



MINUTES

Fisheries Local Action Group Meeting – 10am Friday 19th August 2016

Held at: Council Offices, Daar Road, Kirkcudbright

Present: Grant Course (GC) Shaun McGuire (SM)
Alastair McNeill – FLAG Chair (AM) John Tooth (JT)
Jonathon Warren (JW) Harry Harbottle (HH)

Staff: Nicola Hill (NH) Simone Tyrie (ST)

Apologies: Caroline Graham Brown (CGB), Debbie Parke (DP), Stephen Hardy (SH), Pam Taylor (PT).

Not Present: June Lochhead (JL) and Allan Watson (AW)

Welcome

Alastair McNeill opened the meeting with a word of welcome.

Introductions

A round the table introduction took place.

Minutes of the previous meeting

There were several actions in the last minutes regarding getting clarity from Marine Scotland on elements of the guidance. NH fed back that although in kind is technically eligible the use of it will not be encouraged and match funding does have to be in place before the FLAG make a decision. Marine Scotland will not make an award without the match being in place. NH also enquired about the meetings being quorate and Marine Scotland confirmed that there is nothing in the guidance however the public/private split of 49/50 needs to be up held. The FLAG are at liberty to set a quorum for the FLAG meetings at a local level.

A discussion took place around this and allowing electronic feedback from members who were unable to attend the meeting. The members unanimously agreed that to be quorate 5 members needed to be in attendance and they were going to allow electronic feedback from members unable to attend to be fed into the discussion. The electronic feedback would not be counted as a vote at the meeting but would inform the discussion prior to the applications being scored.

GC questioned the guidance around being able to give 100% for collaborative projects but the maximum 50% of public money as they seem to contradict each other. NH will get confirmation from Marine Scotland.

The minutes were prozed by HH and seconded by SM.

Action NH

Dumfries and Galloway LEADER Programme, Kirkbank House, English Street, Dumfries, DG1 2HS, Scotland

Tel: 01387 260028 Web: www.dgleader.co.uk





FLAG meeting dates/venue/time

A discussion took place regarding the consideration of Expressions of Interest (EOI) by FLAG members. Scheduling additional meetings for this was not felt to be viable but it was suggested that the EOI deadline could be changed so that this fell on the date as the final submission deadline. This would allow any EOIs for the next meeting to be discussed by the FLAG at the scheduled FLAG meetings eliminating the need for additional meetings. It was agreed that for the first round the EOIs would be emailed out.

GC asked if there was a vice chair, HH suggested that if that was required they could just nominate someone on the day and that was agreed.

Action NH/Fisheries Project Officer

Programme Guide: Criteria/thresholds

It was agreed that the minimum grant would be £3,000 however there would be no upper limit. There were no other points of guidance to discuss.

CBG and ST attended an IT refresher session in Edinburgh and ST will provide a paper on this session for the next FLAG meeting. NH will look at the practicalities of carrying out an IT session before the FLAG members have to view applications on the IT system. NH reported that the amended offer letter had been received, signed and returned.

Action NH

Application Scoring Process

The members looked over the scoring process and suggested some amendments to the scoring sheet i.e. a marine strategy fit and everyone agreed that the Marine Scotland strategy issues needed to be added in to the scoring. The scoring process was agreed and NH will circulate the amended scoring sheet.

Action NH

Programme launch/promotion

NH stated that the closing date for the Project Officer post was today, shortlisting will be carried out by NH and AM and that interviews will take place on the 30th of August.

It was agreed that NH would put together some promotional information and send it out via all the LEADER outlets i.e. facebook, twitter, mail chimp, database etc. A leaflet will be printed that will highlight projects that can be supported.

Marine Scotland has given an interim deadline of March 2018 for all project spend. NH stated that until we receive further instruction from Marine Scotland the FLAG should adopt a business as usual approach.

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Supporting communities across
Dumfries and Galloway



A member asked if we can commission projects. NH is to check if that is possible with Marine Scotland.

Action NH

AOCB

NH stated that Marine Scotland has been approached to deliver a presentation to the FLAG and Inshore Fisheries Group on the new EMFF programme. We await confirmation of this. If this meeting is scheduled it was suggested that Claire MacDougall of Connect Local could also be invited to present. NH to follow up on this.

Action NH

Date of Next Meeting

23rd of September at 10am

Lesser Hall, Castle Douglas Town Hall

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