



Firth of Clyde Forum Core Group Meeting
Tuesday 4th December 2007
Exchange House, 229 George Street, Glasgow

Agenda

| | | Time | Lead |
|---|--|-------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | Welcome and Apologies | 14:00 | Chris Nevin (CN) |
| 2 | Minutes from last meeting and matters arising | 14:05 | CN |
| 3 | Chair Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Conference 2007 • COAST | 14:20 | Isabel Glasgow (IG) |
| 4 | Project Officer Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forum Budget <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2007/2008 ▪ 2008/2009 • Membership • LCP Working Group • Forum Terms of Reference and Constitution | 14:40 | Claire Pescod (CP) /All |
| 5 | Future Events/Work <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Conference 2008 • Next Information Event • Future Information Events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Joint FoCF/Clyde AAG event | 15:10 | CN/CP |
| 6 | Update from Core Group members | 15:25 | All |
| 7 | Any other business | 15:55 | All |
| 8 | Next meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Venue for meeting on 5 March • Set date and venue for next meeting - June | 16:05 | All |
| 9 | Presentation from Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park Postponed until next meeting | | postponed |
| | Close | 16:15 | |



Firth of Clyde Forum
Minutes of Core Group Meeting
Tuesday 4th December 2007
Exchange House, 229 George Street, Glasgow

Present

Chris Nevin (CN), SNH, Chair of FoCF Core Group
Isabel Glasgow (IG), FoCF Chair
Allan Doyle (AD), SPT
Claire Pescod (CP), FoCF Project Officer
David Ross (DR), SEPA
Ethel-May Abel (EMA), Glasgow City Council
Kate Thompson (KT), SSMEI Project Assistant
Lori MacIntyre (LM), SNH
Michelle Carol (MC), Glasgow and Clyde Valley Structure Plan Joint Committee
Patrick Stewart (PS), Clyde Fishermen's Association
Roger Horne (RT), Clyde Ports
Vicky MacLaurin (VM), SNH

ITEM 1: Welcome and Apologies

Apologies received from:

Alistair Sinclair (AS), Scottish Creelers and Divers
Ian Johnson (IJ), Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan Team
John Eddie Donnelly (JED), SSMEI Clyde Pilot
Kirsteen MacDonald (KM), Scottish Enterprise
Mark Steward (MS), Argyll and Bute Council
Mike Balmforth, (MB), British Marine Federation
Paul Bancks (PB), The Crown Estate
Rhona Fairgrieve (RF), Scottish Coastal Forum
Zoe Clelland (ZC), RSPB

ITEM 2: Minutes, Action Points and Matters Arising

2.1 Minutes of Sep meeting

No changes.

2.2 Action Points from September meeting

AP Sep 07 1 - IG to give update on COAST and Lamlash Bay Working Group at December Core Group Meeting.

Discharged

AP Sep 07 2 – IG to contact Neil Oliver and Nicholas Crane from the COAST TV programme about giving the keynote presentation at the conference.

Discharged

AP Sep 07 3 – duplicate of AP 2

Discharged

AP Sep 07 4 – GCVSP to look into international speaker possibilities.

Discharged

AP Sep 07 5 – Any Core Group members with Clyde Breakers articles for the next edition to send them to CP by 28 September.

Discharged

AP Sep 07 6 - PB to look into Crown Estate sponsorship for Conference lunch.

Discharged with thanks to The

Crown Estate

AP Sep 07 7 – Core group organisations to respond individually to the public petition (PE1035) if they thought relevant.

Discharged

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

Ongoing

AP Sep 07 9 - CP to circulate information and details of the Clyde Working Group meeting in Largs.

Discharged

2.3 Matters Arising

None

ITEM 3: Chair Update

IG began by thanking all the sponsors of the conference and gave a special thank you to Glasgow City Council for providing the venue. A special vote of thanks was given to Claire for the success of the conference despite the limited time available to her on her return to work. She reported that feedback from the conference had been positive but a number of people mentioned the poor acoustics of the hall. It was suggested that it would be a good idea to purchase a lapel mike for future events in order to ensure that speakers could be clearly heard in all parts of the venue. The Forum also decided that the pre-conference dinner was successful as was the long lunch break and these should be repeated as they provided an opportunity for networking and social interaction between exhibitors and attendees at the conference. EMA mentioned that the representative from Majestic Line seemed disappointed in the lack of debate between audience and participants and it was suggested that workshops be re-introduced for the next conference to encourage more discussion and information sharing. CN again thanked Claire for all her hard work in making the conference a success.

