

117 AT A MEETING OF THE NORTH WESTERN INSHORE FISHERIES AND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY held at Morecambe Town Hall on 17th March 2017

PRESENT – MEMBERS

Councillor A. J. Markley	(Chairman)	Cumbria County Council
Dr J. Andrews		MMO appointee (Marine Environment)
Dr E. Baxter		MMO appointee (Marine Environment)
Mr C. Booth		MMO appointee (Marine Science/Environment)
Councillor K. Brown		Lancashire County Council
Mr D. Clarke		MMO appointee (Fishing Industry – Cumbria)
Mr R. Graham		MMO appointee (Commercial)
Mr T. Jones		MMO appointee (Commercial/Aquaculture)
Mr B. Leigh		MMO appointee (Anglers and Recreation)
Mr M. Oddy		MMO appointee (Marine Environment)
Miss C. Salthouse		MMO appointee (Marine Environment)
Mr D. Ward		MMO (Officer)
Councillor P. Williams		Cheshire West and Chester Council

IN ATTENDANCE

Ms L. May	Natural England
Mr A. Newlands	MMO (Officer)
Mr A. Feather	Bangor University PhD student

COUNCIL OFFICERS ATTENDING

Mr C. Clayton	Wirral Council
Mr I. Hesketh	Cheshire West and Chester Council
Mr D. McAleavy	Sefton Council

NWIFCA OFFICERS ATTENDING

CEO, Finance Officer, Senior Scientist, Clerk, Digital Communications Officer, Science Officer, IFCO J. Moulton, Senior Finance & Operational Support Officer

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor L. Beaver	Lancashire County Council
Mr B. Crawford	MMO appointee (Anglers and Recreation)
Mr D. Harpley	MMO appointee (Marine Environment)
Mr M. Johnston	Natural England (Officer)
Councillor K. Little	Cumbria County Council
Mr S. J. Manning	MMO appointee (Commercial)
Councillor B. Mooney	Wirral Council
Mr K. Thompson	MMO appointee (Commercial/Aquaculture)
Councillor B. Woolfall	Halton Council
Mr P. Wright	Halton Council (Officer)

118 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS (Agenda Item 1)

1. Welcome to visitors: Ms Lucy May (Natural England), Mr A. Newlands (MMO), Mr Alistair Feather, Bangor University PhD student providing presentation at Agenda Item 13.
2. Supplementary Papers were tabled: Item 5 (Byelaw: Restrictions on the use of a Dredge 2017), Item 6 (Vessel Procurement) and Item 10 (CEO report). Copies of recent articles from Fishing News on Brexit fishing policies.
3. Item 16 (Any Other Business): Proposed MMO appointee recruitment process.

119 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Agenda Item 2)

Agenda Item 8. To make the new Byelaw: Restrictions on the use of a dredge 2017. Dr J. Andrews, Mr T. Jones
Agenda Item 10. CEO Report (IV). Mr M. Oddy
Agenda Item 13. Presentation on "Balancing commercial mussel harvest and shorebird conservation". Mr C. Booth.

120 MINUTES OF THE NWIFCA MEETING 9TH DECEMBER 2016 (Agenda Item 3):

Minute No. 112. Science and Survey Update. The Senior Scientist said the reference under NW Coast Connections to cooling waters should say cooling air.

Proposed Councillor K. Brown, Seconded Miss C. Salthouse

RESOLVED

The minutes of the NWIFCA meeting held on 9th December 2016 be approved and signed as a correct record with amendment as above.

121 MATTERS ARISING (Agenda Item 4) There were no matters arising.

122 TO MAKE THE NEW BYELAW "RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF A DREDGE 2017" (Agenda Item 5)

Defra have approved the proposal to use differential permit fees. The Authority was invited to make the version of the byelaw at Annex A.

Proposed Councillor K. Brown, Seconded Miss C. Salthouse.

RESOLVED

1. The Authority 'make' the new byelaw "Restrictions on the use of a dredge 2017" as circulated to Members with the Notice and Agenda of this meeting in accordance with sections 155 and 156 of The Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009.
2. The Authority proceeds with advertising and consultation on the byelaw after this meeting.

