

Minutes – CPG Recreational Boating and Marine Tourism, 31st March 2014

Attendees

Stuart McMillan MSP; John Clark; James Stuart; Pauline McGrow; Jane MacIver, Angus McDonald MSP, Andy Carnduff, Robert Kitchin, Robbie Wightman, Jim McLachlan, Frances Edwards, Myles Farnbank, Esther Brooker, Aileen Monk, Paul Taylor, Daniel Steel, Simon Limb, Martin Latimer, Jim McLachlan, David Adams McGilp, Alan Laidlaw, Margaret Mitchell MSP, David Scott.

1. Welcome and Apologies

Apologies

Sarah Brown, Annabelle Ewing, Jackie Baillie, Richard Alexander, Victor Sandison, Sarah Cooke, Hugh Henderson, Paul Bancks, Jackie Baillie, Bob Baker, Kathryn Logan, Graeme MacIver, Stuart Smith, Lyndsay Ross, Alvin Barber, Jamie McGrigor, Ruth Briggs, Jim Traynor, Isabel Glasgow, Lawrence Durden, Fiona McLeod MSP, David Vass, Marc Crothall, Fergus Duncanson, Mike and Margaret McGregor, Brian McLeish, William Wilson, Andy Carnduff, John C Hamilton, Steven Dott

The meeting was opened by Stuart McMillan MSP, Convener who welcomed everyone to the meeting and to the first Cross Party Group meeting that has been held outwith the Scottish Parliament. Thanks were given to Richard Millar and Scottish Canals and the team for their great hospitality.

Richard Millar then provided a presentation on the history of the Falkirk Wheel.

2. Minutes and Action Points from last meeting

These were approved as an accurate record.

Proposed: Martin Latimer

Seconded: David Adams McGilp

Action Points from Last Meeting

1. Marine Tourism Conference to be an bi-annual event and date set for the next meeting

JS reported that the Marine Tourism Conference will be held in March 2015 and SB/JS will work up an initial programme and will feedback. SMCM and JS will also have a meeting to discuss this next month.

2. SMCM to speak to CPG for Health and Safety to discuss possibility of joint meeting

SMCM reported that he attended a Health and Safety Cross Party Group meeting recently and it was a very interesting meeting and one of the topics discussed was water safety. SMCM stated that he thought there was merit in having a joint meeting.

ACTION: It was agreed that we have a joint meeting on the 30th September and we will ensure that we have large committee due to the number of people that will attend.

ACTION: SMCM will pass details of secretary of Health and Safety Cross Party Group to JS. Agenda items were also requested for the meeting.

PT asked if “standardisation of first aid requirements across sports governing bodies” could be added as an agenda item. JS asked if we could share thoughts and see what the common agreements are and feed these into the agenda.

SMCM stated that we should list and highlight items but not necessarily go into these in depth.

SL asked what was covered at the recent Health and Safety Cross Party Group?

ACTION: SMCM stated that he will share the minutes from the Health and Safety Group with the group.

3. Coastal Communities Fund Information to be circulated round the group

PM reported that this had been circulated.

4. Margaret Mitchell MSP – Globescot and Skills Development Scotland to be raised with Commonwealth Parliamentary Association

MM reported that this has been achieved. DS reported that the Microbusiness report includes leisure marine and also encompasses Loch Lomond and the Canals and international trade.

MM has contacted Global Scot and it has been very helpful. Glasgow Chamber of Commerce have permitted the group to attend the business networking event that will take place each day of the Commonwealth Games. There is an opportunity for us to be involved. JS/DS will engage with this event. DS thanked MM/SM and everyone who has been involved.

5. Scottish Tourism Alliance Conference link to be circulated to the group

PM reported that this has been circulated.

6. PM will circulate link for Scottish Enterprise Week

PM reported that this has been circulated.

7. It was agreed that Ayrshire and Arran Tourism Team – Coastal Watersports Website and Online Mapping Development be added as an agenda item for the next meeting

JS reported that he has invited Graham Maciver to attend the next meeting.

DS raised about the Flotilla pontoons with Glasgow City Council and whether there would be a chance of permanent pontoons. JS confirmed that this has been raised and they are looking to do a customer survey and are hoping to use the Commonwealth Flotilla to support partners, including BMF Scotland, enable

us to make the business case for the pontoons.

