AFICA Members Forum Draf Minutes

3rd December 2024. Fishmongers Hall

In attendance in person

Phil Capper
Mark Taylor
Amelia Henderson
Mark Southerton
Mike Elliot
David McCandless
Rob Pearson
Peter Jones
Mat Mander
Sam Davis
Tony Tomlinson
Will Wright
John Nichols

In attendance online

Mike Williams
Paul Fuller
Julian Gregory
John Lamb

Also in attendance in person

Robert Clark
Tim Smith
Simon Pengelly

The meeting started at 11:03

1. Apologies for absence

Cllr Andy Guy
Colin Trundle
Cllr Fitzpatrick
Pia Bateman

2. Declarations of Interest

None declared

3. Chairmans Announcements

Mr Tomlinson provided an update on the Defra spending review process. He advised members that Defra had approached the AIFCA for an accrual payment of £100k net, for the previous financial year, relating to aquaculture. The AIFCA will distribute the income to the members. The members heard that the conduct and operations report is further delayed until later in January and subject to approvals processes.

4. Minutes of the Previous Meetings

4a Draft Minutes of the September Members Forum Meeting
One amendment to the attendance list was agreed and the Minutes were **APPROVED.**
4b Minutes of the August Directors Meeting
the members **NOTED** the minutes

5. Progress Reports

a) IFCA Stories Project
Members heard that the revised draft had been received, following editorial oversight from Prof. Williams. The Chief Officer will review the draft and send to Chief Officers for comment prior to publication.
b) Woman in Fisheries Programme
The chief officers described how the IFCA programme lead had met with the WIF programme and that the IFCAs are seeking to collaborate.
c) Inshore Fisheries Workshops
Members who also attended the workshops congratulated the consortium on their work. Mr Tomlinson commended the programme. Ms Henderson reflected on the value added to the programme provided by the graphics in the draft report. Robert Clark provided details of activities and next steps.
d) Members Skills Audit (feedback from Kent and Essex IFCA)
Dr Wright undertook to provide a report to members on the pilot of the project. The value of the process was discussed and the need to ensure that the purpose of the work is understood and that it is delivered in a manner to support members.

ITEM(S) FOR DECISION

6. Budget Control Statement
Members to **APPROVED** the Budget Control Statement.

7. 2025/6 Projects
Members received a report from the Chief officer on a programme of work to support and strengthen the IFCAs. After detailed consideration Members considered the programme and **APPROVED** the outline programme and directed the chief officer to develop a detailed delivery plan.

8. 2025/2026 Budget and Subscriptions
After detailed consideration Members considered and **APPROVED** the AIFCA 2025/26 Budget and Subscriptions. It was agreed to increase the subscription 2.5% for the forthcoming financial year.

ITEM(S) FOR INFORMATION

9. Several and Regulating Orders (SRO) Changes
Members received a verbal report from the Chief Officer on a proposed change to charge to the charging regime for SROs. It was agreed that the Chief Officer draft a response and that the chief officers provide comments for incorporation into an AIFCA response.
10. Officers Reports
Members NOTED the reports
11. Dates of Meetings 2025/6
The dates of next year's meetings were received.

Members received a presentation on the **marine Natural Capital and Ecosystem Assessment** programme by Simon Pengelly. Members thanked him for his work and the value of his engagement in the programme.

Members received a presentation on the **Coastal Health and Livelihood Programme** from Tim Smith. The members discussed the value and future of the programme. Tim was thanked for his update.

The meeting closed at 14:57.