</sup> Nov. 29 marine consultation events have been held and significant feedback has been gathered. Main theme at the moment is the need for clarity of purpose, digestibility and integration of land use and marine planning systems. Jurisdictional issues are also being raised as is the balance of national and regional priorities.

c. Marine Protected Areas – Impact assessments have been queried and fishing interests have offered further data which has been useful. Issues of displacement are being looked into. Interesting discussion ongoing about replication / duplication of sites. The list of Priority Marine Features has created some confusion about terminology.

d. Renewables – Issues raised in consultations include cumulative impacts of wind, wave and tidal, onshore and offshore and community benefits.

Discussion followed regarding the potential to displace long term economic interests. DP pointed out that although there may be some impacts on existing economic interests the opportunities offered by the new management regimes may create additional growth.

Discussion followed regarding the issues devolved to a regional level. DP stated that the NMP will give an envelope of jurisdiction within which the RMP should operate. There will be a need to work towards consensus.

Resources – it was agreed that the change to a RMP system will require resources, however DP stressed that already resources had been cut significantly from his own team and that whilst resources for the Clyde area would be identified he was unable to give a level at this time. He did, however, stress that a reduction in current resources was very unlikely.

MPAs – AMcF had concerns that some unsound data had been used to justify some MPA proposals. AK thought this was unlikely but agreed to check with SNH team. These issues have been raised with SNH, but no response had been received as yet. AK said that he would check progress of the response with SNH team.

Action – AK to follow up SNH response to CFA

Update: SNH has discussed these concerns with the CFA previously, but is preparing a full written response to the points raised by the CFA.

#### **5) Project Updates**

- a. These were taken as read. SB began by thanking all those who had helped with the various projects over the last few months including those who have had a substantial input to the NMP/PC responses.
- b. Clyde Breakers – next edition out in the winter. Heritage themed issue. Action - Carolyn Elder to supply Fife regatta story (received).
- c. Action - SB to circulate marine tourism and recreation data project summary.
- d. Action Clyde Yacht Clubs Association (CYCA) to send information on their database to SB
- e. Action - IG to contact relevant councils once the regional boundaries have been agreed.
- f. Additional £500 agreed for communicating the outputs of the INNS guidance work.
- g. S.B to circulate revised drafts of NMP and PC consultation responses to members for their records
- h. AK to check data accuracy issues with SNH team

## **6) Updates from Core Group members and FSC (guest)**

- a. RL - Field Studies Council a U.K charity which will be taking over the former Marine Biological Station from 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2014 and will establish its 18<sup>th</sup> Field Station on the site This year is its 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of running environmental courses in the outdoors and the organisation now teaches 150,000 students per annum. Its focus on environmental education includes science, geography and social history and it works with 3000 schools and 140 university departments. The FSC originally offered advice to the Marine Station when it had financial problems, in part due to a withdrawal of a former annual revenue grant. No funding package was achieved and FSC then put forward a business plan for its own operation on the island. It had not been in their original business plan for the year, however it was too prestigious an opportunity to miss; they hope to employ 30 staff within 5 years and to double the number of students to 16,000 per annum.
- b. IG – Consultation events – FoCF/SCF role has meant she has attended a great number of these events. Wide range of audiences but good stakeholder engagement. Recently attended the WWF advisory group meeting – they have very focused priorities regarding climate change, FoCF may want to consider further engagement.
- c. MS – Eight consultations in A+B. Local Development Plan to go to reporter early 2014. Interesting sea kayak project, perhaps a good case study for the next meeting?
- d. LB –the National Park has been designated as a responsible authority with regard to the Flood Risk Management Act and so they will be getting more involved in the outputs of the River Basin Management Planning in the area. Focus will be primarily on natural flood management. Will be working closely with the Forestry Commission on this.
- e. JE – the council will consider their response to the marine consultations on 5<sup>th</sup> Nov. Have incorporated the Forum’s work on landscape/seascape and hope it will be adopted as guidance.

f. AMcF – Conducting an observer study on cod. Trying to get a revision of the 2009 restriction of days at sea. 100+ observer days have been recorded so far with a 0.5% cod catch.

g. PB – Rhu marina master plan has been rejected by the A+B council. Very disappointing. Removal of the Scottish Power jetty at Inverkip is proving very challenging because of engineering difficulties.

h. MC – SPP2 work is progressing including work on Place Making and climate change adaptation. Also flooding and wider use of renewable energy technologies. Also using landscape/seascape work done by the Forum in this work. Early stakeholder engagement will happen in 2014.

i. D McC – 2013 season a success but some clubs finding the recession a challenge. Good liaison with Crown Estate has been helpful. Some initial concerns about the relocation of the MCA but this seems to be bedding in reasonably well.

RH – all emails have changed again – now in the format firstname.surname@peelports.com. SSE trials beginning at Hunterson where they are testing offshore technologies onshore. It was noted how useful RH’s notes on flood management meetings had been to the Forum. Thanks were noted to RH for this and other members of the core group were asked to do likewise when they attend meetings that may be of interest/use to the staff and development of the Forum. Action – Core Group to send notes of external/relevant meetings to FoCF staff when appropriate.

k. CE – Been a challenging year for BMFS since Mike Balmforth died. Have now advertised for a part time staff post with funding from BMF and HIE and look forward to a better year ahead. Sail Scotland has appointed a new Chief Exec post (Daniel Steel).

## 7) Meeting dates

It was noted that the dates in the agenda were incorrect, they should be on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> Feb (setting annual work plan), 7<sup>th</sup> May, 6<sup>th</sup> August and 5<sup>th</sup> Nov. These were agreed

## 8) AOCB

Core Group members thanked Phill Cowie for his long and professional support of the work of FoCF as a Core Group member, representing the Marine Biology Station, and wished him well for the future.

Meeting closed.

Summary of Action Points Reference	Summary	Lead
01/01/11/2013	Action – AK to follow up SNH response to CFA Update: SNH has discussed these concerns with the CFA previously, but is preparing a full written response to the points raised by the CFA.	AK - Discharged
02/01/11/2013	Action - Carolyn Elder to supply Fife regatta story (received).	CE - Discharged
03/01/11/2013	Action - SB to circulate marine tourism and recreation data project summary.	SB
04/01/11/2013	Action Clyde Yacht Clubs Association (CYCA) to	CYCA/CMcL Discharged

	send information on their database to SB	
05/01/11/2013	Action - IG to contact relevant councils once the regional boundaries have been agreed.	IG
06/01/11/2013	SB to circulate final copy of NMP and PC consultation responses to members for their records	SB
07/01/11/2013	Action – Core Group to send notes of meetings to FoCF staff when appropriate.	ALL