



**Firth of Clyde Forum Core Group Meeting**

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2012,**

**Greenock Ocean Terminal**

Patrick Street, Greenock, PA16 8UU, tel: 01475 726171

**Agenda**

		<b>Time</b>	<b>Lead</b>
	Tea and coffee	10:00	
1	<b>Welcome and Apologies</b>	10:30	Isabel Glasgow
2	<b>Minutes and Action Points from last meeting</b>	10:35	IG
3	<b>COAST request to join Core Group</b> ➤ Discussion and vote	10:45	IG
4	<b>Landscape Seascape Assessment ENV 10 and MAR 1</b> ➤ Review project plan and Statement of Requirements ➤ Progress update	11:15	Fiona Mills
5	<b>Bio-security Plan – ENV5</b> ➤ Consultation responses ➤ Formal adoption of plan	11:30	IG/FM
6	<b>Work Plan 2012/13</b> ➤ Review and discuss further ideas for project work	11:45	FM
7	<b>Conference / Workshop 2012</b>	12:00	IG/FM
8	<b>Firth of Clyde Forum staffing update</b>	12:10	Ian Bray
9	<b>Update from Core Group members</b>	12:15	ALL
10	<b>Any Other Business</b>	12:40	ALL
11	<b>Future Meeting Dates</b>	12:50	ALL
	Close and lunch	13:00	

**Firth of Clyde Forum Core Group Meeting**  
**5<sup>th</sup> September 2012**  
**Atlantic Quay, Glasgow**

**PRESENT**

Isabel Glasgow (IG) FoCF Chair  
 Fiona Mills (FM) FoCF Project Manager  
 Sarah Brown (SB) FoCF Project Manager

Ian Bray (IB) SNH  
 John Esslemont (JE) Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan  
 Michelle Carroll (MC), GCVSDPA  
 Mark Steward (MS) Argyll & Bute Council  
 Rebecca Dean (RD) Scottish Salmon Company  
 Phillip Cowie (PC), UMBSM  
 Ethel May Abel (EMA), Glasgow City Council  
 Charlie Mawer (CM), Clydeport  
 Rhona Fairgrieve (RF) Scottish Coastal Forum

**APOLOGIES**

David Adams-McGilp, Visit Scotland  
 Zoe Clelland, RSPB  
 Archie McFarlane, Clyde Fishermen's Association  
 Mike Balmforth, BMF  
 Roger Horne, Clydeport

Paul Bancks, The Crown Estate  
 David Lightfoot, HMNB Clyde

**ITEM 1 – Welcome and apologies**

IG welcomed everyone to Ocean Terminal, Greenock and thanked Clydeport for hosting. IG announced there would be a tour of the site after lunch for those who could stay on. IG welcomed Sarah Brown, the new Project Manager to the meeting.

**ITEM 2 – Minutes and action points from last meeting**

The minutes of the last meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2011 were approved.

<b>AP 05/11 1</b>	Contact Ness Smith of the Dorset C-Scope project to obtain a copy of their S/L Assessment and Brief	<b>KD</b>	<b>Done</b>
<b>AP 05/11 2</b>	Send tender document on S/L Assessment from Argyll & Bute Council	<b>MS</b>	<b>Done</b>
<b>AP 05/11 3</b>	Confirm S/L project finances and timeline	<b>KD</b>	<b>Done</b>
<b>AP 05/11 4</b>	Circulate Biosecurity Plan for approval by the project group and then put out to consultation.	<b>FM</b>	<b>Done</b>
<b>AP 05/11 5</b>	Contact Andrew Kent in David Mallon's team to establish how best to link FoCF Marine Strategy with National Marine Strategy.	<b>KD</b>	<b>Carried forward for work plan 2012/13</b>
<b>AP 05/11 6</b>	Simplified information sheet for beach cleaning.	<b>KD</b>	
<b>AP 05/11 7</b>	Issue letter of invitation to join Core Group to Alex Watson-Crook (Clyde IFG)	<b>FM</b>	<b>Done</b>
<b>AP 05/11 8</b>	Look at Clydeport website <a href="http://www.cruiseglasgow.com">www.cruiseglasgow.com</a> and contact RH if web link to wildlife/conservation web pages is needed.	<b>ALL</b>	<b>Done see comment below</b>
<b>AP 05/11 9</b>	Email <a href="mailto:clyde@clydeforum.org">clyde@clydeforum.org</a> with any ideas for the next Clyde Breakers	<b>ALL</b>	<b>Done</b>

CM stated that the Clydeport website is in the process of being updated as it needs to be modernised.

EMA apologised for the logistics issues during the last meeting. IG stated that the FoCF are grateful to Glasgow City Council for hosting meetings.

