

MARINE TOURISM DEVELOPMENT GROUP MEETING

29 October 2015

RYA Scotland, Edinburgh

MINUTES

Present:

Marc Crothall (STA), Leon Thomson (VS), Daniel Steel (SS), Richard Millar (SC), Aileen Monk (BMS), Steven Dott (HIE), David Adams McGilp (VS), Alan Rankin (STA), Simon Limb (BMS), Giancarlo Fedeli (Moffat Centre, Glasgow Caledonian University)

Apologies:

Paul Bancks (CE), Fred Moore (BMS), Tara Copic (STA), James Allan (RYAS), Caroline Warburton (STA), Katie Newlands, (CE), Tom Piper, (B), Martin Latimer (BMS), Chris Taylor, (HIE), Sarah Brown (FCF)

Minutes of Previous Meetings:

The minutes of the previous meeting on 29 September were approved. Action points and matters arising:

- HIE is intending to progress an update of the EKOS report in conjunction with Crown Estates and Scottish Canals
- Summary minutes will be available on the STA website. Following the symposium, MTDG meetings will return to quarterly so minutes may be approved by email to allow earlier posting of summaries on the website.
- A question has been raised concerning the value of the passenger boat sector within the Marine Tourism Strategy growth targets. Further breakdown of the figures are available in the British Marine Report, available free to members. Representation of this sector has recently been strengthened as the new British Marine Scotland board member who will attend MTDG meetings is also a member of the Passenger Boat Association.
- Wild Scotland to be asked about possible representation on the MTDG and if so, what they could contribute to the MTDG.

Presentation by Giancarlo Fedeli from the Moffat Centre, Glasgow Caledonian University:

Giancarlo was welcomed to the MTDG to give a presentation on the Cool Route project. Discussion following the presentation highlighted the need to identify synergies with the Marine Tourism Strategy and avoid possible duplication of efforts, eg, in facilities mapping. There was some discussion also in relation to how the project will support/benefit SMEs, the evaluation criteria to be used and how the project will be sustainable in the longer term. Question of State Aid implications noted. Greater understanding of the work streams would be useful to maximise opportunities for partnership working. The main project contact in relation to the Marine Tourism Strategy will be the Cork Institute of Technology. Giancarlo was thanked for this very useful discussion and a copy of the presentation will be circulated with the minutes. It was agreed there is a clear need for ongoing dialogue and that potentially the Cool Route project could deliver a significant contribution to the development of cruising routes in Scotland. Blue Sea Marinas is a corporate partner within the Cool Route project and will be the main link with the MTDG.

Update from the Symposium Subgroup:

DS gave a brief update on arrangements. 110 people have registered so the event is now considered to be at capacity (DS to forward list of attendees). VisitScotland will prepare communications before and after the event and liaise with Stuart McMillan re releases. Need for two way communication with industry noted and possibility of a LinkedIn page discussed. Minutes of the Symposium sub group meeting will be forwarded.

Actions:

- DS to forward booking list to date
- LT to arrange PR and liaise with Stuart McMillan re releases

Marine Tourism Strategy Action Plan, presentation by Alan Rankin:

The Action Plan document forwarded by DG following meetings with MTDG partners is considered too long and will be reduced to 4 pages. AR to liaise with SD and DS to agree final text for the Action Plan. Scottish Canals to arrange the final design. AR to use the previous version of the action plan supplied by DG to draft the text and the slides for the presentation at the symposium (Update Note, 28 Sept). This should be clear on what, when and who and focus on high level actions and a call to action. AR to revise the slides and share with the MTDG prior to the symposium.

Actions:

- **AR to revise Action Plan and slides**
- **Scottish Canals to arrange final design of Action Plan**

AOB:

There have been some discussions re possible support for the industry but no definitive response yet. LT to progress.

Actions:

- **LT to arrange meeting with Richard Walsh**

Date of next meeting: 2 pm, 9 December 2015, Visit Scotland, Glasgow