123 PATROL VESSEL PROCUREMENT – REPORT ON VESSEL INSPECTION AND NEGOTIATIONS (Agenda Item 6)

The recommendation from the meeting of the Vessel and Finance Committee held earlier that day is that the Authority proceeds with the procurement and award of the contract to Holyhead Marine Services

Mr Oddy raised a number of questions, whether the quoted price of £999,000.00 includes the modifications, if the sub-committee was unanimous in recommending the proposed vessel, and whether there was likely to be any legal or financial liability on members if anything untoward occurred with the procurement. The Chairman confirmed the price included modifications and that the vessel will be completed to the agreed specification, also that the sub-committee was unanimous in its recommendation. The Chief Executive said he would check the point about financial or legal liability on members. Councillor Williams had given a lot of scrutiny to the vendors and had ascertained the risk profile of the vendor. Councillor Williams had sought independent advice on how best to safeguard the Authority and to ensure that in the event of the contractor going into liquidation, the liquidator had no right of lien and IFCA would have access to the vessel without fear of legal trespass. Providing there is a sufficiently robust contract it is felt the risk to the Authority is minimum.

Councillor Brown was asked to convey the Authority's thanks to Mr Mynott and Lancashire County Council for their excellent work in moving this procurement forward.

Proposed Councillor Brown, seconded Councillor Williams. Voting unanimous in favour.

RESOLVED

1. The report at Annex A be approved.
2. The award of robust contract subject to satisfactory out of water inspection and full mechanical survey be approved.

124 FINANCIAL REPORT (Agenda Item 7)

The Finance Committee Chairman, Councillor Williams, introduced the report.

Relating to the report on theft of NWIFCA vehicles Mr Leigh asked what measures have been adopted to limit the risk of further thefts. The Finance Officer said the Land Rover is being traded in for a Nissan Navara which has better security. Officers are asked to keep vehicles at their secure garage units where possible. The costs of purchasing vehicle tracking equipment could be explored.

RESOLVED

1. The budget review to 31st January 2017 be approved.
2. The insurance claim is noted.

125 REVIEW OF STANDING ORDERS (Agenda Item 8)

Mr Leigh said the current draft takes on board members' comments from the September 2015 meeting. Further work on some sections of the Constitution is required. Further comments on the current draft should be submitted to the CEO by the end of April in order to produce a final draft for the June meeting. Terms of Reference for all committees may need to be reviewed to ensure they are still appropriate for the Authority's needs.

Dr Andrews asked for clarification on section 9.14 regarding suspension of Standing Orders. Mr Leigh said there may be occasions where for certain elements of debate members may wish to suspend Standing Orders. The provision to do this is included in the existing Standing Orders.

RESOLVED

1. Members note progress with amendments to Standing Orders.
2. Comments on the revised Standing Orders to be sent to the CEO by 30th April 2017 with a final version to be submitted for approval at the June meeting.
3. Members thanks to Mr Leigh for the work he has done to date on this review be recorded.

126 PATROL AND ENFORCEMENT (Agenda Item 9)

In the absence of the Head of Enforcement, IFCO J. Moulton presented the report. A meeting with EA during the quarter discussed joint working options and agreed to start investigating cross-warranting. Two members of staff attended the Torquay enforcement course and three officers renewed their sea survival course. The Pilling and Leven cockle fisheries opened on 7th November 2016 following surveys. 412 MLS inspections were carried out. The Leven fishery was fished more intensively than Pilling. There was an

outbreak of bird flu in the Pilling area in January. Fishermen chose not to cross farmland to access the fishery to avoid spreading the outbreak. 7 sanctions were issued during the quarter, all in relation to the two cockle fisheries.

Dr Andrews asked if the Authority has complied with the formal requirements of extending the emergency byelaw or if any further action is needed. The CE said MACAA does not contain guidance in relation to the level of detail needed to extend a byelaw. He suggested if all members were in agreement the Authority could make a resolution today to extend the byelaw for 6 months until 1st August in accordance with the permission granted by Defra. Standing Orders would need to be suspended for that resolution.

Dr Andrews proposed suspension of Standing Orders for discussion on the extension of the emergency byelaw. Seconded Mr Oddy. The vote was carried unanimously.

RESOLVED

Standing Order 1.2 be suspended to allow discussion on extension of the emergency byelaw.

Dr Andrews proposed the emergency byelaw be extended for a period of 6 months to 1st August 2017. Seconded Mr. Leigh. Vote carried unanimously.