**ITEM 3 – COAST request to join Core Group**

COAST had sent a document to FoCF outlining their AIMS and current activities as support to their application to join the Core Group which was circulated. Discussion followed with the following themes:

- Is COAST truly a Clyde-wide group at the moment?
- All other members of the Core Group have some statutory obligation or responsibility associated with the coastal and marine area of the Clyde or represent a national body.
- Terrestrial planning does not include community groups in planning process, however, the Scottish Government is currently looking at how to improve involvement of the wider community in the planning process.
- What is the relationship to SIFT? COAST's fishery interests would be best served by joining the Clyde IFG Advisory Group.
- COAST has been involved in FoCF wider membership workshops/meetings along with other community groups and contributed greatly (eg Biosecurity Plan).

It was unanimously agreed that it is not appropriate for COAST to join the Core Group at this point in time for the following reasons:

- COAST is a community group that is not yet truly Clyde-wide
- COAST has no statutory responsibility

It was also unanimously agreed that COAST could contribute greatly to some of the projects that the FoCF is undertaking and that the FoCF should actively engage with COAST on upcoming projects such as the Marine Litter Strategy and Recreation. It is also relevant for the FoCF to consider how future Marine Planning Partnerships can best engage with communities and to consult with COAST and other community groups on this.

- FM/IG to draft letter to COAST along lines above
- RF to consult Marine Scotland on timeline and thoughts on engagement of communities in marine planning

#### **ITEM 4 – Landscape Seascape Assessment**

The Statement of Requirements is out to tender with 8 contractors. Analysis of bids and awarding of the contract will be done by project team end Feb/ beginning March. Inception meeting will be in March. Project is due to take 6 months to complete. RD and MC asked to be included in the project team. MS asked if the project would look at the cumulative effect of windfarms. IB suggested it would only go as far as indicating those areas that were sensitive, moderately sensitive or not sensitive to windfarm development. This can be discussed at the inception meeting to ensure all sides are clear on exactly what the output will be.

- FM to forward Statement of Requirements to RD and MC
- FM to contact Scottish Renewables Forum.
- RF to contact Mike Bland and Marine Scotland renewables team to see if they wish to be involved in the project team.

#### **ITEM 5 – Biosecurity Plan**

IG stated that there was a mostly positive and considered response to the consultation on the Plan which was encouraging. The Firth of Clyde Biosecurity Plan was formally adopted.

FM and SB outlined the INNS project proposed by The Green Blue for Central Scotland which is currently awaiting news of funding from SNH. The project would run for 1 year from April 2012. FM outlined the LIFE+ bid by SNH, Marine Scotland and the other devolved environmental agencies for work on INNS, which includes co-ordination with the Firth of Clyde Biosecurity Plan. If successful, the project would run for 5 years from 2013.

- FM to contact The Green Blue regarding timing of circulation of the project plan to the Core Group

#### **ITEM 6 – Work Plan 2012/13**

FM presented the proposed progress report for 2011/12 and amendments were requested as follows: Clyde Breakers winter edition was not published due to lack of human

resources, beach cleaning should be changed to shoreline cleaning, impacts of fishing is delayed as we are awaiting Marine Scotland Science desk research to be finished. This desk research could be brought up at the Marine Strategy Forum meeting.

- IG to raise fishing impacts desk research project with Marine Scotland at MSF meeting

A discussion followed on various options for a new project to take forward in 2012/13. Ideas were

- Follow-up project depending on output from Safeguarding PMF work by SNH
- Any of the 3 fisheries projects identified as having an overlap with the Clyde IFG management plan – contact Billy Sinclair to discuss
- Marine recreation. Capacity analysis and/or access points including mapping
- PC to send information to FM on the study done by UMBSM in the late 80s on fishing intensity
- RF to include Scotmap as agenda item on next LCP officers meeting (Pam Taylor could also come to talk about project to Core Group)
- FM and SB to consider the feasibility of new projects and include as relevant in work plan

### **ITEM 7 – Conference / Workshop 2012**

It was agreed that a conference on recreation would be appropriate given the potential project described in ITEM 6 above and that this would link well to looking at how to involve community groups/councils in FoCF's work. This could also potentially include a presentation on the importance of the strandline on beaches.

### **ITEM 8 – Firth of Clyde Forum staffing update**

See ITEM 1 Welcome and Apologies.

### **ITEM 9 – Update from Core Group members**

#### **MC**

- Work on the Development Plan is ongoing with reporters currently asking for further clarification on several items at this stage, none of which are marine-related. Due to retirement and redundancy the GCVSDPA will move from 4 to 2 planners. They await recruitment of a new manager in order to decide workstreams going forward.

#### **MS**

- The proposed Local Development Plan will go out to public consultation in August/September and will include a Coastal Development Strategy as supplementary guidance.
- There is a renewables seminar at SAMS on 2<sup>nd</sup> March and a tourism summit at Portavadie on 1<sup>st</sup> March with a marine tourism focus.
- A&B Council are currently dealing with issues following the recent storms including responsibility for aquaculture debris, 2 yachts which came off their moorings and the loss of sand at Ganavan Bay.

