



Firth of Clyde Forum Core Group Meeting

Thursday 24th August 2006

SNH Caspian House, Mariner Court, Clydebank Business Park, Clydebank

Agenda

		Time	Lead
1	Welcome, Introductions and Apologies	10:00	Chris Nevin, SNH Chair of Forum Core Group
2	Minutes, Action Points and Matters Arising	10:10	CN
3	FoCF Project Officer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • work programme & priorities 	10:20	CN
4	FoCF Membership & Funding Update	10.40	CN
5	SSMEI Clyde Pilot Update	11:00	CN
6	Update from Advisory Group on Marine and Coastal Strategy	11:10	Isabel Glasgow
7	FoCF Annual conference	11.30	John Donnelly
8	Update from Core Group members	12:00	All
9	FoCF Core Group – dates of future meetings	12.30	All
10	Any other business	12:40	All
	LUNCH	12.45	
	SSMEI Clyde Pilot Steering Group	13.30	



Firth of Clyde Forum
Minutes of Core Group Meeting
Thursday 24th August 2006
SNH, Caspian House, Clydebank

PRESENT

Chris Nevin (CN) (SNH, Chair of FoCF Core Group)
Claire Pescod (CP) (incoming FoCF Project Officer)
Isabel Glasgow (IG) (Chair)
Danielle Casey (DC) (SNH, Secretary)
John Donnelly (JD) (SSMEI Project Officer)
Kate Thompson (KT) (SSMEI Project Assistant)
Rupert Ormond (RO) (University Marine Biological Station, Millport)
Patrick Stewart (PS) (Clyde Fisherman's Association)
Zoe Clelland (ZC) (RSPB)
Ian Johnson (IJ) (Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan)
Alistair Sinclair (AS) (Scottish Creelers And Divers)
Robin Edgar (RE) (Glasgow and Clyde Valley Joint Structure Plan)
Mike Balmforth (MB) (British Marine Industries Federation Scotland)
Ron Bailey (RB) (Clydeport)
Paul Bancks (PB) (The Crown Estate)
Ethel May Abel (EMA) (Glasgow City Council)

APOLOGIES

Jason Combes (Clyde Fisheries Development Programme)
Jean Curran (Scottish Enterprise)
Rhona Fairgrieve (Scottish Coastal Forum)
Jeremy Glen (Royal Yachting Association Scotland)
Audrey Martin (Argyll & Bute Council)
Lynn Rew (Scottish Enterprise, Dunbartonshire)
David Ross (SEPA)
John Taylor (The Assurance Department, HM Naval Base)

MINUTES, ACTION POINTS AND MATTERS ARISING

Minutes approved.

Action point March 06 1 - JM to investigate a road show in the summer to take round area to raise awareness of FoCF's work.

Discharged.

Action point March 06 2 – Ken Buchan to investigate possibility of getting copies of Cairndow film.

Discharged.

Action point March 06 3 - All to send Julia MacPherson and Rod Cappell r.cappell@royalhaskoning.com initial thoughts on the sustainability indicators and monitoring of the Clyde Pilot Project as outlined by RC and circulated prior to the meeting.

Discharged.

Action point March 06 4 – FoCF to, through Gordon Mann, feed into paper on ICZM to be submitted to AGMACS in May 2006.

Discharged.

Action point March 06 5 – EMA to send Chris Nevin (after JM's departure) details on the study and the planned workshops. Passed to CP – **Action point August 06 1.**

Action point March 06 6 – JM to send the Clyde Coast framework consultants and Scottish Enterprise details of the FoCF, its work, membership scheme etc. Passed to CP – **Action point August 06 2.**

Action point March 06 7 – FoCF to invite Scottish Enterprise and/or the consultants to give a presentation to the Forum to clarify what is being done and to avoid any duplication of effort. Potential contact – Dave Anderson, Local Enterprise, Dunbartonshire.

Ongoing (passed to CP).

Action point March 06 8 – FoCF to invite Clyde Waterfront to make a presentation on their work on marine developments. Passed to CP – **Action point August 06 3.**

Ongoing.

Action point March 06 9 – Core Group members to send final comments on the Business Plan to Chris Nevin at CLYDEFORUM@snh.gov.uk with their top 5 projects by 15th April 2006.

Ongoing.

Action point March 06 10 – All to tease out the overlaps between the Clyde Pilot Project and the FoCF Business Plan projects in order to rationalise Business Plan, and forward comments to Chris Nevin at CLYDEFORUM@snh.gov.uk by 15th April 2006. CP and members to look at Business Plan (and ToR) – **Action point August 06 4.**

Ongoing.

Action point March 06 11 – Julia MacPherson to send Patrick Stewart draft marine protected areas study specification for comments. CP to circulate this round Core Group – **Action point August 06 5.**

Discharged.

Action point March 06 12 – Forum Core Group members to send any further comments on ToR to Chris Nevin at CLYDEFORUM@snh.gov.uk by 15th April. CP to pick this up – **Action point August 06 6.**

Discharged.