RESOLVED

1. The emergency byelaw be extended for a period of 6 months to 1st August 2017 in accordance with the permission granted by Defra.
2. The byelaw book and NWIFCA website be updated as soon as possible to take account of the above resolution.

With regard to the new EU bass regulations for 2017 Mr Clarke asked that all stakeholders will be made aware. IFCO J. Moulton said this is being done. Mr Ward said advice is available on the MMO website.

Mr Jones raised a question on how the number of Byelaw 3 permits shown of 121 compares with past figures. The Chief Executive said there is no defined upper limit. Existing permit holders are entitled to renew their permit each year and 10 new ones are issued in each permit year. A review of Byelaw 3 is a priority and the Authority will need to consider how many permits would be appropriate under a replacement byelaw.

Mr Jones further asked about the figure shown for total landings of mussels in the whole district of 769 tonnes and whether this was for the period of the report and included dredged mussels. He suggested it would be appropriate to differentiate the hand gatherers from dredge operators. The Senior Scientist said the figure of 4760 kgs in the top box of Annex A referred to the last quarter and the bottom box showed the annual totals and incorporates seed mussels. Officers will look at splitting figures for hand gathering and dredging in future.

RESOLVED

The report be received.

127 CEO REPORT (Agenda Item 10)

The Chief Executive said all members should have received the supplementary report on the AIFCA meeting held on 7th March, Defra transformation and Brexit. Following the AIFCA meeting a series of meetings to be attended by IFCA representatives has been arranged to ensure IFCA's are fully represented in any discussions going forward on future IFCA engagement and the way forward.

Mr Oddy raised a point on the reference to legal advice: shore advice in the CEO report. He said the EA has the same right of pursuit including vehicles but needs landowners' consent whether public or private when using vehicles to cross their land. His understanding is that EA has the right to enter on foot but not with vehicles for enforcement or survey work. He suggested IFCA should seek consent from all public and private landowners for IFCA vehicles to cross their land. The CEO said the Authority receives consent from most local authorities but it did not have a comprehensive list of private landowners. It was suggested that the CE of AIFCA be asked what the policy of other IFCAs is on this matter and the CE agreed to explore this point further.

With reference to the report at Annex B ("Opportunities for inshore fisheries and marine environment: future management in England") Dr Andrews felt there was a missed opportunity in the report to point out that a good proportion of IFCAs costs could be met through the change in the legislation to allow recovery of costs associated with managing fisheries. The Chairman said this point has already been raised at AIFCA meetings. Mr Jones asked if IFCA will be actively trying to pursue closer collaboration. He asked if the Authority will be nominating someone to drive that forward and come to more collaborative and cooperative working with all agencies. The Chairman suggested this is something to highlight for the future.

Mr Jones asked about the reference in the AIFCA minutes of 27th September 2016 to EMFF Vessel Funding. The Chairman said the figure has only recently been confirmed. The CE agreed to check with the AIFCA as to the criteria for this funding.

RESOLVED The report be received.

128 COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY (Agenda Item 11)

The Communications and Engagement Strategy has been revised in line with Defra's high level objective SC1B. Members' views on the core principles for communications and engagement with stakeholders will be welcomed. Comments on the document should be submitted to Mr A. Graham.

Mr Ward said the MMO Local Planning Officer has stakeholder information which may be useful.

RESOLVED

1. The Authority approves the draft Communications and Engagement Strategy.
2. Thanks to Mr Graham for producing the Strategy.

129 SCIENCE REPORT (Agenda Item 12)

General. The Senior Scientist introduced the new Science Officer, Ms Alex Aitken now working on mapping fishing activity in Marine Protected Areas from MCSS data. There is a proposed extension to the Solway SPA and proposal to extend the Cumbria Coast MCZ so activity data in that area is being examined. Birds being entangled in netting around St Bees Head will also be addressed.

Review of Fishing Activities in European Marine Sites. The report provides an update on the progress of the review of fishing activities in EMS. A few assessments are awaiting completion. A recent paper on the EMS review is at Annex A.

Recreational Angling Strategy. A draft was presented. More angling stakeholders are registering through the website.

Cockle and Mussel Fisheries. The report presented to TSB in February was presented to the Authority. There are potential cockle fisheries coming up later in the year at Leasowe

on the Wirral, and at Marshside, Southport where beds retain good densities of cockles but are still under minimum landing size. Members will be kept informed on possible opening of fisheries in those areas.

