

Minutes – CPG Recreational Boating and Marine Tourism, 29th May 2013

Attendees

Stuart McMillan MSP (SMcM), Gordon Daly(GD), David Scott (DS), Fiona McLeod MSP (FM), Robert Hunter (RH), James McLachlan (JM), Chris Cutts (CC), Richard Millar (RM), Brian Swinbanks (BS), Andrew Carnduff (AC), Paul Taylor (PT), Isabel Glasgow (IG), Tom Findlay (TF), James Stuart (JS), Craig Latimer (CL), Martin Latimer (ML), Simon Limb (SL), Colin Henderson (CH), Pauline McGrow (PM), Sarah Brown (SB), Susy MacAulay (SM), Gus MacAulay (GM), Jane Maciver (JM), Steven Dott (SD), David Adams McGilp (DAM), Brian McLeish (BM), Mike McGregor (MM), Frank Pullen (FP), Shane Wasik (SW), Rev Renata Edge (RE), David Vass (DV), Graham Russell (GR), Sarah Cunningham (SC), Nick Underdown (NU), Sebastian Howell (SH), Philip Taylor (PT), Amanda Brown (AB), Calum Duncan (CD).

1. Welcome and Apologies

Apologies

Jackie Baillie MSP, Paul Banks, Steve Bastiman, Jane Campbell Morrison, Lawrence Durden, Sam Lawson, Neil Lochiel, Steve Macfarlane, Margaret McGregor, Helen McMeekin, Josie Saunders, Stuart Smith, Mark Steward, Caroline Warburton, Hugh Henderson, Gavin McDonagh

The meeting was opened by Stuart McMillan MSP, Convener who welcomed everyone to the meeting. SMcM stated that it appeared that Sail Scotland had been missed off the invite list. He apologised on behalf of the secretariat and sought assurances that the database is updated and requested that members provide any updates of contact details.

2. AGM

SMcM reported that his annual term as Convener as came to an end and asked if anyone would wish to present a nomination.

It was agreed that SMcM be re-elected for a further year as Convener of the Cross Party Group. Proposed: AC: Seconded: GD

The following sub convenors were also duly elected and this was approved by all in attendance -

**Jackie Baillie MSP
Jamie McGregor MSP
Mike McKenzie MSP**

Secretariat

It was proposed that we have 2 or 3 individuals to provide the secretariat with one named individual. JS and SB said that they would be happy to support the secretariat. DS stated that he would be happy to offer meeting facilities through GTG Training premises in both Edinburgh and Glasgow and can also support photocopying if required for meetings.

It was agreed that the named persons for the secretariat would be James Stuart and Sarah Brown. This was approved by all in attendance.

Annual Return

Action: FM requested that the following amendments be made to the Annual Return form –

- Add Fiona McLeod MSP as member of the group
- The following Deputy Convenors to be added -
Jackie Baillie MSP
Jamie McGregor MSP
Mike McKenzie MSP
- Name of secretary to be provided.
- Financial Benefits – require to remove “not applicable”. Require to provide further detail on the secretariat hours provided and put figure in.

3. Minutes and Action Points from last meeting

Minutes from last meeting

These were approved as an accurate record.

Proposed: SL Seconded: RM

Action Points from Last Meeting

(Please see Summary of Actions)

4. 8th March CPG Symposium

Progress following the event

SMcM stated that he thought that it was a successful event bringing people together to improve marine tourism. This was a tremendous opportunity to improve our offering of marine tourism. This will be used as a springboard and catalyst to help the sector help itself and do this with a joined up voice.

SMcM reported that a letter to all delegates of the symposium has been issued to remind them of the topics discussed and to request further thoughts and suggestions going forward. FM stated that it was a very worthwhile event and suggested that this event could be held bi-annually.

Data

SMcM stated that there is currently a lack of data and discussion is required on how this gap should be filled.

SH reported that Marine Scotland have secured funding to do two research projects in Tourism and Recreation. SH will provide contact to the CPG so that there can be a full understanding of what work will be undertaken by Marine Scotland.

