

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Cross Party Group on Recreational Boating
and Marine Tourism, Committee Room 2, Scottish Parliament
4th December 2019 at 6pm**

	Name	Organisation
1.	Stuart McMillan MSP	Convener
2.	Pauline McGrow	RYA Scotland, Secretariat
3.	James Allan	RYA Scotland, Secretariat
4.	Carron Tobin	West Coast Marine Tourism Collaboration
5.	Gordon Daly	RYA Scotland/Scottish Waterways/ Private Boater
6.	Jonathan Mosse	Inland Waterways Association/RYA Scotland
7.	Graham Russell	RYA Scotland
8.	Stuart Smith	Scottish Canoe Association
9.	Martin Latimer	British Marine Scotland
10.	David Davies	Stranraer Watersports Association
11.	Hugh Parker	Stranraer Watersports Association
12.	Joan McAlpine MSP	
13.	Josephine Querido	Keep Scotland Beautiful
14.	Ewan MacDonald	Kinloch Castle Friends Association
15.	Sarah Kennedy	Fort William Marina and Shoreline Community Interest Company
16.	Ian Dewar	Fort William Marina and Shoreline Community Interest Company
17.	Carlene McAvoy	ROSPA
18.	Josie Saunders	Scottish Canals
19.	Richard Millar	Scottish Canals
20.	Barry Shafe	Scotboats/Forth Estuary Forum
21.	David Adams McGilp	VisitScotland

22.	Mairi Gaffney	Kinloch Castle Friends Association
23.	Andrew Rendle	Scottish Coastal Rowing Association
24.	Catherine Topley	Scottish Canals
25.	Andy Carnduff	Forth Yacht Clubs Association/SWFA/ Keep Canals Alive!
26.	David Vass	RYA Scotland West Highlands and Islands Moorings Association
27.	Robbie Wightman	Scottish Coastal Rowing Association
28.	Michael Avril	RNLI/Water Safety Scotland
29.	Emma Harper MSP	

APOLOGIES

Name	Organisation
Simon Limb	British Marine Scotland
Catherine Duckworth	Keep Scotland Beautiful
Richard Davies	Keep Canals Alive!
Esther Brooker	Scottish Environment Link
Lawrence Durden	Skills Development Scotland
Alison Harris MSP	
Alison Downs	Holy Loch Marina
David Hill	British Marine Scotland
Chris Cutts	Forth Estuary Forum
Andy McKenna	Thomas Telford Corpach Marina

Liam Kerr MSP	
Daniel Steel	Sail Scotland
Graham Russell	RYA Scotland

Welcome and Apologies

2. AGM

Convenor **Stuart McMillan MSP**

Deputy Convenor **Emma Harper MSP**

Liam Kerr MSP

Secretariat **James Allan (RYA Scotland)**

Pauline McGrow (RYA Scotland)

3. Minutes and Action Points from last meeting

The minutes were approved as an accurate record.

Proposed: Stuart Smith Seconded: Richard Millar

Years of Coasts and Waters 2020

DAM reported that a meeting with Visit Scotland has taken place for Round 2 of funding events. There has been an overwhelming amount of applications received and demonstrates the high level of interest.

Action: DAM to provide SMCM with a list of funding applicants.

4. Update on EU/Brexit

Red Diesel

SMCM asked for an update on red diesel. DV reported that the efforts been made by the UK Government have been unsuccessful. Recreational boaters will have to switch to white diesel and in the west coast this will prove especially difficult. There is a site that you can refer to for further information. JA further reported that RYA Scotland have made representation on the complexity of the issue and RYA have also had a meeting with HMRC to discuss the issues. GD reported that he responded as a private canal boater. ML further explained that you are unable to store and there is no way of rinsing from boats. There are also issues around how do you deal with the waste and methods of disposal and there will also be issues round travelling through Europe and cost implications.

JM has also made representations too.

Action: White Diesel to be added as an agenda item for next meeting on 4th December.

Website

Canals Festival

CT reported that the Canals Festival went very well and was a fantastic day out for the family and community.