There is an HRA requirement to leave sufficient food for overwintering birds. Work with NE, RSPB and Wildlife Trust continues to determine how NWIFCA incorporates bird feeding requirements into management. PhD student Alistair Feather will be giving a presentation later in the meeting on his work looking at a new model to progress this. The PhD is part-funded through the Menai Strait mussel aquaculture industry and Bangor University and officers will assist as much as possible with that study which will focus on Morecambe Bay.

Cefas C-Bass Project – Population Studies in support of the conservation of the European Sea Bass. The original three year Cefas bass project focused on the South Coast of England. Through underspend money from Defra, Cefas scientists have bid to carry out work in the North West. The intention is to engage with both the commercial and recreational sectors and identify fishers to assist in the study.

With respect to the report on engaging with third party developers such as Halite Gas Storage Caverns, Mr Oddy suggested the Authority should not lose the opportunity to charge for its expertise. The Senior Scientist pointed out some of these meetings are more about building relationships than the IFCA providing expertise. Members agreed that the Authority should take every opportunity to make developers aware of the range of services that the IFCA can offer.

Mr McAleavy (Sefton) asked if data on fishermen's activity could be shared with Sefton. The Senior Scientist agreed to discuss this with the Head of Enforcement.

Dr Andrews said the Recreational Sea Angling Strategy is an important area of work but he found difficulty in linking the aims and objectives through to the activities and felt the document could be made clearer. He suggested that building awareness and understanding should be one of the aims. It would be useful to link the sea angling strategy to some aspect of the Defra success criteria.

RESOLVED

The report be received.

130 CHANGE IN ORDER OF AGENDA

The Chairman proposed a change taking item 14 next. This was agreed.

131 REPORT ON TSB MEETING HELD ON 7TH FEBRUARY 2017 (Agenda Item 14)

The Chairman of TSB, Mr R. Graham, reported.

Byelaw 11: Permit to Dredge. A 6 month extension to the emergency byelaw to 1st August 2017 was granted. Options for alternative charging schemes were discussed.

Leven and Pilling Cockle Fisheries. Minimum size compliance issues were reported. Activity at the Pilling fishery was restricted due to an outbreak of bird flu.

Science Report. The report covered updates on EMS work, Recreational Sea Angling, North West Coast Connections, Fylde Coast Protection Scheme, Halite Gas Storage Caverns at Preesall and the Bird Food Model. It was suggested that the topic of 'Birds and their Food' should be an item for discussion at the next TSB meeting.

Cockle and Mussel Fisheries. A meeting with industry in the Solway was held in January to discuss a potential subtidal mussel fishery in the Solway. The TSB agreed to issue

scientific dispensations to named fishing vessels in the Solway and Morecambe Bay to provide information to the science team on the state of stocks.

Bass Update. There was discussion of the enforceability of the new legislation and the need for further clarification from government.

RESOLVED

The report be received.

132 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING until 1330 hours was agreed.

133 MEETING RECONVENED AT 1330 HOURS

134 PRESENTATION BY ALISTAIR FEATHER, BANGOR UNIVERSITY PhD STUDENT (Agenda Item 13)

The Senior Scientist gave a brief introduction to the presentation. The IFCA has been working with NE, RSPB and Wildlife Trust colleagues in looking at alternative ways of ensuring fisheries are HR compliant and there is sufficient food for overwintering birds. Other authorities and regulators are also looking at this question particularly in and around cockle and mussel fisheries using different models. IFCA will work as closely as it can with Mr Feather to further his PhD project.

Mr Feather provided background to the project which aims to balance commercial seed mussel harvesting and shore bird conservation. The model previously used by fishery managers is Stillman (Bournemouth University), an individual based model which can be used to monitor site quality, in relation to bird survival and shellfishing. The project aims to develop a new model appropriate to Morecambe Bay and will include two years of field work and one year of analysis. Seed mussel recruitment will be monitored throughout the summer. Bird observations will continue throughout the winter. At the end of the two year project it is hoped to publish papers on foraging behaviour of shore birds within Morecambe Bay and on how the application of these individual based models can be used for conservation and coastal bird management.

Members then had an opportunity for questions.

Mr Oddy asked if the model could be used to set parameters for permits and catches. The Senior Scientist said the Authority would examine the model that comes from the project before making a decision on whether to adopt it for use in the management of the fisheries.

