Members' Meeting Agenda:

21st September 2021

Online meeting

	Item	Time	Lead
1.	**Virtual teas/coffees & connect to meeting space**	10:15-10:30	All
2.	**Welcome and apologies**	10:30-10:35	Chair
3.	**Chairman's Report**	10:35-10:40	Chair
4.	**Review of action points from last meeting**	10:40-10:45	Chair/Chris Cutts
5.	**Marine Scotland Response to the Draft Plan**	10:45-11:30	Chair/CC
6.	**Future considerations for the CMPP** • Governance and legal structure discussion and consultation process update • CMPP banking arrangements update	11:30-12:15	Chair/CC
Lunch		12:15-13:00	
7.	**Sustainable Management of UK Marine Resources outcome**	13:00-13:15	Chair
8.	**Members' updates**	13:15-14:15	All
9.	**AOB** • Aquaculture Review • River Activation Programme grant application	14:15-14:30	CC/All
10.	**Annual Members' meeting: 7th December 2021**	14:30-14:55	
11.	**DONM** • Members' meeting: 7th December 2021	14:55-15:00	Chair
12.	**Close**	15:00	Chair

Minutes of the CMPP Members' Meeting
21st September 2021
Online meeting

Chair: Anthony Gallagher (AG)

Present: Voting Members
Graham Russell (GR), RYAS
Lorraine Holdstock (LH), Argyle and Bute Council
Ruth McIntosh (RM), CMAL
Fiona Mills (FM), NatureScot
Catherine Lambert (CL), Clydeplan
Thom Ledingham (TL), North Ayrshire Council
David Denoon (DD), SEPA
Zoe Clelland (ZC), RSPB
Lucy Kay (LK), COAST
Simon MacDonald (SM), WCRIFG
Elaine Whyte (EW), CFA
David Hearton (DH), South Ayrshire Council
Jan Brooke (JB), Peel Ports Clydeport
Paul Banks (PB), Crown Estate Scotland
Penny Hawdon (PH), The Scottish Salmon Company
Willie Kennedy (WK), SSACN
Callum Duncan (CD), Scottish Environment LINK
Derek Manson (DM), LLTNP

Present: Others
Chris Cutts (CC), CMPP
Sam McFarlane (SMcF), CMPP
Aisling Duncan (AD), Marine Scotland
Jim Miller (JM), Board
Howard Wood (HW), Board
Alex Watson Crook (AWC), Board
Charlie Simcox (CS), Board

Apologies:
David Kinniburgh, Board
Fiona Munro, Marine Scotland

2. Welcome and Apologies

The chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were listed as above.

3. Chairman's Report

Staff changes have occurred within the team at Marine Scotland (MS) with Damon Hewlett now moving on from his position as marine planning and strategy manager. Going forward our main contact for the Regional Marine Plan will be Fiona Munro.

The Chair noted that since the last meeting the team have been working on a response to the MS comments on the Plan and also working on the future governance structure of the partnership. Meetings have taken place between the CMPP staff and MS regarding the comments on the Plan and also as a response to the decision at the last members meeting not to take on any new applicants. The CMPP staff have also been involved in a meeting with the Clyde Coastal Community Councils (CCCC). It was noted that COVID 19 has also had an impact to the CMPP staff team over summer.

The Chair highlighted that we would normally have our Annual Members Meeting around this time of year however due to staff changes etc. we will be holding it at the next members meet in December.

4. Review of action points from last meeting

Reference	Summary	Lead & Status
01/17/06/2021	CMPP to have a conversation with the Marine Scotland Licensing team to look at what the preferred route might be regarding wording in the draft plan.	CC/SMcF; Done; See Item 5

Reference	Summary	Lead & Status
02/17/06/2021	Members to share any additional feedback on the Marine Scotland response to the draft plan by the 8th of July.	CMPP members; Done
03/17/06/2021	Members to pass comment on the possible restructure of the Action Plan to CMPP by the 8th of July.	CMPP members; Done, Action Plan paused until draft plan submitted
04/17/06/2021	CMPP to make contact again with Scottish Enterprise, the Federation of Small Businesses and the Scottish Chamber of Commerce	CC/SMcF; Done, no response
05/17/06/2021	SMcF to make contact with the CDPI for more information regarding their application.	SMcF; Done, decided not to support
06/17/06/2021	CC to respond to membership applicants with reasons for decision.	CC; Done, meeting to be held with Clyde Community Councils 16th September

The chair expanded on the last action point and explained that as a result of the CMPP's decision not to take on new membership at the moment both the CCCC and SIFT have written letters to Scottish Ministers. The chair was involved in follow up meetings with MS and response letters have been sent out to both organisations.