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

3.1 COAST

The Lamlash Bay Working Group has delivered draft proposals which are likely to be announced by Cabinet Secretary Richard Lochhead on Arran either very late this year or early next year. A No Take Zone in the northern part of Lamlash Bay and a fisheries management zone for the southern part of the bay using a Regulating Order has been agreed. IG will report back at next meeting.

ITEM 4: Project Officer Update – in addition to PO Report

4.1 Forum Budget 2007/2008

A detailed report was supplied by the Project Officer. The projected cost of the project is £54K and all contributions are now in from partners. This year the Forum will break even with contributions from the Crown Estate, Scottish Enterprise and Glasgow City Council towards the conference especially welcomed.

4.2 Forum Budget 2008/2009

CN reported her concern on the likely shortfall of contributions to the Forum costs for next financial year. Projected contributions from membership are currently £2-3K. The Forum applied to the Crown Estate for a Marine Stewardship grant of £30K over 3 years but have been offered £9K over 3 years. The Forum is currently awaiting confirmation of the Clydeport contribution for next year. At present projected income is £33K against core costs of £42K which does not include running the conference and various project work which means there is a current shortfall of £10K. There is a possibility that reduced contributions may mean that the project will not be able to run for a full twelve months next year. Discussion followed on how best to promote the aims of the Forum to encourage other funders including providing more information to the 'general public'. Various options to be investigated included corporate sponsorship funding and EM suggested approaching Community Scotland as a potential funder for some of the Forum work.

4.3 Membership

The Forum's membership rates were discussed as some members thought they were rather high. Some of the group thought perhaps the rate should be open to negotiation although our current rate is not as high as other similar organisations. The previous Project Officer Julia McPherson had started to draw up a list of key initiatives around the Clyde which could be placed on the Forum's website to attract interest from people who were not members but who were concerned with safekeeping the Clyde environment. This could be continued although this would involve more work for the Project Officer with no obvious benefit.

CP mentioned that it would be helpful if core group members could raise the profile of the Forum in general within their own organisations and when dealing with other bodies. It was suggested that the Forum could perhaps assist in the management of some of the smaller project work for which universities are now proving very costly. IG mentioned adopting a similar approach to Project Scotland in utilising the skills of volunteers to assist with projects. It was stated that individual memberships alone would not be sufficient to fund the Forum work and that larger sponsorship from more organisations is required.

It was proposed that a further meeting on Friday 11th January (a.m) would be useful as a brainstorming session to discuss the future Forum priorities and the funding problems. It was mentioned that perhaps it is not worth having a membership charging scheme at all when the associated time and resource costs are weighed against the benefits particularly when paying members now total around 40 instead of the figure of 450 members before the charging scheme was introduced.

Earlier in the discussions PS had mentioned the possibility of a role for the Forum as a conduit for information between the Clyde IFG and the wider stakeholder community (and adding value to the IFG process) and IG asked if he could keep this in mind to assist with raising the profile of the Forum.

PS offered to approach Loch Fyne Oysters with a view to becoming members of the Forum as they were suggested as good role models for marketing of local Clyde produce. Members discussed the availability of locally marketed fish and shellfish. PS suggested that a talk from Kenny McNab to Core Group members may be of interest.

- **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.

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

4.4 LCP Working Group

Cathy Tilbrook of SNH and CP (CT lead) are writing a paper for the Scottish Coastal Forum's Marine Management Working Group to inform the Scottish Government's Marine Management Organisation discussions. The paper will look at the local delivery of Marine Spatial Planning by Local Coastal Partnerships, particularly using the experience and close workings of the SSMEI Clyde Pilot and the Firth of Clyde Forum.

4.5 Forum Terms of Reference and Constitution

CP described how some of the Charitable Trusts and funding agencies that she had been looking into to apply for funding for the Forum only donated to properly constituted organisations, charities and/or companies. The process of changing into a company or charity is a long and time-consuming one and CP suggested that the Forum may benefit from changing its current terms of reference into a constitution for Core Group members to sign. This constitution should then enable a larger number of funding organisations to be approached for funding.

