

## **Action Notes from the inaugural meeting of the**

### **“Alderney Marine Management Forum”**

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2016, 14.00 – 16.00, Alderney Harbour Office**

#### Attendees:

Dave Mc Allister, Chair (DM)  
David Gillingham, The Alderney Fishermen’s Association  
Graham Gillingham, The Alderney Fishermen’s Association  
Mark Harding, Alderney Angling  
Nigel Shaw, Alderney Harbour  
Nigel Clarke, Alderney Sailing Club  
Dr Mel Broadhurst, Alderney Wildlife Trust  
Declan Gaudion, Alderney Renewable Energy (DG)  
Ruth Gaudion, Alderney Commission for Renewable Energy  
Tony Haywood, Chamber of Commerce  
Helene Turner, Visit Alderney

Dr Steve Fletcher, (SF)

Catherine Veron, States of Alderney (CV)

1. The Chairman Dave McAllister (DM) welcomed representatives to the meeting and thanked them for their time.
2. Declan Gaudion (DG), Alderney Renewable Energy provided an update on renewal energy progress including the States of Alderney agreement with Alderney Renewable Energy, proposed time frames and an explanation of the role of the Alderney Commission for Renewable Energy (ACRE). DG explained that the 300 MW project proposed to have 150 tidal turbines built in the Alderney Race and circulated slides detailing the intended areas of build. He explained that it was a 30 year time span for projects 1, 2 & 3. The turbines would have a 20 metre under keel clearance but fishing activities would not be possible in the turbine area.
3. Catherine Veron (CV), States of Alderney provided an update on extension of the territorial waters, explaining that the States of Guernsey last application to extend the territorial waters around the Bailiwick had been rejected by the Privy Council on the basis that it did not include all

the consents of the Bailiwick islands (namely Alderney but also Sark). The States of Alderney concerns with extending to the 12 mile limit had now been resolved and the States of Guernsey External and Constitutional Relations team were still keen to pursue the extension, which the majority of developed countries have in place. However there were issues with fishing rights which would need resolving before the matter could be taken to Privy Council again.

**Action - The group asked that CV seek confirmation that if the waters around Alderney were extended to 12 miles, Alderney would retain control of them.**

4. Dr Steve Fletcher (SF), World Conservation Monitoring Centre provided a brief overview of the Alderney Marine Management Plan proposal and explained that the island needed to determine a vision of what you would like the waters of Alderney to look like in 30 – 50 years. This should provide the best pathway to address the future challenges facing the marine environment around Alderney which could include, for instance:

- Supporting the fishing industry.
- Ensuring an attractive tourist destination.
- Protection of wildlife.
- Supporting renewable energy opportunities.

He stated that his organisation had helped run similar projects in St Helena and the Dart Estuary in the Solent. In response to a question from the group, he explained that the format of the plan would need to be agreed by interested parties. It was suggested that the plan could seek States of Alderney agreement or community consent.

SF pointed out that his team's role was to support the Alderney Marine Management Forum, carrying out research where suitable and advising on experiences elsewhere. SF made it clear that no one organisation should take the lead for the project but rather build it on consensus within the Forum.

In response to further questions, SF suggested that a 5 stage process could be adopted, as set out:

Stage 1 - Community engagement process – how, who, what it will look like, what it will achieve in the long term. This might include brainstorming within the Forum, public meetings and public surveys.

Stage 2 - Research into current status and trends in the condition of the marine environment and the uses made of Alderney's waters (who does what where). **Mel Broadhurst (MB) would confirm if a marine environmental plan existed.**

Stage 3 - Would combine stages 1 and 2 to set out how we can manage the mix of demands on Alderney's waters to enable the long term sustainable use of Alderney's marine resources for the benefit of all who depend upon them.

Stage 4 - Based on stages 1-3 a draft management plan will be developed which will be circulated for consultation.

Stage 5 - Post consultation, a draft formal management plan with relevant approvals.

Action – the Forum agreed that Alderney Maritime Trust (Mike Harrison), Alderney Shipping (Bruno Kay Mouat) and Bumblebee (Dan McMeiken) should be invited to the group. Sea Fisheries would be kept informed of progress. **CV to action for next meeting.**

The group discussed the spatial parameters of the project and whether it should be a 3 mile limit or 12 mile limit (no agreement reached). The high water mark was agreed as the landward boundary albeit with recognition that land use impacted on the marine environment and visa versa.

The Forum agreed that political representation should not be included on the group and felt that a public survey would greatly assist them in understanding the public needs/perception of the marine environment.

5. SF suggested that the terms of reference for the Forum should include its aim which might be to develop a marine management plan. It would use a communication platform to engage with different sectors and may aid in the push for a 12 mile extension. The Forum agreed to meet every month initially, depending on development of work. The Forum will aim to be as transparent as possible with regular media releases and papers/minutes available to the public through an appropriate website. The Forum agreed that the name of the plan should be simple and the group might be called “the Alderney Marine Management Forum”?

**Action – SF to investigate website options and draft terms of reference. CV to draft media release and circulate to group for agreement.**

6. The group agreed the way forward should be that SF prepare a draft plan for community engagement for the marine plan. He would arrange for 1 to 1 interviews with key players. **Action – as above and SF would circulate his contact details to all.**

7. Date of next meeting – Friday 23rd September, 14.00 – 16.00 and Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November, 14.00 – 16.00 at the Harbour Office.