5. Marine Scotland Response to Draft Plan

The chair explained that due to the late nature of partnership members receiving the final document with the CMPP's response to MS, an additional 2 weeks would be granted on top of any comments received at the meeting today.

CC talked through the checklist document with members and highlighted that a new paragraph had been added at the beginning of the Plan in the section on *how to apply the policies* regarding the wording around proportionate responses.

LH highlighted a general point on behalf of Argyll and Bute Council that the councillors would need to see a copy of the draft Plan before we submit for ministerial approval to go to public consultation. It was questioned whether this is a process that all councils in the region will have to go through? It was decided to touch on this point later in the meeting.

The floor was opened to comments on the changes in response to MS comments.

ZC made comment on 4 aspects of Plan changes

1. Policy NH3 (e) - Disagrees with the deletions from the PMF policy. It appears that significant text has been removed. Other members agreed that we have to review these deletions.
2. Policy SEC1 – have used the words "where practicable" so need to change.
3. Objective FISH2 – have used "where possible" so similar issues with using "where practicable". Noted that the additional text in FISH2 does not seem to fit well with the rest of the policy and should be in the text elsewhere in the chapter.
4. Objective ENCA1 and Policy ENCA2 – Now look like they are supportive of oil and gas exploration with some caveats. Highlighted that in the year of COP26 in Scotland it would not be appropriate to have such policies and RSPB would not sign up to that.

GR also made comment on both ENCA1 and ENCA2. Agrees that wording could be better but suggested that we need to take MS along with us and are guided by the MS suggestions

to those policies and use the public consultation as a time to allow participants to comment for change.

AD highlighted that there has been significant changes to the Scottish Government with the addition of the Green Party and even their programme for government is reflective of that so there are additional things we have to bear in mind. Agrees that public consultation may be the best time to get responses and form an evidence base for making changes to the policy.

It was voiced by various members of the group that it would not be acceptable to go ahead with the policy in its current state just because it is existing government policy. Various members around the table have made their own separate commitments towards the climate emergency. The CMPP should be leading the way in cleaner, greener energy…not supporting oil and gas.

EW agreed that we have to make sure we are taking MS along with us but also recognises there have been significant changes to a few of the strategies and policies such as the Future of Fisheries Management so will submit her own comments. Commented on the stock analysis from MS – new stock analysis is underway on things like the King Scallop so need to make sure the science is updated as it comes.

The chair noted that the team now have various policies to look at not including the additional comments that will come in from members over the next 2 weeks. We also now have to take into account the additional layer of seeking approval from the councils before going to consultation. As we don't want this iteration of the plan to go on and on it was suggested that once we have the next draft we will give members a maximum turnaround of 1 week to come back to us before we submit to MS.

JM touched back on the earlier point made by LH regarding Plan approval from councils. Hadn't intended to go back to the councillors at this stage of the plan however it has been a while since the committee have had a report on the plan so it would be appropriate to do so now.

Action – LH to inform the CMPP on how long the process could take for councillor approval from Argyll and Bute once we have the second iteration of the draft plan.

JM informed the group that the next committee meeting for North Ayrshire would be the 3rd of December.

CL would have to clarify with Stuart Tait regarding this issue from a Clydeplan perspective but doesn't think it would be going to the committee until we actually have the draft that is going to consultation. Next committee meeting for Clydeplan would also be December.

Action – All members to provide feedback on response to MS comments by 5th October.

6. **Future Considerations for the CMPP**

Governance and Legal Structure:

The chair explained that this section will cover both the future governance and legal structure of the CMPP as both are interlinked.

CC talked through the options paper presented to the members and explained that the key questions from today's meeting include:

1. What should the consultation process entail?

2. How long should it be?
3. Who should be consulted? I.e. do we keep it in-house or go external?

It was highlighted by members that whichever option we choose going forward with legal structure (unincorporated association, company limited by guarantee etc.) it will be quite an onerous task with the current size of the partnership as the process is quite lengthy and complex. This process could be streamlined to be undertaken by a specific group such as the board.

It was agreed by some members that whilst it is a lengthy process it may be worth going for to set us up long-term, especially if we do not have a long term commitment with NatureScot to host CMPP staff.

