Members' Meeting Agenda:

1st March 2022

Online meeting

Members' Meeting Agenda

	Item	Time	Lead
1.	**Welcome and apologies**	9.30 – 9.35	Chair
2.	**Chairman's report**	9.35 – 9.40	Chair
3.	**Review of action points from last meeting**	9.40 – 9.45	Chair
4.	**Update on Marine Scotland response to Draft Plan**	9.45 – 10.30	CC
5.	**Future Governance workshops**	10.30 – 11.30	CC
	Coffee Break	11.30 – 11.45	
6.	**Communication around the CMPP**	11.45 – 12.05	Chair
7.	**Members' updates**	12.05 – 12.35	All
8.	**AOB**	12.35 – 12.45	Chair/All
9.	**DONM** 7th June 2022?	12.45 – 12.50	Chair
10.	**Close**	12.50	Chair

Minutes of the CMPP Members' Meeting
1st March 2022
Online meeting

Chair: Anthony Gallagher (AG)

Present: Voting Members

Fiona Mills (FM), NatureScot
Graham Russell (GR), RYA Scotland
Paul Bancks (PB), Crown Estate Scotland
Lucy Kay (LK), Coast
Zoe Clelland (ZC), RSPB
Lorraine Holdstock (LH), Argyll and Bute Council
Calum Duncan (CD), Scottish Environment LINK
David Denoon (DD), SEPA
Simon Limb (SL), British Marine
Elaine Whyte (EW), CFA
Jan Brooke (JB), Peel Ports
Catherine Lambert (CL), Clydeplan
Thom Ledingham (TL), North Ayrshire Council
Ruth McIntosh (RM), CMAL
Simon MacDonald (SM), WCRIFG

Present: Non-Voting Members

Chris Cutts (CC), CMPP
Sam McFarlane (SMcF), CMPP
Fiona Munro (FMun), Marine Scotland
Sophie Humphries (SH), Marine Scotland
Alex Watson Crook (AWC), Board
Jim Miller (JM), Board

Apologies:

Richard Millar, Scottish Canals
Ian Cochrane, Board
David Kinniburgh, Board
Derek Manson, LLTNP
David Hearton, South Ayrshire Council
Willie Kennedy, SSACN
Howard Wood, Board

1. **Welcome and apologies:**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted that JM would be joining late. EW informed members that SM would also be joining late. SH joined for her first CMPP meeting as Marine Planning and Strategy Manager at Marine Scotland (replacing Damon Hewlett).

2. **Chairman's report:**

The Chair began by referencing the development around the Clyde cod box and informed members that Professor Mike Heath (Chair of the Clyde 2020 Research and Advisory Group) would be speaking at the Rural Affairs, Islands and Natural Environment Committee on the academic panel. A report from that meeting can be found on the Scottish Parliament's website and can be accessed by the following link:
http://archive2021.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=13613&mode=pdf

Due to a number of recent press releases referencing the CMPP we have adding an agenda item on communication to the meeting today.

Marine Scotland returned their comments to the second iteration of the Draft Regional Marine Plan on 24th February 2022.

Following on from the Governance Workshops which took place in January 2022, an MSP has sent a letter to Ministers on behalf of an organisation regarding the matter of being elected onto the Partnership. Organising the new structure of the CMPP going forward is therefore a matter of urgency.

3. Review of action points from last meeting:

Reference	Summary	Status
01/09/12/2021	CMPP to touch base with CL and TL regarding the consultation process within LA's	Ongoing
02/09/12/2021	CMPP to respond to NPF4	Ongoing

4. Update on Marine Scotland response to Draft Plan:

CC shared screen and talked members through the Marine Scotland comments document. Most of the feedback is related to minor updates which are required due to policy changes that have occurred since the Plan was first submitted in July 2020. There are also a number of dead hyperlinks which need to be updated.

Key discussion points:

- Regarding Marine Scotland's comments around proportionality, we need to be careful when adding words like "significant" as we don't want to open ourselves up to terms which require further definition. This is already something that members are coming up against in other policy documents such as The National Planning Framework. We don't want the policy to become any looser and lose its integrity.

- MS made comment that the Plan contains no reference to seal haul-out sites despite there being at least five in the Clyde region. CC explained that the "Assessment of the Clyde Marine Region" document goes into greater detail on those haul-out sites. Members felt that we need to be mindful of how much we "repeat" the Assessment in the Draft Plan. We had previously taken the decision that if there wasn't a policy on the subject within the Plan then we didn't need to include all of the associated information as it was already in the Assessment. This also applies to further comments in the document which suggest we include *Table 4.1 Summary of Licences* to our Aquaculture sector. We previously included this table but removed it as it wasn't adding any value to the plan itself.

- Conversely, it may just be a simple reference to the importance of seal haul-outs in the Clyde as we mention other species in the context section of the Natural Heritage chapter.

- Policy CC2. Rather than being prescriptive about what is and is not a carbon store, we should word the policy to clarify that we will support a form of harvesting that will allow re-growth and re-generation.

- Policy NH3. More thought and discussion is required around the suggested policy change. Defining areas could potentially weaken the Objectives of NH1.

- It was pointed out that in terms of PMF's there will be policy available that *will* identify PMF's and the proportion that should be protected. Legislation may soon be passed regarding the Highly Marine Protected Areas and PMF work that is happening at a national level.

- Policy ML2. Members would like to keep this as a *policy* not a recommendation.

- Members agreed with suggested changes to the Aquaculture intro.

