

MINUTE OF MEETING

Present	Simon R Macdonald Jim Traynor James Paterson Nick Turnbull David Adams-McGilp Elizabeth Dougall	West Coast Regional Inshore Fisheries Group (Chair) Retired former Tobermory Harbour Master Argyll and Bute Council Mull Fisherman's Association Visit Scotland Ayrshire LEADER - Programme Coordinator
Apologies	Mary Louise Howat Sarah Brown Clive Fox	Argyll and Bute Council - Senior Development Officer C2W Consulting Scottish Association for Marine Science (SAMS)
In Attendance	Ishabel Bremner Mary Simpson Dorothy Middleton	Argyll and Bute Council - FLAG Lead Administrative Partner Argyll and Bute Council - European Support Officer Argyll and the Islands LEADER - Compliance Officer (Minutes)

1. Welcome and Introductions

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies

The apologies were noted as above.

Ishabel Bremner explained that Mary Louise Howat was unable to attend due to her family and herself testing positive for Covid 19, the team wished MLH best wishes and a speedy recovery. Until her return to work Mary Simpson will be the main contact.

3. Previous Minutes

• **20 Nov 19**

There were no matters arising from the minute

Proposed: David Adams-McGilp **Seconded:** Nick Turnbull

• **20 August 2020**

There were no matters arising from the minute

Proposed: Nick Turnbull **Seconded:** James Paterson

• **20 October 2020**

Matters arising:

Clyde Fisherman's Association has lodged an appeal against the FLAG decision. SM received a call from Elaine White to inform him.

Proposed: Nick Turnbull **Seconded:** Jim Traynor



4. Programme Update

A financial report was attached to the agenda.

Mary Simpson covered the financial aspects, highlighting that, Tobermory has applied for £283 400.68. If the Clyde Fisherman's Association appeal was successful it would leave only £68 000 in the FLAG's budget with South West Mull looking for around £85 000.00. MS had agreed to get back to Morven Gibson after the FLAG meeting with up to date information. IB asked the FLAG to confirm what information could be given MG. It was agreed that MS would contact MG and give her the worst case scenario, if the appeal did not go through the extra funding would be a bonus.

5. Project scoring and decision

Declaration of interest

Jim Traynor had previously declared an interest in the project and did not score the project, participate in the discussion or vote on the approval.

- **SCO2722 – Commercial Fuel Berth Tobermory – Tobermory Harbour Association (comments attached) – Project cost - £283 400.68**

Six members had returned scores for this project these ranged from 15 to 18, with an average of 15.83 (the normal minimum score to approve being 12).

Comments:

A very worthwhile and long overdue project needed for Tobermory.

A huge benefit for the refuelling of fishing boats, and this will also benefit both commercial and leisure craft.

Decision: supported unanimously by the 4 members able to vote

6. Upcoming application(s) for FLAG scoring and decision

- **NWMCWC - Piers & Slips Improvements (works)**

MS is completing Technical Check, requests for scoring will be circulated in the next day to two, giving one week to complete and return.

NT explained that this was a reduced programme, concentrating on the Mull side Pier.

- **South West Mull and Iona Development - Seaweed Cultivation and Processing**

MS is working with Morven Gibson to have her application in by the end of the week

7. Update from FLAG Chairs meeting

It was agreed at the FLAG Chairs meeting to have more meetings as the Chairs would like to have a more joined up approach, fulfilling a vital role in servicing rural, remote areas. They would like more continuity when funds become available from Westminster to fill the gap of EFFM funding.

8. AOCB

JT asked about the appeals process - There was no appeals procedure in place, IB suggested using similar procedures used by the Accountable Body and the LEADER programme. Marine Scotland would have to adjudicate, a meeting could be organised to cover off these procedures.

DM asked what grounds did they have to appeal, MS explained that she had only just received the paperwork before the meeting and would circulate the email to the FLAG members for comments, one of the reasons is that their application had been ready since 2016 and had gone through 4 staff members without going forward to the FLAG. FLAG members discussed the scoring procedure and decided it didn't matter how long you had to wait for your application to be seen if it didn't reach the required score the application would be rejected. NT suggested that all applicants had faced the same issue with changes to staff. DM thought this was not grounds for an appeal, he asked MS to contact Marine Scotland for guidance on timelines for appeals.

9. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 2nd December, 11am, on the Microsoft Teams platform.

Signed _____ date _____