Members thought that this would be a good idea and PS offered to provide examples of constitutions for similar organisations for reference and to help CP draft a constitution for the Forum.

- **AP Dec 07 4** – PS to provide examples of constitutions and work with CP to draw one up for the Forum.
- **AP Dec 07 5** – PS to follow up suggestion for Loch Fyne Oysters to become Forum members.

ITEM 5 Future Events/Work

5.1. Annual Conference 2008

The Core Group suggested that the Forum concentrate on climate change as the topic for the 2008 Annual Conference. The proposed timing of the conference is week beginning 10th November 08 – possibly 12th and 13th with the City Chambers as the venue once again. PS suggested that the Buckland lecture by Dr Bill Turrell of Fisheries Research Services (FRS) talking about climate change and Scottish fisheries would be of interest.

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

5.2 Next Info Event

The Forum is planning a joint information event with the Argyll and Bute Beach Forum to promote awareness of the marine environment. It is hoped that the event, due to be held in Campbeltown in March 2008, will increase the awareness of the Forum by increasing circulation of the event information by joining up with the A&B Beach Forum. It is hoped that a joint event will also spread the amount of work needed between the 2 organisations.

A suggested venue is the Aqualibrium leisure centre in Campbeltown, with a site visit to the Machcrihanish SSSI the day before the event to look at beach management (lead by the A&B Beach Forum as it is out of the FoC Forum's area).

5.3 Additional Item

CP advised that the joint FoCF and RSPB Inner Clyde education leaflet was in preparation and the first draft should be available by the end of the week. It is hoped that the leaflet will be printed in February and ready for distribution soon after.

ITEM 6: Update from Core Group members

MC

- The consultation on the draft proposed modifications to the Structure Plan is open until January. The link is on the GCVSP website.

EMA

- It is hoped that the Council Plan will be going to members early in the New Year possibly February. There is likely to be a Public Inquiry in 2008.
- Work on the M74 is progressing, tender out in November, physical construction starts next year. Drainage and SUDS work has already started.
- Plans are progressing for the Commonwealth Games and sites for the village and water facilities are being investigated. Discussions are ongoing into what should be held on the river. Housing will be built near Park Head and there will be a new velodrome and sports arena.
- Clyde Waterfront has gone out to produce a cost plan audit of 26 access points – now in draft. It will look at the condition of the access points for commercial and leisure/recreation as the costs could range from £50-£60K up to £500K. There is lots of discussion about the question of 'is there demand or need for these access points?'
- HMS Diamond was launched recently from BAE systems in Govan.

DR

- Preparing for the first Water Framework Directive classification run on water body status. There are no surprises expected for the Clyde.

PS

- Marine Stewardship Council accreditation of Clyde Nephrops (Prawns) is underway. If certification is given it will be a major achievement.

RH

- Clydeport are waiting to hear about the future of marine planning and recognise that the Forum has an important role to play.

AD

- The official response to the Regional Transport Strategy has still not yet been received.
 - SPT are thinking of projects to do with the Commonwealth Games.
 - Proposals are underway to modernise the subway.
 - A feasibility study into the Yoker/Renfrew ferry is ongoing. The operation of the Renfrew ferry is not viable in the current form and ways of increasing use including updating the current boats or perhaps creating a bridge are being considered. Private operators have expressed interest in running it as a commercial interest. Some Forum members expressed a desire to retain the ferry and perhaps extend the run to the SECC. It was also pointed out that there is a distinct lack of signage on the location of the ferry.
- **AP Dec 07 7** – AD to provide information on the brief for the viability of the Yoker/Renfrew ferry.

ITEM 7: Any other business

None

ITEM 8: Next meeting

Confirmed Core Group meeting dates:

5th March 2008

4th June 2008

New Core Group meeting date set:
2nd September 2008

Clydeport and the SPT Office on West George Street are possible venues for the next two meetings.

The sub group meeting on 11th January 2008 will be held in the SNH office in Clydebank.

ITEM 9: Presentation from Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park

Postponed

Summary of Action Points

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