- Some members felt that we should generally accept the majority of Marine Scotland's comments at this stage as we need to remember that this is not the final document and wording is subject to change following the consultation. Mixed reviews regarding this suggestion. Other members felt they would like to tackle the comments at this point in time (especially if they change the meaning).

Action – CMPP to circulate a copy of the Plan with track changes *before* final submission.

Action – Sam to download a transcript of the "chat box" that accompanied the meeting to circulate with the minutes.

5. **Future Governance Workshops:**

CC shared a presentation which identified and summarised the main outputs from the workshops. The presentation will be circulated to members with the minutes.

Key discussion points:

- Some members felt that as we are a *marine* planning partnership and not just a coastal partnership we should have a balance on the Board including marine users and not just planning authorities.

- In the decision making slide – where we state "planning authorities" should be changed to "statutory" or "relevant" authorities.

- Suggestion that we have a high level board (statutory and elected members) who understand that they have the overall responsibility but are not making the decision whether or not the application is in line with the Plan. The advisory level below that would make the decisions on whether the application meets the criteria. We then need a split between the statutory functions and the management side of things.

- Conversely, another suggestion was made that the decision making process *should* firmly sit with the board and that group should be made up of statutory bodies (the delegate). Sectoral interests should not be represented at board level. Sectoral interests should sit on the steering group below to inform the decisions that the board make and to make improvements on the next iteration of the plan. The steering group is where the thinking happens. The project work and research would happen in the working groups below.

- We need to have diagrams and descriptions to show exactly what the roles would be for each tier.

- The presentation highlights at various points that community councils want to be consulted on the Marine Plan. Need to make it clear that being part of the decision making process in a future governance structure means that you are only consulting on whether or not an application is in line with the Plan – regardless of the views of individual organisations.

- The role of consulting with the communities should come from the decision maker i.e. Marine Scotland.

- Regarding the legal structure, comments were made that if we move to a Company or SCIO, we need to be mindful that this may be seen as privatisation of a public resource and could cause issues. However if we separate the functions of the Board from the working groups then potentially the working groups could look into becoming, for example, a SCIO.

Action – Sam to circulate a copy of the workshop presentation.

6. **Communication around the CMPP:**

The Chair explained that various articles had been published in the last few weeks regarding the CMPP that contained inaccurate information. The question was asked of members how we should deal with this types of situation moving forward. Do we need to look at a strategy for communication and develop it moving forward?

Key discussion points:

- We need to improve our communication on who we are and what we do as previously it has been quite poor.

- Regarding responding to articles it may be the best solution sometimes to leave it be.

- We need to maximise our opportunities for people to be engaged in what we do. Our future communications strategy should involve the members of the partnership and what would be expected of them in helping us to communicate.

- Useful for the website to have a FAQ section.

7. **Members' updates:**

LLTNP - Focussing on responding to NPF4 and other live Scottish Government consultations.

Clydeplan - Currently working with the eight Local Authorities in the Glasgow City Region on our response to Draft NPF4. The response will be considered by the Joint Committee on 14th March in advance of the consultation deadline (31st March). We are also considering the Scottish Government's recent Draft Guidance on Local Development Planning and how we can support the GCR Local Authorities with the development of their new LDP's within the context of the emerging Guidance and the context that this will provide for the new Regional Spatial Strategy. Guidance for the development the RSS is anticipated later this year.

North Ayrshire Council - We have received a planning application for the construction of high voltage cable making facility at the former coal yard at Hunterston. We only received this application on Friday so are still going over the details ,but the documents received state that there will be minimal or no impact on the marine environment (this is the applicant's view and by no means a finalised view of anyone at the Council, officers are still to make an assessment on this). For those interested, the application reference is 22/00133/PPPM and relevant documents can be access on the Councils e - planning webpage https://www.eplanning.north-ayrshire.gov.uk/OnlinePlanning/search.do?action=simple

Regarding NPF4, the council are still to submit its response to the Scottish Governments Draft National Planning Framework 4 consultation and Guidance on how to produce a LDP. The guidance and regulations on LDPs includes a bigger focus on evidence gathering to produce an "evidence report" this may include some information and data relating to

marine planning and the marine environment. Officers are reporting to the planning committee in March which dictate how the Council responds to the application.

Irvine Harbourside Consultation – the council's growth and investment team are consulting on plans to regenerate Irvine Harbourside. You can see details at **http://northayrshire.community/great-harbour-project-irvine/46655/** consultation is running until Sunday 13th of March.

The Council is also consulting on the Active Travel and Transport Strategy. Numerous events are planned and includes some commentary on travel on the Clyde and at Ardrossan Harbour. Details can be found at: Have your say on our future travel plans (north-ayrshire.gov.uk)

Crown Estate Scotland – Recruiting for new Board members.

NatureScot – Large number of recruitments going on at the moment with regards to the ScotWind initiative.

Scottish Environment LINK - Giving evidence tomorrow at the RAINE Committee regarding the Clyde cod box closure.

Action – Any additional updates to be sent to Sam to be included in the minutes.

7. **AOB:**

The Chair asked members how they would like to proceed with meetings going forward. Would they prefer face to face or to continue online?

There was a general consensus that a hybrid style meeting would be more suitable.

8. **DONM:**

7TH June 2022

Summary of Action Points

Reference	Summary	Lead
01/01/03/2022	CMPP to circulate a copy of the Plan with track changes before final submission.	CMPP
02/01/03/2022	Sam to download a transcript of the "chat box" that accompanied the meeting to circulate with the minutes.	Sam
03/01/03/2022	Sam to circulate a copy of the workshop presentation.	Sam
04/01/03/2022	Any additional updates to be sent to Sam to be included in the minutes.	All