Dr Andrews said that RSPB has a good historical dataset of observations of bird abundance and IFCA has data on distribution and extent of commercially viable shellfish populations. Mr Feather said the intention is to review and use historical data. Mr Jones said the project could contribute to the Defra performance criteria by providing an evidence base and appropriate measures to manage the sustainable exploitation of sea fisheries resources and deliver environmental protection.

The Chairman thanked Mr Feather, on behalf of NWIFCA, for his presentation.

135 ANNUAL PLAN 2017-18 (Agenda Item 15)

Comments submitted by members following the December meeting had been incorporated in the revised Plan.

Mr R. Graham asked if in relation to Performance Monitoring there is a process of monitoring NWIFCAs effectiveness against other IFCAs. CEO said it would be difficult to make valid comparison as each IFCA develops and implements its own work programmes.

Mr Graham asked if in relation to officer accreditation, NWIFCA is experiencing a high staff turnover. CEO said that staff turnover is not excessive, there have been changes in the science team but few in the enforcement team.

Dr Baxter asked how members could input to the Plan. She said some of her comments had been incorporated but others not. The CEO said he had made editing and factual changes. Questions unrelated to the content of the plan should be asked separately. In general changes or suggestions putting forward specific wording should be proposed and discussed at Authority meetings.

Dr Baxter asked about the section on partnership working and reference to officers of conservation agencies appointed as MMO appointees. Dr Baxter said she was appointed as an individual and not as an officer of her particular organisation as all MMO appointees had been. The CEO said the paragraph aimed to recognise the range of expertise on the Authority.

Mr Jones asked for an update on MMO appointments. Mr Ward said MMO is agreeing a new appointment process. The CEO said Mr Mark Longstaff will be dealing with MMO appointments in future.

RESOLVED

Further comments on the Plan be submitted to the CEO.

136 ANY OTHER BUSINESS (Agenda Item 16)

Dr Andrews asked about MMO appointments in relation to the process diagram circulated. Mr Ward said it had been drawn up by MMO and sent to all IFCA for comments. The Chief Executive suggested some text was needed to make it clearer. IFCA's have previously requested more engagement with the recruitment process and the IFCA's role to be properly defined. Members felt the proposals as they stand could be perceived as affecting the impartiality or independence of IFCA's.

Miss Salthouse said the main concern was failure to attract suitable candidates in sufficient numbers because vacancies were not properly advertised. She suggested a more locally focused recruitment drive rather than a national campaign. Mr Newlands said MMO will take that point into consideration when arranging the next recruitment programme. Members were urged to send comments on the revised process to MMO.

Meeting ended 1445 hours.

Annex A

Restrictions on the use of a dredge byelaw 2017

Interpretation

1. In this byelaw:
 - a. "AIS" means an operational transceiver of Class A or Class B design that transmits and can exchange accurate information with shore based facilities;
 - b. "the Authority" means the North Western Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority as defined in articles 2 and 4 of the North Western Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Order 2010 (S.I. 2010/2200);

- c. "the District" means the North Western Inshore Fisheries and Conservation District as defined in articles 2 and 3 of the North Western Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Order 2010;
- d. "dredge" means a dredge, scoop, or similar device and any auxiliary hydraulic equipment that is designed for or capable of taking sea fisheries resources;
- e. "specified vehicle" means a vehicle for which a permit to dredge has been issued under this byelaw;
- f. "specified vessel" means a vessel for which a permit to dredge has been issued under this byelaw;
- g. "permit" means a permit issued by the Authority in accordance with this byelaw.

Prohibition

- 2. A person must not use a dredge for the exploitation of sea fisheries resources except in accordance with a permit issued under this byelaw.

Exception

- 3. Paragraph 2 does not apply to any person performing an act that would otherwise constitute an offence under this byelaw, if that act was carried out in accordance with a written permission issued by the Authority permitting that act for scientific, stocking or breeding purposes.

Permits

- 4. The Authority may issue a permit in respect of a specified vessel or specified vehicle authorising the use of a dredge to fish or take shellfish.
- 5. Contravention of a permit condition or a flexible permit condition constitutes an offence under this byelaw.