JS suggested a small sub group to work on data to consider the following core questions -

1. What do we already know?
2. What do we actually want to know?
3. Who is prepared to help?

SB stated that there has been discussion with Marine Scotland and is hopeful that Clyde Forum would be able to assist. ML to circulate Scandinavian model as this may help as a starting point. SL stated that he agreed that there is information that we will require to collate year on year. We should also use membership databases and user groups data that currently exists for this purpose.

SMcM stated that the working group will be very useful and asked for 5-6 volunteers to join the group.

ACTION: It was agreed that the Data Sub Group be established with the following members -

- **James Stuart, RYA Scotland**
- **David Adams McGilp, Visit Scotland**
- **Martin Latimer, BMF Scotland**
- **Sail Scotland**
- **Sarah Brown, Firth of Clyde Forum**
- **Richard Miller, Scottish Canals**
- **David Vass, WHAM**

SMcM asked for suggestions and questions to be considered to be fed into the group.

DS stated whether local authorities and Chamber of Commerce should be included. SMcM stated that this would be considered in the future.

DV stated that we require to ensure that we collate data from private moorings and associations too so that we have full picture of all data. ML stated that we need to set the proper benchmark.

JS reported that the Scottish Tourism Alliance is working closely with a consortium that are setting up a Tourism Innovation Centre and that data could form part of this work.

Leadership

SMcM stated that we require to have leadership and build a stronger lobbying marine sector. He further stated that the marine sector requires to have a key message and joined up approach. FM agreed that the sector needs to have a focus and plan going forward.

BS reported that we also need to focus on strategy. The marine leisure industry needs to have a strategy to get the flow to hub ports and stepping ports.

Vortal - TF offered his services to set up a vortal which would be an information centre that would bring details of all agencies into one area and would inform people of the work of the Cross Party Group. FM stated that she would require to check whether it is feasible to have a link between the parliament website and the vortal for this purpose.

ACTION: Proposal from Tom Findlay to have CPG Vortal – SMcM to contact the Standards Committee regarding offer.

AC stated that we are at risk of directing effort in the commercial area but we should also strive hard to focus on participation in local areas. ML stated that the health and wellbeing agenda will be a spin off from commercial activities.

RH provided an example of regeneration work that has taken place along the corridor of the River Forth and there has been a lot of work done on the river front in Stirling. This has increased tourism in Stirling.

It was agreed that the Symposium be kept as a standing item and be carried forward to the next CPG meeting. SL will submit thoughts on this in advance of the next meeting.

JS reported that within Tourism 2020 strategy there is currently a gap in strategic thinking in the marine sector and that we require a marine plan/strategy. He further reported that the Scottish Tourism Alliance is currently looking at this area. SL reported that BMF Scotland have done significant work on focusing on their strategic elements in line with the Scottish Tourism Strategy. **ACTION: SL to report back to CPG on progress of strategic work of BMF Scotland in relation to Tourism 2020.**

Scotland Food and Drink Presentation

Amanda Brown from Scotland Food and Drink provided a presentation about the strategic approach they have taken to developing this sector over the last few years including creating and promoting a new brand. (Presentation attached). There then followed an opportunity for questions.

JM asked about targets and what are the markets? AB stated that they have a market strategy in place.

JS asked about Tourism 2020 and whether there is an opportunity to explore linking marine sector markets with Scotland Food and Drink. AB stated that they are currently looking at doing pilot activities; one of these being in Oban. CL stated that the Classic Malts Cruise is a good example of this and suggested that this could possibly be developed further to include food sector.

AB stated that they have a sustainability strategy in place and also working with seafood, agricultural sector and transport.

5. Scottish Government Summer Consultation Programme

Update from Clyde Forum regarding 3 marine consultations

SB provided an overview presentation on the 3 marine consultations (National Marine Plan, Renewable Energy and Marine Protected Areas) (presentation attached). There then followed an opportunity for questions –

GR stated that he has been advising the groups who are working on the Marine Protected Areas and the Marine Plan. GR encouraged members to feed in their individual comments on the plans. **ACTION: SB to send out separate weblink of Marine Scotland contacts to the group.**

Scottish Planning Framework –

GR requested that members feed their comments into the consultation that is running until end of July.