The chair suggested that a good timeframe for putting forward a proposal for a governance structure which members could vote on would be the February CMPP meeting. If timescales allow we could get to statutory consultation early next year then have sign off and implementation of a new structure for next summer.

It was agreed that it was important to have clarity on what the new structure will be before we move to plan implementation.

It was questioned what the Clyde 2020's role will be in the future.

The chair explained that there is a willingness for C2020 to continue but the group will require some restructuring to be formalised within the CMPP structure.

An important point was raised that at present the paper does not distinguish between those in the partnership who will deal with the formal replies to MS regarding licence applications, and those that will contribute to helping move the Action Plan along. The future governance options need to differentiate between these groups and we have to find a process on how this will be decided.

It was suggested that those involved in the consultation should include the members of the partnership involved in the Plan but also those organisations who have applied to be part of the CMPP and other organisations who we have heavily worked with during consultation processes.

It was suggested that a future governance model could include an amalgamation of the options available such as:

1. Board
2. Steering group who deal with CMPP views on licensing applications (only goes to the board if decisions can't be made)
3. Subgroups such as Advisory groups (C2020) and Community council groups etc.

It was highlighted that the majority of the board are made up of Local Authorities so we need to investigate what process they would have to go through before they could sign up to any future governance changes.

A point was made that we need to be mindful of subgroups for the future governance structure as it could result in many members feeling that they are not being fully engaged especially when there are members of the Board who are not regularly attending CMPP meetings.

Also noted whether there is a need for members to be an incorporated organisation in order to sign the constitution for the future governance structure.

FM clarified for members that the initial agreement with NatureScot was that CMPP would be housed by them only until plan implementation. This agreement has subsequently been extended as we are still in development phase and as such we now have confirmation until March 2023. Whether NatureScot could commit to a more extended housing period (10 years e.g.) is unknown. FM questioned if members *would* be happy with this arrangement if it became available? Especially as it may hinder future opportunities for funding applications or there could be feelings of bias from other members in the partnership.

The chair questioned if any members had an opinion on the CMPP remaining housed within NatureScot (if the option became available).

Members expressed through the "chat box" in Teams that they had no problems with continuing with NatureScot. It was also noted that NatureScot is regarded as a neutral party and the benefits of being part of an existing organisation for payroll, HR support etc. for staff is a great advantage.

It was discussed if we *do* continue with NatureScot would other organisations within the group be able to make applications for funding on behalf of the partnership. It doesn't necessarily need to be the lead organisation.

CC questioned if Marine Scotland had any updates on their response to the ECCLR report and regional marine planning as this will inform how we go ahead with our future governance.

AD informed that Marine Scotland had been working on an options appraisal that will be going to the senior leadership team and then ministers. The options appraisal will give the 5-10 year review of regional marine planning. Hoping to get that to the senior team in the next week but things have been put on a slight hold at the moment with the Green Party agreement and reprioritisation within Scottish Government.

Concluded this section with the agreement that we want the future governance structure changes to be in place for the implementation phase of the plan (potentially next summer if things go to plan).

It was discussed again who should be involved in the consultation process and how far we should go external (based on the CMPP staff team meeting with the Clyde Coastal Community Council [CCCC] group earlier in the week). Members were asked how wide ranging they would be happy to consult with.

It was noted that we have to remember that there are over 200 community councils within the Clyde Marine Region and we need to be mindful that we are getting the views of that whole demographic and not just one group.

It was suggested that rather than trying to get in touch with every community council, we keep in touch with those who are most interested in the process and have conversations with them on what we are proposing to do and gain their views.

It was highlighted to the group that there may be groups who don't know much about the partnership at the moment but the decisions made as part of the plan will have significant effects on them and thus they would want to become more involved.

The chair discussed the previous meeting with the CCCC and expressed their concerns that they have been excluded from the partnership. We explained to the CCCC that we are going through a process of discussing an appropriate structure for the CMPP going forward and

have asked the CCCC to produce a paper on how they would like to see themselves involved in that.

The idea of holding our CMPP meetings for the public was discussed and it was agreed that going forward we *could* host an annual public meeting.

Banking Arrangements:

CC explained to the group that we are still trying to find a suitable facility to house the CMPP funds and the situation has become quite urgent. Unfortunately the Fields Studies Council can no longer go through with their offer as they cannot claim back the 20% VAT on the NatureScot invoices.

ZC expressed that *IF* we exhaust all other avenues and no other councils could fulfil this role then she would be willing to ask the question if RSPB could be a stop-gap for a short period of time.

