Minutes of the CMPP Members Meeting

20th August 2024

Online Meeting

Chair: Anthony Gallagher (AGa)

Present: Voting Members

Paul Bancks (PB), Crown Estate Scotland
Council
Jan Brooke (JBr), Peel Ports
Sandy Downie (SD), SEPA
Gary Doyle (GD), Clydeport
Calum Duncan (CD), Scottish Environment
LINK
Kieron Green (KG), Argyll and Bute Council
Michael Hill (MH), Bakkafrost
Lorraine Holdstock (LH), Argyll and Bute
Council
Lucy Kay (LK), COAST
Willie Kennedy (WK), SSACN
Catherine Lambert (CL), Clydeplan
Thom Ledingham (TL), North Ayrshire
Council
David Nairn (DN), Clyde Coastal
Community Councils
Lisa Reilly (LR), Peel Ports
Ruth Rice (RR), CMAL
Graham Russell (GR), Royal Yachting
Association Scotland
Kerry Wallace (KW), NatureScot
Elaine Whyte (EW), Individual

Present: Non-Voting Members

Jill Bunyan (JBu), CMPP Staff
Chris Cutts (CC), CMPP Staff
Alex Watson-Crook (AWC), Board

Apologies:

Zoe Clelland (ZC), RSPB
David Hearton (DH), South Ayrshire Council

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed all attendees and read out the apologies as listed above.

2. Chair's Report

- The Chair welcomed DN and RR to the meeting, representing Clyde Coastal Community Councils (4C) and CMAL respectively;
- Noted updates re: Marine Directorate staffing. They are currently short staffed since Sophie Sellers and Georgina Reid had left for new posts, Lewis Hurley was off for personal reasons and there was little capacity. Rachael Kelly has been appointed short term and was working on the three regional marine plans (Orkney has started their public consultation; Shetland are working on the last comments and initial feedback has been received on the Clyde (see Item 4). RK is in post until the end of August, one position has been filled and another is to be hired in October;
- Noted that we are awaiting our grant letter for 2024/25 which we should receive at the end of August with new grant objectives based on community engagement which will be helped by the new appointment of a member from 4C;
- Noted that CMPP staff are working on the final draft of the constitution and that TRACC has been awarded funding and will start in September;
- Noted that National Marine Planning and Regional Marine Planning fora are to be held in person on consecutive days at a date to be determined in the autumn.

The members agreed the minutes from the last members' meeting were accurate.

3. Review of action points from the last meeting

Reference	Summary	Status
01/12/12/2023	CMPP team to keep members up to date with any information relating to the TRACC bid.	Ongoing
03/27/02/2024	Any further comments or questions for MD from members about the feedback and amendment process to be submitted through CC and JBu.	Ongoing
01/07/05/2024	CMPP members to comment on policy amendments document by 24th May, and CC/JBu to redraft and submit to MD.	Done; see item 4
02/07/05/2024	Members to send any further comments on Constitution to JBu by 24th May.	Done; see item 5
03/07/05/2024	New constitution draft to be circulated to members at beginning of June.	Done; see item 5
04/07/05/2024	CMPP staff to redraft marine restoration consultation response in the light of submitted comments and discussion and submit response by 16th May.	Done
05/07/05/2024	CMPP staff to compile a NMP review questionnaire response for comment and submit before 25th May.	Done

4. Update on the Regional Marine Plan

- Noted that CMPP staff submitted a policy review document to MD for comment at the end of March, and a revised version at the end of June, and have had some comments back, but too late to include as a meeting paper;
- Noted that amendments were on policies only, and used text from the NMP, MPS and English RMPs as an evidence base for amending policy language;
- Noted and thanked members for commenting on the document especially on adhering to LA LDPs e.g. using text 'in accordance with' when aligning RMP policies with LDP policies;
- MD comments were largely either on preliminary approval of some of our suggested changes to policy text, or were awaiting further guidance from MD colleagues;
- Noted members' frustration at the time taken to consult with MD colleagues;
- Suggestion that since the date for NMP2 publication has been delayed, there may now be more capacity for MD to work on the Clyde Regional Marine Plan;
- Agreement that rather than send members the MD response now, to wait for the next iteration of the plan with amendments before circulating;
- Noted that of the three plans, the Clyde was always going to be more difficult given its' complexity;
- Queries as to how long would the MD regional marine planning team need to consult with colleagues, and who these colleagues are;
- Noted that CMPP staff are to meet with MD on Monday 26th August to discuss the comments, be introduced to the new member of staff, and discuss next steps.

Action: CMPP staff to meet with MD and report back at next members' meeting.