Environment LINK presentation

Calum Duncan provided a presentation on the work of Environment LINK with particular regard to their support for the network of Marine Protected Areas (please see attached presentation). There then followed an opportunity for questions.

IG stated that management options for the MPAs are not agreed as yet and will be individual to sites, not blanket bans on activities unless they negatively impact on the protected feature. Further discussions to take place. SC from SNH stated that they are very happy to work with RYAS and others to collate more data.

6. Round Table Updates/Events/AOCB

Events

- G Ritchie stated that there is going to be a Clipper Ventures Round the World Race and they are currently in negotiation to seek funding from the public sector for a Scottish boat to participate in the race.
- RH stated that the recent Parliamentary reception hosted by Scottish Canals was very well attended and an extremely good networking event.
- RM reported that Scottish Canals were the recipient of a Water Renaissance Award for their work with the Union 10 events. There are planned follow up events, on 23rd August there will be 50-60 boats going up from Falkirk Wheel to Edinburgh.
- DS stated that the Scottish Series supported by Malin Waters was a very enjoyable event. Thanks were given to David Adams McGilp and Visit Scotland.
- GD stated that the Seagull Trust have managed to get the Govan boat back on track with work done by apprentices at the Alexander Bus Depot in Falkirk.
- East Coast Sailing Week will be held at Port Edgar at end of August. IG and JS reported that the Fife Regatta will take place last weekend of June and first week in July in Largs and Fairlie.

7. Future Business

SMcM outlined proposals for topics for future meetings and asked for the group's thoughts on the proposals. DS suggested that the December meeting focus on people. SB stated that this could form part of the discussions of the Data Sub Group.

CC reported that the Forth Estuary Forum recently held a workshop.

ACTION:CC will circulate report round the group; this will feed into the discussion item "Focus on the Forth" at September meeting.

ML stated that we require to look at strategy. A discussion followed on what the appropriate timing for this. SMcM suggested that we do focus on this after the summer. ML suggested that this form part of the standing item on the agenda together with symposium as standing item. BS offered to do a piece on strategy at the next meeting.
Action: Strategy discussion to be added to the agenda for the December meeting.

P Taylor suggested that extending invitations to representatives from Edinburgh Council/Forth Ports to the next meeting.

ACTION: SMcM asked that suggestions for invites be emailed to him in the first instance for consideration.

8. Date of Next Meeting

September 2013, date to be confirmed.

SMcM closed the meeting and gave his thanks to everyone for their contributions.

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

	Actions	Resp.	Date Raised
1.	Cruise Scotland (Richard Alexander) to be invited to the next meeting by SMcM. Richard Alexander was unable to attend this meeting and so to be invited to the next meeting in September.	SMcM	20/2/2013
2.	DAM to circulate Cruise Scotland report showing spend per visit by email to the round the group.	DAM	29/5/13
3.	'Focus on the Forth' to the core agenda for the September meeting – identify areas of discussion for this topic for next meeting and feed back to SB. CC to circulate notes from workshop led by Forth Estuary Forum to feed into this discussion.	SB CC	29/5/13 29/5/13
4.	GL to circulate the link to the Local Government and Regeneration Committee consultation and to send in information as soon as possible.	GL/ALL	29/5/13
5.	BMFS and RYAS to liaise with RM – RM will report to the next meeting in September.	BMFS/RYAS/RM	20/2/2013
6.	Annual Return amendments to be made	Secretariat	29/5/13
7.	Data Sub Group to be established and to report back to CPG/dialogue to take place with Marine Scotland	JS/DAM/ML/SB/Sail Scotland	29/5/13
8.	Proposal from Tom Findlay to have CPG Vortal – SMcM to contact the Standards Committee re offer.	SMcM	29/5/13

9.	SL to report back to CPG on progress of work on strategic elements for Tourism 2020.	SL	29/5/13
10.	SB to send out separate weblink for Marine Scotland contacts to the group.	SB	29/5/13
11.	Strategy to be discussed at December meeting	ALL	29/5/13
12.	Suggestions for invitations for representatives of organisations to the next meeting to SMcM	ALL	29/5/13