

Lyme Bay Working Group

8th Meeting

Meeting held at the Royal Lion Hotel, Lyme Regis, on 26th June 2012

Minutes of the meeting

Present:

Charles Clover, Blue Marine Foundation.
Tim Glover, Blue Marine Foundation. (Chair)
Simon Pengelly, Southern IFCA.
Sam Dell, Southern IFCA
Jim Newton, Fisherman, Beer
Angus Walker, Fisherman, Axmouth, static gear.
John Warswick, Fisherman, West Bay, scallop diver.
Alex Jones, Fisherman, Lyme Regis, static gear.
Nigel Hill, Fisherman, Lyme Regis, static gear.
Dave Hancock
Bridget Betts, Dorset Coast Forum

Apologies:

Neil Wellum, Marine Management Organisation
Tim Robbins, Devon and Severn IFCA.
Ian Carrier, Southern IFCA.
Nick Wright, MMO
Dave Sales, Fisherman, West Bay, static gear
Neville Copperthwaite, Project co-ordinator
Andy Woolmer, Fisheries advisor
Joana Smith, Natural England
Chris Wason, Lyme Regis Fisherman
Paul Wason, Fisherman, Lyme Regis, static gear.

- 1) The chairman opened the meeting with an apology for the short notice of the meeting but said that it was important to report back as soon as possible on the Marks & Spencer meeting that he and Charles attended on 19th June. He also confirmed that the meeting would end shortly after 7.30pm as it was intended to be a short, informal update and approvals session, hence the absence of an agenda.
- 2) The minutes of the last Minutes were approved
- 3) Tim and Charles summarised the meeting they had with M&S on 19th June. The key points were:
 - M&S said they were very impressed with the work the Working Group had done and they thought the report was first class
 - They have agreed to fund the project for 3 years at £100K per year
 - Although they are fully behind the project, they want to keep a low profile. They are happy to be connected to the project and for it to be public that they are financially supporting us but they don't want anything more than that
 - There are elements of the project they are happy to fund – the science, monitoring and “process” – but not capital items such as IVMS equipment or lobster hatchery
 - Charles commented that we still required funding from elsewhere but that the M&S “cornerstone” funding is critical in us being able to raise thisTim said that this was a really good result and we now had a green light to start work on the three year plan.
- 4) Jim Newton asked how the Working Group would continue and Tim replied that it would continue to meet as before to put the plan into action. It would also be appropriate to change the status of the Working Group into a properly structured management group.
- 5) Tim asked when the Code of Conduct should be introduced. The meeting unanimously agreed it should be effective from the day of the press launch on 2nd July 2012
- 6) Charles informed the meeting that he and Tim were meeting with Jim Portus, secretary of SWIFA, after the WG meeting to try to engage them in the WG. The question was raised as to if SWIFA members should be offered a separate, less demanding, code for larger boats as an interim measure to encourage their engagement with the WG, but this was not supported by the majority of the group. It was agreed that Charles and Tim would have discussions with, and sound out, Jim Portus, but Tim reassured the group that nothing would be agreed that

hadn't already been agreed by the WG and any new ideas or initiatives would be brought back to the group before any decisions could be made

- 7) Simon Pengelly reported that the IFCA was seeking legal advice on permit conditions changes and that they felt "unlawful delegation" could be got around. If successful it would not make the introduction of bylaws any quicker but once implemented, any adaptations could be made and put into practice very quickly
- 8) Charles reported on a piece of good news. A conversation with Natural England about the Plymouth monitoring proposals resulted in them suggesting joint funding this part of the project.
- 9) Bridget Betts asked how the Code would be circulated. Tim responded that 100-150 copies will be laminated (Neville organising) and distributed to fishermen and their organisations. Further paper copies would be available at the WG stand at the Weymouth Seafood Festival.
Bridget suggested a local launch would be a good idea, possibly during Lifeboat Week (July 22nd) Although there was discussion on this, no decision was reached
- 10) The proposed press release for the launch was circulated for approval. With a couple of minor changes this was approved. Tim asked which members would be attending the London launch on Monday 2nd July and stressed the importance of a good turnout. Simon and Sam said that Matt Mander would represent both IFCA's at the launch. Nigel, Alex, John and Dave Sales all said they would attend.
- 11) Alex raised a topic he had been discussing with Charlotte Cawthorne. A fish tagging scheme which included bar coding so that there was full traceability of every fish caught. This is being operated by Gulf Wild in Florida and it has been suggested that funding may be made available by EDF to send one or more Lyme WG fishermen on a fact finding trip. The Group was unanimously in favour of investigating this as it could be a valuable addition to the Lyme Bay plan
- 12) Before closing the meeting, Tim reminded the Group about the Weymouth Seafood Festival on the 7/8 July. The Lyme Bay F&CR project has a stand at the Festival and Tim asked for volunteers, especially the fishermen, to come along with any pots or nets they felt appropriate, to give the stand some added interest. Dave Sales said he would be there and would bring some fishing gear with him.

Date of Next Meeting

To be advised.

Duration of meeting: 6pm – 7.45pm.

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