Action point March 06 13 – Forum Core Group to contact British Waterways to explore support for FoCF either through financial or staff contribution.

Ongoing.

Action point March 06 14 – Forum Core Group to contact Communities Scotland to explore funding options.

Ongoing.

Action point March 06 15 – EMA to explore funding options with Glasgow City Council and the Clyde Waterfront.

Discharged.

Action point March 06 16 – All to send Chris Nevin indications of financial support and any further suggestions for funding options.

Discharged.

Action point March 06 17 – JM to compile a list of all Clyde related initiatives and circulate to Core Group for additions. Use final list as a basis to plan event (and also for general information to members).

Ongoing.

Action point March 06 18 – George Eckton to feed back any climate change suggested topics to Chris Nevin at CLYDEFORUM@snh.gov.uk.

Discharged (ideas for 2 information days to be pulled together).

Action point March 06 19 – All to send any ideas for annual conference topic to Chris Nevin at CLYDEFORUM@snh.gov.uk by 30th June 2006.

Discharged.

No matters arising.

FOCF PROJECT OFFICER KEY TASKS

Some members thoughts a few key tasks were missing. CN suggested putting in liaison role with key organisations. She pointed out the responsive role of the officer which will require co-ordination of general responses from the forum, as mentioned by RO, is listed in the full job plan but that the officer will be strategic in responding and not respond to every planning application. It was agreed, as a result of a discussion on the role of the forum as a place to exchange views/improve knowledge and/or come to agreements on certain issues, that members are to look at the Business Plan and Terms of Reference ahead of the next meeting and that any further suggestions on key tasks should go to CN in the following 2 weeks.

FOCF MEMBERSHIP & FUNDING UPDATE

CN updated the group on funding of the forum as it stands. It was hoped £12,000 would be raised through membership. £2,260 has been generated through the 25 forms returned. These were a good mix of individuals, voluntary organisations and private/public organisations. CP to consider ways to promote/persuade/encourage people to join. Clydeport, The Crown Estate and SEPA all donating £3,000 each. SNH to provide 50% of project cost. There is, however, a shortfall of almost £9,000 MB suggested phoning around those who have not responded to membership letter. IG pointed out the Community Scotland, as well as Scottish Executive, have money in a pot for this kind of project. CP to think of ways to promote FoCF and encourage uptake of membership – **Action point August 06 5.**

SSMEI CLYDE PILOT UPDATE

Item was on agenda for afternoon SSMEI session.

UPDATE FROM ADVISORY GROUP ON MARINE AND COASTAL STRATEGY (AGMACS)

IG updated on this item:

- Advisory Group was established in November 2005 and there have been 3 meetings since its inception
- Membership restricted to keep the group at a manageable size
- Reasonable balance between socio-economic, environmental and scientific interests
- National industry bodies, national stakeholder bodies, environmental NGOs, relevant regulatory agencies and some individual experts in the field of marine science
- No local interests represented, except FoCF, but they should remain engaged through the existing networks.
- Action Point from 1st meeting was for representatives to contact pressure groups – IG contact COAST (led to commitment for a meeting between COAST and Patrick Stewart)
- Objectives, Outputs and Outcomes can be found at <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/1057/0019924.pdf>
- ICZM Strategy is to be reported to EU Commission
- Ross Finnie chairs the meetings and Rhona Brankin attends
- Papers and agendas can be found at <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Environment/Water/16440/AGMACS>
- Sub-groups – Robin Cook (Fisheries Research Services) convenes a small Marine Science Research Group to identify a science co-ordination structure for Scotland, and advise on how best to make links with UK activity
- Jim Simpson of Scottish Coastal Forum presented a paper on ICZM, and in particular, conflict resolution, at the most recent

meeting, with Gordon Mann, the Firths For a representative on SCF and co-author of the paper, in attendance..

- Among the recommendations in the paper was the production of Regional Policy statements, which, when agreed, would be the basis for a 3 year funding allocation to the series of coastal groups which would deliver Integrated Coastal Zone Management at the local levels, informed by the policies of the Scottish Coastal Forum at the national level. It was proposed that 50% of this funding should come from the Scottish Executive and the remaining 50% from the relevant partnership organisations. It was calculated that Executive financial commitment to all the coastal partnerships would be roughly comparable to one-tenth of the proposed financial contribution to the yet to be established Marine and Coastal National Park.
- Further funding would be necessary for the Scottish Coastal Forum if it were to effectively fulfil its proposed remit in relation to all the Coastal Partnerships
- A further sub-group was established, lead by Graham U'ren from the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) to examine the current initiatives on Marine Spatial Planning and to assess the potential role of these plans in Scotland. One paper has been produced and Part II will be presented at the September meeting. It was agreed that SNH and Scottish Environment LINK would contribute to this paper. There will no doubt be a considerable number of questions posed on the role of Marine spatial planning in Scotland and how it might fit within the wider context of UK and Europe and in particular the proposed UK Marine Bill. It was noted that there had been no formal response by Scotland to the Marine Bill consultation.
- As regards the work of pilot projects set up under the Scottish Sustainable Marine Environment Initiative (SSMEI), Ross Finnie stated "I want the relationship between the work of the Advisory Group and the pilots to be a two way street – the first year of the pilots can be informed by the outputs of this Group; and, particularly in the case of marine spatial planning, any issues that arise in the first year of the pilots can be brought to the Advisory Group for consideration"
- Subgroups that feed back into Advisory Group are supposed to wind-up in November