3. Update on the Work of Data Sub Group

JS reported that the proposal is with the Cabinet Secretary and approach has been approved and tender has been released. JS asked that we encourage people to tender. Acknowledgement was given to SB who has done a huge amount of work. MF asked if the tender document was available and JS confirmed that it is on the government portal. GR reported that he sits on the Advisory Group for Pentland Firth and Orkney Spatial Plan and a case study is part of the expected research outcomes.

4. Marine Tourism Conference

JS stated that we are looking to build on what was achieved at the last conference and look at what the next step looks like and asked for people's thoughts. SMCM stated that a tremendous amount of work has taken place and it has helped shape and gives sharper focus for the industry.

AL asked how do we get the messages out about how well we are doing and that we require to sell the message. AL further asked what existing vehicles do we have to get the good news out there?

ML stated that the Marine Tourism Working Group are working on a strategy with a long term view and that we also require to have a communications strategy. ML asked "how much can we say now?". SL stated that we are looking at improving communications to our own group but also taking this wider.

JS suggested doing a "One Year On" short press release and asked for contributions to populate and outline what we are planning going forward. SM agreed that this was a good idea and suggested a targeted distribution to Chief Executives of local authorities, marinas, sailing Clubs and COSLA.

SMCM stated that there had been a very interesting feature on the Scotland Tonight programme about the fact that there has been a reduction in funding for particular sports by UK Sport and it emphasises the need to get the message out there of boating being accessible.

ACTION: It was agreed that a "One Year On" CPG press release be produced. Information to be provided to PM by 15th April.

GR stated that there is activity taking place in marine recreation with people from less affluent areas and boating taking place on a shoestring.

ML stated at the Marine Tourism Working Group there has been discussion around how we label "boating" and we require to start at the bottom and change perceptions. DAM supported ML's view. MF commented that there are more people becoming involved in paddle sports.

JS stated that we need to re-double our own efforts, ensure that there is strategy, good recreational base and need to get the bed rock right and require to be extra careful about the language we use.

RM provided an example of the taster hub in Glasgow, City to City Canoe Trail that has ensured an increase in paddling and development.

AL asked about the naming of the Cross party Group. ML stated that recreational boating is clear but recreational sailing or yachting can give out the wrong message. SMCM explained the reasoning behind the title was that Marine Tourism would be a catch all. SMCM stated that there has been a focus on one particular part and that the focus may require to shift and wider discussion is required.

GD stated that a huge amount of work is required to break down the misconceptions. SL stated that there is a whole host of regeneration projects and drew attention to the regeneration that has taken place at Ardrossan.

SMCM asked has there been any discussion with youth groups such as the Boys Brigade. JS stated that we have been in contact with many uniformed groups and they provide greater access. Further discussion took place on youth groups. SMCM asked how many people come in from disadvantaged groups. GR gave an example of some of the projects that he is involved with through Edinburgh Trinity. DS stated that we need asked how do we increase participants? It was acknowledged that there is issue with transporting people from schools to the coastline.

PT asked how do we keep involved? RM stated that we require to engage the youth clubs and youth trainers. He further stated that Scottish Canals are working with 16-25 year olds who are not in employment and this is proving very successful.

ML stated that we need to look at ways to make it easy to get afloat. JS stated that the Youth Sport Strategy Action Plan will come out in September and this will provide an opportunity within this strategy. MF stated that this group can bring this all together and that the Scottish Canoe Association should also feed in and be invited to attend the joint meeting.

AL requested that Youth be added as a future agenda item. It was proposed that we invite the Royal Highland Education Trust along to a CPG meeting; we require to sign post and feed out to different activities. AM stated that it is a good idea to concentrate on youth. Royal Highland Education Trust could be used as a good example of this sector.

SMCM stated that it would be useful to invite Royal Highland Education Trust. DS also suggested inviting young people along to the meeting, one of the suggestions was the **sportscotland** Youth Panel. SMCM stated that there are a whole host of organisations that we could ask along and it was agreed that they be invited to the 2nd December meeting.

ACTION: SMCM asked for people to send in any suggestions on who should be invited from youth groups. The meeting would focus on youth and only have the standard running items also on the agenda.

ACTION: Ayrshire and Arran Tourism Team – Coastal Watersports Website and Online Mapping Development to be added as an agenda item to the 24th June meeting with Graeme Mclver being invited to attend.

5. Round Table Updates/Events

SIFT - SMCM reported that a Members debate took place led by Kenneth Gibson and they have asked to come to speak to CPG and Clyde 2020.

ACTION: The group agreed that SIFT should be invited to the meeting on 24th June.