Canals Flotilla – RM reported that 70 boats took part in the opening of Twechar and Bonnybridge bridges.

AC stated that the success for this event has meant that another event is planned for 2020. RM confirmed that they are seeking funding for the event.

GD stated that we hope to have the World Wheelie Bin Championships on the canals.

5. Oban Bay Update

DV reported that after a hiatus over the summer, when progress was minimal other than on-going work on the drafting of the new Harbour Order, four working groups have now been formed by Oban Community Harbour Development Association whose work is directed towards the formation and establishment of a Trust Port. These groups are looking at both short and long term issues for the Trust Port. Much remains to be done to be able to convince the Oban Bay Management Group by March 2020 that plans are well founded and adequately financed.

6. Keep Scotland Beautiful

Josephine outlined her presentation (please find attached).

Barry Shafe asked where they would be moving onto next. JQ stated that they will be moving onto other areas other than Clyde.

E Harper MSP, asked about the SEPA analysis of pollution, KSB confirmed that they have liaised with them on this matter.

7. Kinloch Castle Friends Association

Ewan MacDonald presented and outlined his presentation (please find attached)

EM stated that they were seeking support from the Cross Party Group on

- Support for the asset transfer
- Advise on who they key people they should speak to

DAM offered to do an on-site visit to discuss options and EM stated that if the asset transfer is successful, then they would welcome Visit Scotland to meet them. SMCM asked what the focus had been. MG explained that their focus has been getting the money together to make the asset happen and then they will look at the "what" afterwards.

EM all the developments are all taking place this year.

Action: PM to circulate details for Ewan MacDonald to enable further discussions.

8. West Coast Waters Scotland 2020

West Coast Marine Tourism Collaboration

Carron Tobin

CT outlined her presentation (please find attached) and there then followed an opportunity for questions.

GD asked was there any consideration for Solway and South West. CT stated that if people want to come to the table they would be very keen for them to do so. EM asked about Rum, CT stated that the blogger will be coming to the small isles. SMCM asked about marine litter, CT stated that this is included within the pledge that they are responsible.

SMCM expressed his thanks for all presentations made.

Action: PM to circulate presentations to CPG members.

9. Symposium and Marine Tourism Strategy Refresh

ML stated that the Marine Tourism Strategy is evolving and are taking forward the 2020 tourism developments in general, specifically with development of people and places. There will be more emphasis on marine tourism in communities and the labour force. The draft strategy will be launched at the Marine Trade and Marine Tourism Symposium on 15th November and then will be put out wider for consultation and the final document will be produced in April 2020 during Year of Coasts and Waters. The strategy has made a lot of steps and put high on agenda and is developing into a robust industry.

The Symposium will be seeking input from all those in attendance. Invites will be sent out soon.

10. Skiffie Worlds

RW provided an outline of the Scottish Coastal Rowing Association and then a video was shown of the Skiffie Worlds. (please see below link), RW provided an outline of some key statistics for the event:

- 700 crews took part.
- 30,000 visitors.
- Princess Royal in attendance.
- It contributed £3.5million to the economy. 42000 bed nights as reported by Visit Scotland.

On behalf of SCRA they commended the town of Stranraer as a water sports destination. The shore side at Stranraer and Loch Ryan have the potential to be a water sports destination.

- Skiffie Worlds Presentation (made at the recent Cross Party Group on Recreational Boating and Marine Tourism meeting)

Report on the link below: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1L1A0zOfu9cZ6z6Uq23wp-nUhXA0OT4LYKS3IfOhnLXs/edit?usp=sharing>

the video URL is here:

<https://youtu.be/9v4ZO-0EC94?t=1>

The Castle to Cray Race is taking place this weekend with a fleet of 75 rowing boats from Dumbarton to Glasgow City centre through a waterway that is vastly underused.

There is also a Row around Scotland in 2020 with 70 rowing clubs around the coast beginning at Gretna, then Solway and then will join up the clubs all round the coast and will finish at Paxton House, River Tweed.

SMCM asked where are the Worlds taking place. RW stated that they will bid again for the event that will take place in 3 year's time. SMCM stated that the figures were very impressive and expressed his congratulations to the team.

