

**NWIFCA Quarterly Meeting  
16<sup>th</sup> June 2017: 11.00 a.m.**

**AGENDA  
ITEM NO.  
11**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT**

**Purpose of Report: Information**

**Recommendation: Receive the report**

**This report covers:**

- I. Personnel, Health and Safety, complaints**
- II. National marine policy**
- III. Association of IFCA**
- IV. Byelaws**
- V. Vessel procurement**

**I. Personnel, Health and Safety, complaints**

- 1. There have been no staff changes in this quarter.
- 2. There have been no reportable H&S incidents this quarter. Updates made to the H&S policy are included in the HOE report.
- 3. There have been no reportable complaints, or requests under information legislation.

**II. Changes in Defra**

- 4. In April the Defra team responsible for IFCA (Mr Matthews and Mr Badger) was moved to other duties. It is not yet clear when a new team will be appointed. A Defra contact for IFCA matters will be circulated when available.
- 5. Following announcement of the election the Defra regional 'Brexit' consultation meetings announced at the March meeting were cancelled. The Authority will keep in touch with developments in the new Administration in due course.

**III. Association of IFCA**

- 6. Annex A is an unconfirmed note of the March meeting attended by the Chairman.
- 7. Annex B is the agenda for the regular AIFCA meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> June. As was planned before the election announcement, this meeting was broadened to invite key NWIFCA partners and stakeholders as listed on the agenda Annex A. Chairman attended
- 8. The next AIFCA meeting on 5 June was additional to regular quarterlies and run as an MMO/AIFCA workshop by professional facilitators. The aim was to explore future fisheries management options and structures. Annex C is an introductory paper by the facilitators. Chairman attended.
- 9. If available, reports of the meetings on 5 and 6 June will be provided on 16<sup>th</sup> June.

#### **IV. Byelaws**

10. Formal consultations on the dredge and foul hooking byelaws previously made by the Authority were carried out in May in accordance with the Government's byelaw making guidelines.
11. The byelaws were advertised for 2 consecutive weeks in Fishing News and sent to all (approximately 200) relevant dredging and angling stakeholders registered on the Authority's database. Deadline for objections is the 24<sup>th</sup> May. No objections were received. An application to Defra for confirmation of the byelaws will be made as soon as possible.
12. As reported in the Enforcement report, work has commenced on the review of the cockle and mussel byelaw.

#### **V. Vessel procurement**

13. An 'out of water' survey of the MV Cemaes Bay was completed in Holyhead in April and resulted in further discussions with Holyhead Marine Services (HMS). Agreement with HMS has now been reached and the Authority has agreed to contract HMS for the purchase and modification of the MV Cemaes Bay to provide a replacement main patrol vessel.
14. Modifications will be carried out in stages with checks by the surveyor after completion of each stage. Payment will be made on delivery of the finished vessel.
15. A new surveyor; Mr Ling, has been appointed as Seafish do not have the resources to continue acting for the Authority during the modification work. Mr Ling has been surveyor for the Authority's vessels since 2010 and previously for Cumbria SFC vessels. Mr Ling has already undertaken a preliminary survey to familiarise himself with the current state of the vessel and has received documentation to explain specification of the required vessel and proposed modifications to Cemaes Bay.
16. The 10 day 'standstill period' required to comply with EU procurement was completed on 25<sup>th</sup> May after which the contract with HMS may be signed.
17. The final details of the contract are being finalised by Solicitors Andrew Jackson. The contract will be cleared by the Finance and Vessel sub-committees before signature by the Chairman.
18. The modification work by HMS is expected to take 6 months. Delivery of the vessel is therefore expected in December 2017.

#### **CEO External and main internal meetings attended March to May.**

7 <sup>th</sup> March	AIFCA London Chairman attended
17 <sup>th</sup> March	NWIFCA quarterly
6 <sup>th</sup> March	Chief Officers London
20 <sup>th</sup> April	Irish Sea marine Forum (Phone)
4 <sup>th</sup> May	NWIFCA Enforcement Officers, Carnforth
12 <sup>th</sup> May	Chief Officers IFCA – MMO – Defra Apologies
25 <sup>th</sup> May – 6 <sup>th</sup> June	Annual Leave

**CEO**  
**24<sup>th</sup> May 2017**

The Association of IFCAs Members Forum Meeting  
7<sup>th</sup> March 2017 – 10:30 – 14:00 DEFRA, Nobel House, Conference Room D

### Note of meeting (unconfirmed)

Attendance: Chair: John Lamb; CEO: Stephen Bolt

Al Brown (Northumberland), Les Weller (Northumberland), Paul Whomersley (Scillies), David McCandless (North East), Ian Davis (Southern), Sarah Murray (North Eastern), Julian Gregory (Eastern), Hillary Cox (Eastern), Anthony Markley (North Western), Tim Dapling (Sussex), Will Wright (Kent & Essex), Samantha Davis (Cornwall), Tony Tomlinson (Cornwall)

Minutes: Sally Standring

Defra: Anne Freeman

MMO: Phil Haslam

Apologies: Carri Nicholson (North Eastern), Mike Hardy (Northumberland), Robert Arckless (Northumberland), Elaine Hayes (Devon & Severn), Tim Robbins (Devon & Severn), Caroline Lacey, Nigel Peters, Stephen Atkins, Robert Clark (Southern), Evie Davies, Andy Guy, Tony Goldson

Announcements: Paul Whomersley has now been appointed AIFCA Director. Nominees for Chair were John Lamb and Vice Chair Tony Tomlinson. Both were appointed.

