AFICA Members Forum AGM DRAFT MINUTES

3rd June 2025

Fishmongers Hall, London and Online.

Meeting started 11:02

Members In attendance

In person
Tony Tomlinson MBE (chairman) (part)
Amelia Henderson
Cllr. Tom Fitzpatrick
Phil Capper
Sam Davis
Prof. Peter Jones

Online
Prof. Mike Elliot
Prof. Mike Williams (vice chairman)
Pia Bateman
Cllr. Paul Fuller
Julian Gregory
Rob Pearson

Others in Attendance
Robert Clark (in person)
Simon Pengelly (in person)
Paul Williams (online)

The meeting started at 1103
Prof. Williams opened the meeting due to the Chair encountering transport delays en route

1. Apologies for absence
Dr. Will Wright
Cllr. Andy Guy
Colin Trundle
Mark Southerton
Mark Taylor

2. Declarations of Interest
No interests were declared

The Chief Officer took over the chair. Prof. Williams left the room.

3. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Tony Tomlinson was elected Chair and Prof Mike Williams was elected vice chair

Prof Williams took the chair

4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Draft Minutes of the March Members Forum Meeting were approved.

5. Progress Reports

a) Conduct and Operations Report Update

The members received an update from the Chief Officer, Defra and the Chairman of the Chief Officers Group on the Conduct and Operations Report. The members supported the creation and the work of the Implementation Group. Members discussed and agreed the workplan as established in the AIFCA implementation tables. The members noted that the Chief Officers Group will be reviewing the actions that they will be taking to respond to the Conduct and Operations Report and implement the recommendations.

b) The Cockle Forum

Members received a report on the establishment on the formation of a National Cockle Forum. The members enthusiastically approved to the development of a national forum and agreed to support its formation.

c) Inshore and Small-Scale Fisheries Consortium Update

Members welcomed and noted the update on the ISSF consortiums work.

d) AIFCA 2025-26 Delivery Projects Update

Members commented and discussed the progress on the delivery of the AIFCA projects.

Tony Tomlinson MBE arrived and took over the chair.

e) National ISSF Conference and Coastal Events

Members received an update on a national conference and the coastal events planned for 2nd & 3rd 2025. The members supported the national conference and its objectives, thanked the consortium members and agreed to support the AIFCA in the regional events. The members resolved to record their thanks to The Fishmongers Company for to the allocation of a grant to support the attendance at the national forum by members of the fishing community.

6. Accounts (under separate cover)

Members considered the AIFCA Annual Accounts for year 2024/5 prior to external review. There were no comments, and it was agreed to pass on accounts for Director's approval and external accounts. Paul Williams was thanked for his work.

7. Members Discussion

Members discussed the actions they were taking to implement the immediate recommendations in the Conduct and Operations report. Members identified several ways they would collaborate to implement the recommendations.

8. Officers Reports

Members received reports from the officers.

9. Dates of Meetings 2025/6

To note the Dates of Meetings for 2025 - 2nd September 2025 & 2nd December 2025