Michael Avril commended those using life jackets and stated that rowing is a growth sport.

11. AOCB/Future Business

J Mosse reported that a new advisory body to Scottish Canals called Scottish Waterways for all has been formed. The focus has returned to navigation and a meeting was held on 2nd Sep. The Members have been selected for their skill set and ensure that all areas are represented.

Action: An Overview of the advisory body will be circulated to CPG members together with contact details.

Future Meetings

- It was agreed that James Anderson be invited to present on The Green Blue at the next meeting on 4th December 2019.
- Barry Shafe suggested Cruise Terminal, Leith as an alternative venue for the CPG as Edinburgh is hosting Cruise Europe Conference. BS will provide date of event in March 2020 and SMCM will consider and will report back.
- Consideration to be given to future Lunchtime meetings.

SMCM stated that it had been a very useful meeting and thanked all for their contributions.

Vote of thanks were given to the Convenor.

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS/DECISIONS

	Actions	Resp.	Date Raised	Completed
1.	<u>2020 Year of Coasts and Waters</u> DAM to provide SMCM with a list of funding applicants.	ALL	27/2/18	Ongoing
2.	<u>White Diesel</u> To be added as an agenda item for next meeting on 4 th December.	PM	18/9/19	Added as an agenda item
3.	<u>Kinloch Castle Friends Association</u> PM to circulate details for Ewan MacDonald to enable further discussions.	PM	18/9/19	Circulated 20 th Sep 19
4.	<u>Presentations</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep Scotland Beautiful • West Coast Marine Waters • Kinloch Castle Friends Association PM to circulate presentations to CPG members.			Still to be achieved
5.	<u>Scottish Waterways for All</u> An Overview of the advisory body will be circulated to CPG members together with contact details.	PM	18/9/19	Still to be achieved
6.	<u>Future Agenda Items</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was agreed that James Anderson be invited to present on The Green Blue at the next meeting on 4th December 2019. 	PM SMCM/BS	18/9/19 18/9/19	On agenda Ongoing

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Barry Shafe suggested Cruise Terminal, Leith as an alternative venue for the CPG as Edinburgh is hosting Cruise Europe Conference. BS will provide date of event in March 2020 and SMCM will consider and will report back. Consideration to be given to future Lunchtime meetings 	SMCM	18/9/19	
7.	<p><u>Oban Bay Developments</u></p> <p>Survey to be circulated. Consideration to be given to inviting CMAL to a future meeting.</p>	PM	26/6/18	<p>Circulated</p> <p>28th June 2018</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
8.	<p><u>Brexit</u></p> <p>SMCM explained that there are websites offering guidance on workers. Action: PM to circulate the website links.</p>	SSMCM/PM	26/2/19	
9.	<p><u>Future Business Items</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Scottish Tourism Strategy</u> Invite Scottish Tourism Alliance to a future meeting. <u>East Coast</u> Invite a representative from the East coast marine industry to the meeting/ invite SMCM to some activities that are going on in the east. <u>MSP Challenge Board Game</u> – RF suggested having this game available to people to try out, it demonstrates the relationship between marine activities and eco system and invite SMCM to do the challenge. <p><u>Joint Meeting with Cross Party Group on Sport</u> To be arranged.</p>	<p>PM</p> <p>BS/PM</p> <p>SMCM/RF/PM</p> <p>SMCM/PM/JA</p>	26/2/19	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Look at date in 2020</p>

10.	<p><u>Marine Litter</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact Audit Scotland provide information on the various recycling schemes. • RF to discuss with Marine Scotland who are involved with the marine litter aspects. • RF to invite the Project Officer from the “Scrapbook project”. • Invite FEDRA to discuss nurdles. 	<p>SMCM</p> <p>RF</p> <p>RF</p> <p>PM/GR</p>	26/2/19	
11.	<p><u>Boat Building and Boat Repair Course</u></p> <p>Information to be circulated to CPG Members</p>	PM	18/9/19	Information circulated through British Marine Scotland Newsletter