- 1) Anne Freeman – Defra Update** on Brexit and Engagement with the IFCAs. Nigel Gooding is heading up the Brexit and 'Business as Usual' work. Gemma Harper will continue to have links with IFCAs. Suggested Article 50 may be triggered by the end of March. Defra is in the gathering scoping stage, feeding into central government commissioning evidence. Team has been looking at legislation. Defra aims to work closely with IFCAs by gathering intelligence from IFCAs and feeding into central government. Suggested crib sheets of key questions from Chief Officers would be helpful.

SI now ready to go to consultation. Process may be shortened to complete early summer. Concerns raised over uncertainty of Brexit workshops for fisheries. It was agreed that IFCAs and Defra should hold urgent bilateral meetings. (NB all now cancelled by election).

- 2) Phil Haslam – MMO Update** Accredited training is now running; Joint working, IT development and EMFF also moving. The MMO has new IT director, Andrew Waring and deputy, Michael Roth. EMFF money needs to be spent within the two years to Brexit.

**Action 1) – Bi-laterals – Phil /Stephen B to develop format. SB to coordinate.**

**Action 2) – MMO Appointees – SB to resend the latest proposed appointment protocol to members.**

**Action 3) – Intelligence – IFCAs to ensure the MMO have intelligence requested by Phil.**

**Personnel:** John congratulated Paul Whomersley on becoming a Director. Steve Watt has now left and was thanked for his work and dedication. Les Weller reported that Mike Hardy is now nearly recovered. Robert Arckless is resigning following his MBE award in the New Year.

3) **Minutes from the last Association meeting 6<sup>th</sup> December 2016** were agreed

**MPA Funding** –SB had collated a bid for circa £200k from Defra as requested but process stalled in Defra

**Action 4) - SB to chase again and discuss with Rob Matthews. (NB RM no longer responsible for IFCA)**

4) **CEO report/Update**

**Third quarter finance report** includes the Asset register. Science Direct purchase as agreed. Additional spend on insurance and formal audit. Licenses and insurance for capital equipment has more than doubled. There will be a potential overspend next year. Increase in training costs was for accreditation. Previously agreed the Association would pay for.

**COG paper – future considerations paper** – SB thanked NEIFCA for this work. David McCandless explained the collective recommendations for inshore fisheries management reform following the EU referendum and subsequent negotiations. There could be a strong case for extending the 6nm boundary to 12nm. MPA work could be extended from inshore to offshore. CFP post Brexit offered enhanced potential opportunities for extending inshore fisheries and improving overarching governance.

NEIFCA will amend the document to include recreational sea angling and governance and has submitted the document for publication. David proposed to the meeting that this should be a formal public document going forward. Tim Dapling also proposed that the Association endorsed the paper. John Lamb proposed that the Chair, Vice Chair and CEO of the Association and the Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary of the Chief Officers group form a mandated task group to meet urgently with Defra and MMO bilaterally and Defra, MMO and IFCA trilaterally. It was agreed this paper should come from the Association. John Lamb then proposed the attendance of the proposed meetings as outlined above and this was unanimously agreed.

**Action 5) - SB to urgently organise the above meetings.**

**Annual Plan 2017/18** –It was agreed to revise the plan.

**Action 6) - SB and WW to revise and circulate for comment.**

**Proposal for a wider Association Members forum meeting June 2017** – SB proposed the June meeting is widened to invite stakeholders to a 'workshop' type event to examine AIFCA future role. eNGOs, NFFO, Defra, MMO, NE and EA should be invited.

**Action 7)- SB & SS will organise the wider meeting. WW and TD volunteered to assist.**

**Update for fairer funding review** – SB explained that review could impact IFCA new burdens and core funding. SB engaged with LGA, DCLG and Defra to protect IFCA funding. John Lamb suggested that all IFCA contact their local authorities and feed back to SB.

**Action 8) - All IFCA to feedback response from local authorities to SB**

**External advisory group** – SB confirmed that a Brexit steering group was sitting above this advisory group and has requested involvement.

**SDAAC** – SB had been invited to chair.

**Action 9) - SB to send minutes via email.**

**NE Displacement project** Duncan Vaughan (NE) has commissioned ABPmer to look at displacement of fisheries by MPAs.

Environment Audit Committee (EAC) are carrying out enquiry "MPA revisited". The Association (SB) has presented oral written evidence which is available on the EAC website. It was noted that inshore management and in particular IFCA received good press from this. The EAC will produce written summary and recommendations for the enquiry to which Defra are likely to respond. WW suggested we reflect this in the papers to show how the Association has input into the process.

All members and Directors had seen the letter sent from Keith Hiscock. All unanimously agreed not to sponsor his book.

**Action 10) - SB to inform Keith Hiscock of the member's decision.**

**Date of next meeting – 6<sup>th</sup> June 2017 – Venue to be confirmed**

**The Association of IFCAs  
Members' Forum Meeting – Stakeholder communications  
6<sup>th</sup> June 10.30 – 16:00**

**The Wesley hotel, Euston**

**AGENDA**

Invitees:

Association Members

Defra

MMO

EA

Seafish

eNGOs

Fishing groups

Recreational Sea Angling

1. Introduction and welcome from the Chair of the IFCAs
2. Outline of Association achievements to date CEO
3. Outline of challenges and opportunities going forward CEO
4. Introduction to the AIFCA three-year strategy CEO
5. 5 mins for each major stakeholder – on national and local IFCA engagement
6. Breakout groups to explore:
  - Can you give us feedback in what we do well and what we can improve on in our first 5 years?
  - How can we work together with partners more effectively and efficiently, in a world of shrinking budgets for our shared objectives?
  - AIFCA three-year strategy - can we identify new shared future opportunities?
- 1)  
7. Wash up session – 5 minutes per breakout session
- 2)  
8. Summary of actions
9. Future meetings?