CL explained that Clydeplan were in the process of transitioning from Renfrewshire council to Glasgow City council which is why Renfrewshire are not continuing to hold the funds for CMPP. Renfrewshire council are not direct members of the CMPP.

LH agreed to look into the housing situation from the perspective of Argyll and Bute Council.

Action – LH to enquire if Argyll and Bute Council could potentially hold the funds

Action – CMPP to send draft memorandum of understanding to the partnership to allow other local councils to see what the agreement involves.

7. Sustainable Management of the Clyde Marine Region

The chair explained that the proposal submitted to the NERC / ESRC funding programme Sustainable Management of UK Marine Resources (SMMR) entitled “Co-creating a multi-value approach to sustainable governance (MarCo)” was unfortunately not funded.

Our panel score for Research Excellence (0 - 10) was 8

Our panel score for Fit to Scheme – Scientific Objectives (0-6) was 6

The chair further highlighted that the project scored higher than one of the projects awarded funding.

There has been talk around having a second round of funding however we don’t fully know if this will materialise or if we can submit the same bid that has already been submitted.

8. Members’ updates

SMcF highlighted that the members’ updates currently take up 1 hour of the meeting agenda. It was suggested that going forward the members submit a word document with a short update on their organisation which SMcF can circulate before the meeting and also include within the meeting minutes. A shorter period of time would thus be given to the members’ updates on the agenda should anything need to be unpicked or further discussed.

It was also suggested that as we are conducting our meetings in a virtual manner – would members prefer an earlier start time of 9.30am for meetings, finishing at around 1pm.

Members were in agreement and the new format will be trialled for the next meeting.

Marine Scotland – Interviews are currently underway to fill Damon Hewlett's former position within MS. AD is also moving on to a new position to work on marine protected areas so this will be her last meeting. Shetland have had their amended draft plan approved by council so they are in the final stages before submitting their plan to ministers. It is hoped this will be completed by the end of 2021. Orkney have started the process of marine planning. Only outstanding issue for the Clyde is the banking arrangements for our funds.

Clydeplan – Working on supporting the development of the Regional Economic Strategy for the Glasgow City Region. Anticipating National Planning Framework 4 in the not too distant future. Clydeplan have yet to transition in to the Glasgow City Region.

Scottish Environment LINK – Marine Conservation Society have now run their Great British Beach Clean. The marine group at LINK is now being supported by Esther Brooker which means they now have 2 marine policy and engagement officers until 2024.

SEPA - ?

South Ayrshire Council – Dealing with information requests for ?

CFA – Still remain extremely busy dealing with the effects of Covid and Brexit ?

NatureScot – Dynamic Coast 2 (DC2) is just about to launch. DC2 looks to bring sea level rise into the equation and show predicted changes to the coastline. Have done some case studies and some have been done in the Clyde. Will share once they are out of draft form. Still working with North Ayrshire Council on the Natural Capital Assessment for the Hunterston area.

RYA Scotland - With the relaxation of Covid restrictions there has been a lot or recreational boating activity on the water, probably more than in 'normal' years. At 16:30 on Sunday 19th September there were 42 pleasure craft transmitting an AIS signal in the Clyde Marine Region. This equates to more than 200 yachts and large powerboats on passage. More were tied up in a marina or on a mooring having just completed a trip. To this needs to be added small craft such as dinghies and small cruisers. In the neighbouring Solway Marine Region, plans are afoot for developing a larger marina facility in Stranraer. A safety forum has been set up for Loch Ryan to co-ordinate across three harbour authorities. Stranraer is about a day's sail from Ayr so could form part of a cruising route from Belfast up the Clyde coast and encourage boats on the Clyde to go a little further afield. In July, the RYA published its *Carbon Pathways to Zero* paper (https://www.rya.org.uk/about-us/policies/environment-and-sustainability). This represents the RYA's Vision for a Zero Carbon Recreational Boating Sector by 2050. RYA Scotland is working with the RYA to help implement this. The Royal National Lifeboat Institution has also launched its sustainability plan (https://rnli.org/about-us/sustainbility), which includes policies to move to net zero for propulsion.

Argyll and Bute Council – The Marine Infrastructure Needs Assessment has been completed and the report is being written up. The Local Development Plan 2 is still in its examination phase.

North Ayrshire Council – Hoping to put their Local Development Plan scheme to committee at the end of the month. Proposed fish farm off the coast of Arran is still at the appeal stage and has no further updates. PeelPorts have published a consultation on their development framework for Hunterston.