5. Revised Constitution

- Thanks noted to members for sending comments on constitution to JBu;
- Noted that NatureScot lawyers have reviewed and checked the document;
- Noted that document is now a lot shorter with sections on the Partners, Chair and Executive Board; sections on the Delivery Group and other groups have been removed to the appendices;
- Noted that Duties and Powers must be in line with the Marine (Scotland) Act and that there have been changes in the language of the text with redundant text removed and some Powers now better summarised;
- The structure is now more straightforward re: Partners, Chair and Executive Board;
- Mention of Partner representatives has been removed with reference now only to Partner organisations;
- The Chair only has a casting vote as they will be an individual;
- Noted legal concerns with the low number of seats on the Executive Board, and again reference to representatives has been removed;
- Text outlining General Meetings has been included;
- Noted that JBu will send amended text back to the lawyers for approval;
- Noted that the constitution does not have to specify the number of times the Chair can be re-elected; suggestion to look at the process for re-election within Scottish Government;
- General consensus that the constitution will have to go the Boards and legal departments of individual members;

- Noted that appendices are not legally binding but must be agreed by members at the same time as signing the constitution e.g. ethical standards in the appendices;
- Noted that to get a greater number on the Executive Board we could open up to all the statutory bodies (e.g. NS, SEPA) or use the model we already have of non-permanent members;
- Noted that we could always have the proposed quorum of three if we time meetings appropriately;
- Noted that Community Councils have a statutory planning function and could they have democratic representation on the Executive Bord;
- Stressed that we need to be clear on what is a statutory body;
- Noted that ClydePlan, who would be on the Board, represent all the Clyde Local Authorities;
- One option noted is to have the minimum number of five on the Board with a quorum of three;
- Noted that we don't have a process of appointing another member to the Board if one organisation steps away; we need flexibility;
- Another option is to insert text stating the maximum number of bodies and give statutory bodies the option to join;
- Noted that ClydePlan is still in existence but will be discontinued at some point and queried whether the new body will still be able to represent Clyde Local Authorities;
- Noted that most statutory boards encourage people to apply and could the constitution be flexible enough for people to apply;
- Suggested that we define the nature of statutory bodies and discuss the existing model with the lawyers;
- Noted that the Act defines 'Public Authorities', not statutory bodies.

Action: CMPP staff to liaise further with lawyers to explore options of Board membership and circulate a revised draft to members.

7. Clyde Coastal Community Councils

- Noted that the appointment of the 4C to the CMPP will help our objective of engaging with communities;
- Noted apologies from David Telford of 4C who could not attend; DN is attending in his place;
- The 4C have existed informally including five Community Councils on the North Ayrshire coast but have since become formalised as an unincorporated association and have applied for membership of the CMPP, although planning responsibilities ultimately lie with individual CC's;
- The 4C brings together expertise and consider themselves to have a marine planning function to Low Water Springs and thank the CMPP for letting them join;
- Also noted thanks to JBu for putting together the constitution documents;
- The 4C meets regularly, with David Telford as Secretary, DN as interim chair, and with draft Terms of Reference;
- They are in touch with 10 other CC's who want to join and are going through the process and draw on a big skill set of interested individuals, which will be a good access route for CMPP to communities;
- They also sit on the Hunterston PARC Liaison Group and work closely with Arran CC;

- Noted that some CCs may feel isolated from marine planning issues, and that 4C could advise on the consultation of the plan;
- Noted that 4C has an ongoing action to contact all CCs in the Clyde area.

8. TRACC update

- The Transformative Research Actions for Resilient Coastal Communities (TRACC) project has received funding, and will be based around the Clyde, Humber Estuary, Lough Foyle and North Wales;
- It will commence on 1st September and last for three years, setting up Resilience Collectives to use an interdisciplinary approach to delivering engagement (e.g. Arts based) and developing valuation for the natural environment and communities;
- A University of Glasgow Research Assistant will be driving it and engaging with CMPP; the work will be in parallel with our own work;
- The project will feed into a UK Resilience Collective and could inform our own thinking.

Action: TRACC will be further outlined in an Agenda item for the next meeting.

9. Member's Updates

NatureScot

- Sinead Sheridan and Jasmine Manning of the NS marine planning team have been seconded part-time to MD to work on NMP2.

RYAS

- RYA (UK) has developed a Clean Water Sports Alliance to deal with clean water issues. RYA Scotland has met with Scottish Water, which has spent £1bn over a year on upgrading sewer systems, to discuss issues.

North Ayrshire Council

- Submitting evidence report in December including Place Profiles for the next Local Development Plan, to be considered by Ministers in early 2025.

SE LINK

- Noted on behalf of MCS, the next Great British Beach Clean will be held on 20 – 29th September.

ClydePlan

- Local authorities within the Clydeplan area are continuing with early development work on their new LDPs: West Dunbarton and Renfrewshire.

Clyde Coastal Community Councils

- Noted that there is a planning application in for a large dredge of material from the outflow at Hunterston, with a separate application in to infill an old dry dock and would CMPP be responding?
- Chair stated that until the Regional Marine Plan is adopted, CMPP will not be responding to any applications as a statutory consultee; this is an agreed position;
- Noted that proper procedures e.g. sampling are in place, and no decisions have been made as yet.

10. DONM

The date of the next meeting will be Tuesday 26th November 2024, 10am-1pm. The AGM will be held immediately beforehand.

11. Close

The meeting concluded at 12.40pm.

Action Point Summary

Reference	Summary	Status
01/20/08/2024	CMPP staff to meet with MD and report back at next members' meeting.	
02/20/08/2024	CMPP staff to liaise further with lawyers to explore options of Board membership and circulate a revised draft to members.	
03/20/08/2024	TRACC will be further outlined in an Agenda item for the next meeting.	