IJ asked when Ministers will respond to the SCF paper in regards to funding for the local partnerships. IG said there was no certainty on this but was fairly sure that there would be considerable delay because Ross Finnie had responded to the paper very positively in general but pointed out that funding issues would need to be considered in relation to all the other proposals for the coastal and marine environment.

Patrick Stewart pointed out that although member states are required to submit their individual plans for ICZM there were no prescriptions on their methods of delivery.

FOCF ANNUAL CONFERENCE

CN informed members of support received for MSP as the topic for the conference. Last year saw a shortfall of £400. Tickets must be sold at £70 each in order to break even with the possibility of ½ price for members. Suggestions including raising price of tickets to £100, differential pricing, sponsor for lunch, a 3-tier pricing system and charging for displays were made by members. It was also mentioned that the jump in price differences in the membership scheme was rather large. CN said that she is reluctant to make changes to the scheme now that letters have been sent out and some replies received. Format would involve 4 speakers – local (JD); Scottish (Graham U'Ren); UK (Defra); and European (Prof Dr Frank Maes) – and break out sessions. KT suggested a briefing note for the audience on where FoCF are with MSP would be useful.

UPDATE FROM CORE GROUP MEMBERS

RE informed the group that:

- the final draft of the Structure Plan was produced in May. Rumours have it that Ministers might respond my end of 2006. The process went well.

AS informed that:

- SCAD are putting together a programme to bring young lads back in to the industry, especially in the Solway-Tweed basin.

IJ informed the group that:

- Structure Plan was submitted to Ministers in June
- The Executive required submission of exemption for not doing SEA Modifications expected around mid-November with formal comments due in March 2007 (timetable, however, is tentative as 3 councils are currently looking at how Joint Team develops)

ZC informed the group that:

- a new reserve officer and conservation officer have been employed, both for the Inner Clyde area
- For the Outer Clyde area puffins are up by 112, now 35,000 pairs of breeding gannets which are breeding later
- Project on the Ayrshire-Girvan coast have 1 in 3 chance of getting lottery funding.

EMA informed the group that:

- Dalmarnock in east end of Glasgow identified as Commonwealth Games Village. The M74 will be proceeding
- Clyde Gateway development may affect quality of water upstream from Govan, flooding infrastructure and sewage

- There has been an application for a sustainable village and indoor arena/conference centre for the Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre www.riverclydemap.com
- A pontoon is still wanted at Pacific Quay
- An application for a new slipway at the Museum of Transport has been received. Details of developments on the Clyde can be found at www.clydewaterfront.com .

PS informed the group that:

- Clyde Fishermen's Association is in discussion with Argyll & Bute council about ICZM and Loch Fyne, and with COAST about Lamlash Bay.

RO informed the group that:

- research on nephrops is ongoing, with the aim of maintaining the quality of the catch
- Basking shark project ongoing. 6 basking sharks died in 1 week after being caught in creelers
- Whale and dolphin reporting scheme expanded
- There are a number of initiatives to pool the research findings/resources between university stations to make research more co-ordinated.

PB informed the group that:

- Rhona Fairgrieve is on secondment with Scottish Coastal Forum in place of Stephen Midgely
- Comhaile nan Eilean Sair have recently launched the Western Isles Coastal Partnership

RB informed the group that:

- there are already 27 cruises booked for next year
- they are looking at new cargoes
- Clyde Ports to sponsor Regatta
- Clyde Clean Plan is out to tender
- New Queens Harbour Master
- 3000 leisure moorings according to Clyde Moorings Committee
- Holy Loch berth to be expanded
- Hunterston port handled 7M/t of coal last year
- In competition with Ayr for delivery of windfarm components
- Attendance of 1st WFD meeting
- 6 Type 45 destroyers to be built
- an application to run a hovercraft from Dunoon to Glasgow has been received
- Renfrewshire Council is a statutory harbour consultee
- Particularly high tides from 9th to 16th September
- Proposed dredging in Argyll and Bute in January
- Glasgow Harbour: Phase 2 underway

MB informed the group that:

- There is concern over the level of awareness among Ministers of the benefits of the leisure industry which is 50% the value of the fishing industry
- Bringing together suggested improvements to weaknesses in Section 34 of Coastal Protection Act
- Concerns that there is a lack of skills training for the industry

DATES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Suggested dates:

- 7th December 2006
- 28th February 2007
- 30th May 2007

IJ suggested the meeting could be held somewhere in Prestwick. AS suggested the Royal Northern and Clyde Yacht Club, Rhu.