#### **RD**

- The Scottish Salmon Company is applying for permission for a new salmon farming development in the north of Arran. The screening and scoping process is complete and an environmental statement is being prepared. There will also be public consultation. It is a 2000 tonne site that they hope to open within 1 year.
- 1 new site is proposed in Loch Fyne and 2 other sites will be optimised (eg improve size of cages). There will be no increase in biomass.
- A site in Loch Striven will be optimised and will increase from 1200 to 2000 tonnes,

#### **PC**

- Research into impact of microplastics ongoing and expanding – covering vertebrates, invertebrates and the environment as a whole.

- UMBSM have been working with N Ayrshire Council to look at optimising beach cleaning on Cumbrae so as to minimise disturbance to the strandline. PC is also developing signage to inform visitors of the importance of the strandline.
- PC to contact FM with regards to support from the FoCF on strandline signage

## **EMA**

- Part of the risk assessment re terrorism threats around the Commonwealth Games has highlighted access from the Clyde as an issue; venues on the Clyde have a high risk status. There is particular concern around development of the Commonwealth Games Village site and its refitting for residential use post the games. One of the options for consideration is the closure of the River Clyde, above the harbour i.e. above Albert Bridge at Glasgow Green throughout the construction, use and refitting period for the Commonwealth Games Village. EMA confirmed that the terrorism threat was a constant element in all aspects of work and programme development. Clydeport, confirmed that they have not have been approached on this matter (spokes person at the meeting could not confirm if they had been) as the harbour authority have powers to respond immediately should there be such a threat. (Commentary provided by EMA).

## **CM**

- There is a steady increase in the number of cruise ships visiting Greenock although there is still uncertainty about the impact of the Concordia incident. The rest of the shipping business is steady.
- Clydeport will have a meeting with the MCA and IFG at some point in the future.

## **RF**

- Marine Scotland has commissioned a shipping survey around Scotland.
- Marine planning regional boundaries are being carefully mapped and the statutory instrument for putting them in place is being drafted.
- The SCF steering group meeting confirmed positive feedback on the conference last year and asked that more information events be organised.

## **SB**

- There are no plans to renew the Scottish post at this time.
- The Green Blue has applied for SNH funding for a INNS project in central Scotland as mentioned previously.

## **IB**

- SNH continues work on identifying a network of MPAs in Scottish marine waters. There are currently search areas around Arran and into Loch Fyne in the Firth of Clyde. To see the proposed areas, visit the JNCC website.

## **JE**

- South and North Ayrshire Local Development Plans are in progress and will be in place before the recess.
- The Hunterston renewables turbine test site application is in progress.

## **IG**

- Attended Coastal Futures in London which was excellent and included reference to issues affecting Scotland. Included a very good talk from Colin Moffat from Marine Scotland on making science accessible.

## **ITEM 10 – Any Other Business**

MS requested that a copy of the wider membership list be circulated to Core Group members so that duplication within organisations can be deleted.

- SB to provide wider membership list to Core Group

Workshop on Safeguarding Priority Marine Features in the Firth of Clyde will take place 28<sup>th</sup> February at the Millennium Hotel in Glasgow. MS and Deirdre Craddock from Glasgow City Council expressed an interest in coming along.

- FM to add MS and Deirdre Craddock to attendance list for PMF workshop

#### **ITEM 11 – Future Meeting Dates**

The next meeting will be held on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2012.

#### **Action Points Summary**

<b>AP 07/02 1</b>	draft letter to COAST	<b>FM/IG</b>
<b>AP 07/02 2</b>	consult Marine Scotland on timeline and thoughts on engagement of communities in marine planning	<b>RF</b>
<b>AP 07/02 3</b>	forward Statement of Requirements to RD and MC	<b>FM</b>
<b>AP 07/02 4</b>	contact Scottish Renewables Forum	<b>FM</b>
<b>AP 07/02 5</b>	contact Mike Bland and Marine Scotland renewables team to see if they wish to be involved in the project team	<b>RF</b>
<b>AP 07/02 6</b>	contact The Green Blue regarding timing of circulation of the project plan to the Core Group	<b>FM</b>
<b>AP 07/02 7</b>	raise the Marine Scotland fishing impacts desk research project with Marine Scotland at MSF meeting	<b>IG</b>
<b>AP 07/02 8</b>	send information to FM on the study done by UMBSM in the late 80s on fishing intensity	<b>PC</b>
<b>AP 07/02 9</b>	include Scotmap as agenda item on next LCP officers meeting (Pam Taylor could also come to talk about project to Core Group)	<b>RF</b>
<b>AP 07/02 10</b>	consider the feasibility of new projects and include as relevant in work plan	<b>FM/SB</b>
<b>AP 07/02 11</b>	contact FM with regards to support from the FoCF on strandline signage	<b>PC</b>
<b>AP 07/02 12</b>	provide wider membership list to Core Group	<b>SB</b>
<b>AP 07/02 13</b>	add MS and Deirdre Craddock to attendance list for PMF workshop	<b>FM</b>