

# **FIRTH OF CLYDE FORUM - CORE GROUP MEETING**

## **20<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2002, SNH Offices Clydebank**

### **Minutes of Meeting**

#### **Present**

Arthur Keller, SNH (Chair)  
Andrea Smith, Historic Scotland  
Allan Mowat, West of Scotland Water  
Lynn Rew, Scottish Enterprise, Dunbartonshire  
Ethel-May Abel, Development and Regeneration Services, Glasgow City Council  
David Ross, SEPA  
Ian Johnson, Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan Team  
Angus Clark, Argyll and Bute Council  
Stuart MacQuarrie, Project Officer

#### **1 Apologies**

Isabel Glasgow, Chair, Firth of Clyde Forum  
Fiona Simpson, Crown Estates  
Fraser Carlin, Glasgow and Clyde Valley Structure Plan  
Rupert Ormond, UMBSM

AK welcomed the attendees and invited them to introduce themselves and their interests. Allan Mowat explained that George Rattray had since moved on from WoSW and that he would be taking over as representative on the Forum Core Group. Ethel-May Abel was representing Glasgow City Council.

#### **2 Minutes of last meeting**

AC queried the time scale of implementation of the LIFE project. AK agreed to follow this up with DEFRA. AK also reminded the Core Group that the initial response expected in March will not be a definite yes/no. If successful it is expected that there will be a period of information exchange before project implementation. Content of the minutes from the last meeting (18/9/2001) were subsequently agreed upon.

#### **3 Review of Progress on the Action Plan**

AK gave a brief outline of the time scale that the current action plan was following. Due to the Project Officer vacancy it was noted that 3 months had been 'lost' in terms of action plan implementation. Effectively this meant that we were still within the last quarter of the current plan.

- Action 1.3: Agreed that this was worth pursuing further. Mentioned that Patrick Stewart was keen to follow this up.

**ACTION: SMacQ**

- Action 2.1 & 2.2: It was noted by the chair that these were issues that the Forum had been actively engaged in. IJ informed the group of the current movement within this area with a Joint Transport Steering Committee that

looks into 3 key areas (accessibility, freight and rural transport issues). AK offered that the Forum may be able to assist in terms of providing a consultation list through its contacts base or in distributing consultation papers that arise through the Committee.

- Action 3.1 & 3.2: LR reviewed the activity that had been taking place with respect to the Clyde Corridor Initiative. This was launched by Wendy Alexander on the 14<sup>th</sup> November and pulled together local authorities and the private sector (BBC and Clydeport included). Scottish Enterprise were given 5 tasks to investigate working through a group of public agencies (including Local Enterprise Companies, Local Authorities and Glasgow and Clyde Valley Structure Plan Joint Committee). An announcement on the future developmental opportunities within the Clyde Corridor study area is expected this summer. AK invited LR to suggest where the Forum could promote the profile of the Clyde Corridor Initiative. LR suggested that VG may be in more of a position to take this forward. EMA gave some valuable information as to the development and changes that are occurring from Finneston to Yoker and also plans for water usage. AK suggested EMA may wish to discuss this with BMIF.

**ACTION: LR/VG/EMA**

- Action 4.1: SMacQ stated that there was a need to have a focus for this and that this possibly tied in with the plans to produce a recreation guide for the estuary. Such a guide is published on the Mersey and this will be used as a focus for initiating a meeting with the Area Tourist Boards. AK suggest that Mike Balmforth (BMFI) may be able to help in taking this forward.