Permit conditions

- 6. A person may apply for a permit only in respect of:
 - a. a vessel for which the person is the owner, the majority shareholder in the company that is the owner, the leaseholder or the charterer or;
 - b. a vehicle for which the person is the owner, the majority shareholder in the company that is the owner or the leaseholder.
- 7. An undamaged identity tag supplied by the Authority must be permanently attached to a specified vehicle.
- 8. Permit applications may only be made using the form available from the Authority.
- 9. A permit is valid from the date of issue to 31 December of the same year unless specified in the permit
- 10. A fee is payable prior to issue for each permit as follows:

a.	Vessels over 15m overall length	£9,000
b.	Vessels 15m or under 15m overall length	£1,000
c.	Vehicles	£1,000

11. The Authority may charge a fee of £50 to issue a replacement permit or vehicle tag.
12. A permit:
 - a. is not transferable from a specified vessel or specified vehicle to another vessel or vehicle;
 - b. must be available for inspection by an IFC officer during a compliance visit to a vessel or vehicle;
 - c. remains the property of and must be surrendered to the Authority if no longer required.
13. A permit holder must not obstruct an IFC Officer.
14. Fishing returns must be filed as required by the Authority providing dates, times and locations of dredging and the quantity of fish taken. Returns including nil returns may be required for all months for which permits are valid.
15. The Authority may suspend a permit until outstanding returns have been filed.
16. A specified vessel used in conjunction with a permit must have a fully functioning AIS transmitting information including the vessel's identity course and speed at all times when the vessel is not stationary in port.
17. A permit holder must notify the Authority by phone, text or email at least 2 hours prior to commencement of fishing in conjunction with a permit.
18. A permit holder must notify the Authority of any change in the information provided to obtain a permit during the period when the permit is valid.

Flexible permit conditions

19. On receipt of the information specified in paragraph 21, the Authority may, in order to promote sustainable exploitation of sea fisheries resources, attach flexible conditions to a permit including some or all of the following:
 - a. dates, times or tides during which using a dredge for the exploitation of sea fisheries resources is permitted;
 - b. areas where using a dredge for the exploitation of sea fisheries resources is permitted;
 - c. species for which using a dredge to fish is permitted;
 - d. the type, size or design of dredge which is permitted;
 - e. the maximum number of permits which can be issued for a fishery;
 - f. the maximum number of dredges or total length of dredges that a vessel or vehicle may use in a fishery;
 - g. the total catch limit permitted within a specified period or a specified area.

Review procedure

20. The Authority will review flexible permit conditions no less than once every 4 years as follows:

- a. the Authority will consult in writing with permit holders and such other stakeholders, organisations and persons as appear to the Authority to be representative of the interests likely to be substantially affected by changes in permit conditions;
 - b. the Authority will decide whether to add, vary or remove any permit condition taking account of the consultation responses and information received in accordance with paragraph 21;
 - c. following a decision by the Authority, permit holders will be notified in writing and permits will be amended as necessary with no charge.
21. The information in paragraph 20 is:
- a. information and advice received from permit holders;
 - b. scientific and survey information gathered by the Authority or provided to the Authority by any other organisations or persons as the Authority thinks fit;
 - c. advice provided by Centre for Environment Fisheries and Aquaculture Science or Natural England or any other organisations or persons as the Authority thinks fit;
 - d. an impact assessment of any proposed changes;
 - e. information from any other relevant source.

Revocation of byelaws

22. The byelaw with the title “Byelaw 12 Restrictions on fishing for bivalve molluscan shellfish” made by the North Western and North Wales Sea Fisheries Committee under the Sea Fisheries Regulation Act 1966 (c.38) section 5 and confirmed on 21 January 1998 is revoked.
23. The byelaw with the title “NWIFCA Emergency Byelaw: Restrictions on fishing for bivalve molluscan shellfish 2016” first signed by the Minister on 3 February 2016 and signed as extended on 31 January 2017 is revoked.

Explanatory Note

(This note does not form part of the byelaw)

This byelaw prohibits the use of dredges towed by vessels or vehicles for fishing within the NWIFCA District without a permit. The permit application requirements and the conditions of use are set out in the byelaw. In addition the Authority may attach conditions which may be varied to promote sustainable exploitation of sea fisheries resources. The procedure by which permit conditions may be varied is set out in the byelaw.

Vessels for which permits have been issued must carry a functional automatic identification system (AIS) which meets Class B design (tested and certified compliant by a notified body under the Radio Equipment Directive) or the higher specification Class A design (International Maritime Organisation (IMO) performance standard in the SOLAS Convention Chapter 5 Regulation 19 Section 2.4.5).