Carbon Monoxide Safety Group – ACTION: This is to be added as an agenda item for the joint safety/CPG meeting.

Undergraduate Degree – Marine Tourism - MF reported that he has currently writing an undergraduate degree in Marine Tourism and that he is seeking feedback on the content of this course. He asked if he would be able to do a presentation on the degree at a future CPG meeting.

ACTION: It was agreed that this should be covered at the 24th June meeting.

6. AOCB

Outer Hebrides Conference - JM reported that Outer Hebrides is open for business and Stornoway has a new marina. On 8th/9th April the Outer Hebrides are holding a Tourism Conference where marine topics will be covered.

AL stated that there is a lot going on at community level with key offering points of Lochmaddy and Loch Boisdale. Crown Estate is looking at gaps and how we ensure that it is all brought together.

Leader/Local Development Strategy – DAM stated that Argyll and Isles have section on marine tourism and outlines the benefits that come from infrastructure, this makes it easier for communities to access.

Coastal Communities Fund – AL reported that Gigha has been successful in securing £240K from the Coastal Communities Fund. If projects are well considered and are shovel ready then they can be considered. PT asked if there are any applications submitted from the East coast. AL stated that none had been received. JS stated it helps influence the framework and there is a higher prospect of success.

Capital Dredging – Port Edgar

JS reported that he attended a meeting recently where capital dredging at Port Edgar was discussed and costs associated.

Video Conferencing

SMCM asked for people's thoughts on conducting meeting by video conferencing to enable people who are coming from distances to enable it be more accessible. AL commented that video conferencing can sometimes make it difficult for people to feel able to contribute to the meeting. MF suggested that we could video the meeting and then ask for people's feedback afterwards.

AM stated that we will speak to the Convenor to see if this will be feasible. JS suggested sending video links to people who are doing presentations and that we could trial this for the next couple of meetings. MM stated it would need to go to

corporate body for consideration initially. **ACTION: SMCM will speak to the Parliament to ask about video conferencing and will feed back to the next meeting.**

RM stated that the Helix/Canal has been completely build and will be ready on 17th/18th April and will celebrate the launch of the Kelpies. The launch of the Eastern Gateway to the Forth and Clyde Canal will take place on 21st April. The Royal opening will take place sometime in the future.

SMCM gave this thanks to everyone for attending and to Richard Millar and Scottish Canals for hosting the meeting and for their hospitality.

7. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 24th June 2014 at 6pm at the Scottish Parliament.

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

	Actions	Resp.	Date Raised
1.	<p><u>Joint CPG/Health and Safety Meeting</u></p> <p>Joint meeting to be arranged for 30th September, large committee room to be arranged due to the number of people expected to attend.</p> <p>SMCM will pass details of secretary of Health and Safety Cross Party Group to JS. Agenda items were also requested for the meeting.</p> <p><u>Items to be added to the agenda</u></p> <p>“standardisation of first aid requirements across sports governing bodies”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carbon Monoxide Safety Group 	<p>Secretariat/SMCM</p> <p>SMCM</p> <p>Secretariat</p>	<p>31/3/14</p> <p>31/3/14</p> <p>31/3/14</p>
2.	SMCM to circulate minutes from the Health and Safety Group.	SMCM	31/3/14
3.	“One Year on from Marine Tourism Symposium” Press Release to be put together. Items to be sent to PM by 15 th April.	ALL	31/3/14

4.	Suggestions to SMCM on youth groups that could invited to CPG meeting for "focus on youth" agenda topic.	ALL	31/3/14
5.	Ayrshire and Arran Tourism Team – Coastal Watersports Website and Online Mapping Development to be added as an agenda item to the 24 th June meeting with Graeme McIver being invited to attend.	Secretariat	31/3/14
6.	SIFT to be invited to the CPG meeting on 24 th June.	SMCM	31/3/14
7.	<u>Marine Tourism Conference – March 2015</u> SB/JS to work up an initial programme and feedback. SMCM and JS will have a meeting to discuss this next month.	Stuart McMillan/Secretariat	28/1/14
8.	<u>UHI BA (Hons) Marine & Coastal Tourism degree development</u> - MF to present on this at the 24 th June meeting.	Myles Farnbank	31/3/14
9.	Scottish Canoe Association to be invited to attend the joint group meeting.		
10.	Video Conferencing to be considered for meetings and to be discussed with the Scottish Parliament to see if it will be feasible.	SMCM	31/3/14