**ACTION: SMacQ/MB**

- Action 5.3: AK invited the P.O. to update the Forum with the progress of the marine litter campaign. SMacQ stated that work had already begun on planning a marine litter awareness and beach clean even during the month of June 2002. This was in its early days of development but the initial signs indicated an eagerness from various groups to be involved with the campaign .
- Action 6.1: AC wanted to know about the availability of bird distribution data and whether it was already digitised for GIS. SMacQ is keen to have as much of this type of information on the website as possible and encouraged all that had access to such material to provide it so that the website can make it available to our membership.
- Action 6.2: The details of the LIFE bid were already covered under 'Minutes of last meeting and matters arising'.
- Action 6.7: IJ informed the group of the publication and launch of the Ayrshire LBAP. SMacQ will find out more about the amount of information collated for the Clyde and whether the Forum can include it on the website. SMacQ also invited the core group to relay to the P.O. whether they were aware of any suitable formats on web sites to post large

amounts of information and how we might think about arranging it so that it was able to reflect all of the different interests and concerns on the Clyde estuary.

**ACTION: SMacQ**

- Action 9.1 & 9.2: IJ reported back to the core group on the current modelling systems that are being developed between SEPA and Strathclyde University. The model is still being developed and is currently being tested on the Ayrshire coast. It is envisaged that it will allow a more strategic component to be built into shoreline management. AC was keen that the Loch Fyne Pilot Project would be an effective demonstration of shoreline management.
- Action 11.6: AM stated that more information would be available later in the year concerning this action.
- Action 12.1: SMacQ gave a summary of the website development, the difficulties in obtaining software for publishing to the web and the call for more material to be placed there. This is an ongoing and important action and once up and running it is envisaged that it will prove a valuable source of information and resource for members.

**ACTION: SMacQ**

- Action 13.1: AK noted that not much progress had been achieved here and questioned whether the Forum could take this forward much further.
- Action 14.4: SMacQ explained his idea to the group to produce a resource for the classroom (P5, P6) which focused on the Clyde past, present and future. This would then be developed further if there was widespread interest to include a resource pack for each poster. AK reminded the forum that money was available through Crown Estates for such a project. SMacQ will continue to take this forward.

**ACTION: SMacQ**

#### **4 Forum Meeting**

AK stressed the fact that he was anxious to have a wider forum meeting as a considerable amount of time had elapsed since the last gathering when the strategy was launched. It was also noted by the chair that this meeting should be used as a way in to developing and advancing phase 2 of the action plan. AK asked for feedback on three aspects; the location of the event, the proposed theme, and timing.

AC sought further clarification of the proposed time scale for drawing together a phase 2 action plan. The chair suggested that it would be good to have a theme for the gathering that stimulated thinking on the Clyde. This would then be followed up quite soon afterwards with 4 topic group meetings each one focusing on one of the key themes of the management strategy (economic enterprise, management of environmental resources, renewal of the infrastructure and engaging the community). Thereafter, the core group would meet (around June time) in order to draw together the main elements of the forum consultation and use that to draught a phase 2 action plan.

**Theme:** LR proposed continuing the Clyde past, present, future theme. This was supported by the core group and it was envisaged that a speaker be asked to present on each of the past, present and future themes. AK asked all those to think of possible speakers and get back to the PO with suggestions.

**Location:** It was agreed that the location should be removed from the previous forum gatherings. A list of possible locations was proposed (Victoria Halls (Helensburgh), Tall Ship, SECC, Clydeport Offices, HCI and Glasgow Science Centre). The core group were in agreement that the Glasgow Science Centre would be a good venue for the meeting. SMacQ would investigate availability.

**Timing:** AK suggested that the end of April would provide adequate time to publicise the event to the Forum. Those round the table were in agreement with this.

**ACTION: ALL**

## **5 Forwarding the Action Plan**

The chair felt that we had covered this in the previous items and moved the agenda on to issue 6.

## **6 Any other Business**

SMacQ let the group know about a request from CORDAH to attend the next meeting and facilitate a structured debate as to "the effectiveness of local coastal management partnerships as a mechanism for ICZM". CORDAH have been let the contract by the Scottish Ccoastal Forum and Mark Jennison will attend subject to confirmation with the P.O.

## **7 Date of the next core group and Forum meetings**

A provisional date of the 19<sup>th</sup> June was set for the next core group meeting.