Peel Ports – Have organised a workshop at the International Maritime hub during COP26 regarding climate adaptations to ports. Have a revision order out for consultation in support of COP26 ensuring that everything runs smoothly and should be in place for the event. Have been running their 3 yearly incident management procedures for oil spills.

Crown Estate Scotland – Have a new director of property who joined last week. Feedback from marine associations in the Clyde have highlighted moorings that have been left un-serviced or abandoned by their owners so will need to observe closely so that they don't become a hazard.

Action – Chair to contact PB regarding further information on a possible project conducted by ABPMer on fisheries in the Clyde that is to be funded by Crown Estate Scotland.

CMAL – No update

WCRIFG – Keeping busy with the regional inshore fisheries groups in general. Concentrating on the creel limitations issue within the Clyde. Also concentrating on the scallop issues. Concerns just now that the alliance between the Greens and Scottish Government could introduce new highly protected marine environments in addition to the MPA's that currently exist. Could take out a further 10% of the water for the fishing industry. Mharie Gouegon has confirmed that this is not yet set in stone.

SSACN – No update.

9. AOB

Aquaculture Review Letter

CC talked members through the Aquaculture Review Letter which has a deadline of the 10th of October. Members were asked for any input to the letter which CC will draft on behalf of the CMPP.

GR informed the group that the RYA Scotland response will point out the importance of regional marine planning partnerships in identifying where may or may not be appropriate for fish farming.

Action – Members to provide any comment on the Aquaculture Review Letter

LH informed the group that the Local Authorities have an aquaculture regulating meeting that will be pooling together comments for a response. Once in a better format she can forward on the reviews from all of the Local Authorities.

Action – LH to forward on comments from the LA's regarding the Aquaculture Response.

River Activation Programme Grant Application

CC discussed the River Activation Grant Application as detailed in the meeting papers. Unfortunately due to the close proximity of the deadline we may not be able to get a bid in on time.

Action – CC to send some more information to DD regarding the river activation application

Observer present at next meeting from Clyde Coastal Community Councils

The chair asked members if they would be happy with David Nairn (CCCC) coming along as an observer to the next CMPP meeting in December.

Members were instructed to raise hands in favour of allowing an observer. Votes were counted and the majority vote is that the CMPP would not be happy with an observer attending the next meeting.

Members expressed again that they would be happy to take community council aspect forward once we have agreed the future governance structure.

It was also highlighted again that a better process may be to have an annual meeting in which we invite the public.

All members were in agreement.

Action – CMPP to contact CCCC with the result of the observer decision

10. Annual Members' Meeting

The next Annual Members' Meeting is to be held on the 7th December immediately before the members' meeting. Currently the Permanent Board Members are:

1. Councillor Ian Cochrane, South Ayrshire Council
2. Councillor David Kinniburgh, Argyll and Bute Council
3. Jim Miller, North Ayrshire Council
4. Charlie Simcox, Clydeport Operations Ltd.
5. Stuart Tait, Clydeplan
6. Kerry Wallace, NatureScot

Currently non-permanent board members are:
1. Simon McDonald
2. Alex Watson Crook
3. Howard Wood
4. Elaine Whyte

Members were reminded that we currently have 2 positions available on the non-permanent board and that any nominations from those wishing to join (or step back from their current position) should be sent to the CMPP before the next meeting.

11. DONM

7th December 2021

13. Close

Summary of action points

Reference	Summary	Lead
01/21/09/2021	LH to inform the CMPP on how long the process could take for councillor approval from Argyll and Bute once we have the second iteration of the draft plan.	LH
02/21/09/2021	All members to provide feedback on response to MS comments by 5th October.	CMPP members

Reference	Summary	Lead
03/21/09/2021	LH to enquire if Argyll and Bute Council could potentially hold the CMPP funds	LH
04/21/09/2021	CMPP to send draft memorandum of understanding to the partnership to allow other local councils to see what the agreement involves.	SMcF
05/21/09/2021	Chair to contact PB regarding further information on a possible project conducted by ABPMer on fisheries in the Clyde that is to be funded by Crown Estate Scotland.	Chair
06/21/09/2021	Members to provide any comment on the Aquaculture Review Letter	CMPP members
07/21/09/2021	LH to forward on comments from the LA's regarding the Aquaculture Response.	LH
08/21/09/2021	CC to send some more information to DD regarding the river activation application	CC
09/21/09/2021	CMPP to contact CCCC with the result of the observer decision	CC