



**MINUTES OF KIMO UK BUSINESS MEETING
FRIDAY 9th SEPTEMBER 2005
HELD IN: CONVENTION OF SCOTTISH LOCAL AUTHORITIES
CENTRAL ROOM, ROSEBERY HOUSE, 9 HAYMARKET TERRACE, EDINBURGH**

14:00 - 16:00

Present:

Councillor Joanna Strathdee – Aberdeenshire Council
Councillor Mike Rumney – Fife Council
Councillor Bill Fulton – Highland Council
Councillor Jeff Hamilton – Moray Council
Councillor Jim Foubister – Orkney Islands Council
Councillor Iris Hawkins – Shetland Islands Council
Mr Ian Robertson – Aberdeenshire Council
Mr John Mouat – Project Co-ordinator
Mr Harry Miller – Western Isles Council

Mr Rick Nickerson – Shetland Islands Council – Secretariat

Apologies:

Councillor Jenny Watson – Aberdeenshire Council
Councillor Moyra Stewart – Argyll & Bute Council
Councillor Goronwy Edwards - Ceredigion County Council
John Rimington MHK –Isle of Man Government
Mr Ian Livingston – Aberdeen City Council
Mr Bryan Thomas – Ceredigion County Council
Mr Martin Hall – Isle of Man Government
Mr Nick Wheeler - Pembrokeshire Coastal National Park Authority
Councillor Jim Henry – Shetland Islands Council
Councillor Mike Sullivan – Aberdeenshire Council
Councillor Robin Banks – Argyll & Bute Council
Councillor Linda Gorn – Moray Council
Councillor Bob Wilson – Moray Council
Councillor Angus Nicolson – Western Isles Council (CNES)

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<p>Item 1: Welcome and Apologies</p> <p>Mr Nickerson welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained that due to family reasons Councillor Nicolson would not be able to chair the meeting. <u>It was agreed that Mr Nickerson would chair the meeting in his absence. The apologies were noted.</u></p> <p>Item 2: Draft Minutes of the KIMO UK Business meeting on the 13th May 2005</p> <p><u>The draft minutes were approved.</u></p> <p>Matters Arising</p> <p>Councillor Cairns from Edinburgh City Council had been due to attend and present a paper on his Council's position on ship to ship transfers however he was not present.</p> <p>Dr Richard Thompson of Plymouth University would be attending the AGM to give a presentation on microscopic particles of plastic in the marine environment.</p> <p>Councillor Gorn was unable to attend but both her and her husband would attend the AGM and Conference allowing the issue of a voluntary marine litter clean up scheme for the oil industry to be discussed in the margins.</p> <p>Councillor Hamilton was disappointed with the uptake of individual blue flags in Moray after recent publicity. Mr Miller asked who had been responsible for the increase in the uptake in Shetland and Mr Nickerson explained that he and Mr Mouat had been actively promoting the scheme at local events.</p> <p>Shetland was preparing a paper on the implementation of a pesticide policy following up on the KIMO Good Practice Guide. <u>Mr Nickerson requested that other Authorities inform KIMO if they were using the document and would be including the results in a standing document for future meetings</u></p> <p>Mr Nickerson outlined Shetland's progress on implementing a ban on mass balloon releases. Mr Robertson stated that a report would be going to Aberdeenshire Council in November and Mr Miller stated that it could be implemented under delegated authority in the Western Isles. <u>Other authorities were requested to advise the UK Co ordinator of implementation.</u></p> <p>The number of onward links from the KIMO website to Member's websites had been much greater than expected with 459 links. Mr Mouat explained that the number of visitors to the KIMO site had almost doubled since it had been updated.</p>	<p></p> <p>All Members</p> <p>All Members</p>

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<p>Item 3: Finance</p> <p>(i) Report on membership Campaign</p> <p>Mr Nickerson informed the members that Fife was looking into re-affiliation with KIMO and that a report recommending affiliation was going to Glasgow City Council in the near future.</p> <p>He had also recently visited the KIMO members in Wales to discuss how they could be more involved in the network. Although they remained enthusiastic about KIMO they did not believe there was a need to develop a separate Welsh forum at this stage. During the same trip he had been able to attend the Solway Firth Partnership Annual Conference and highlight KIMO in an area where the organisation has not traditionally had members.</p> <p>(ii) Accounts</p> <p>KIMO UK was still operating with a small reserve and therefore the budget was being monitored very closely however the addition of new members should help alleviate some of the shortfall in income.</p> <p><u>The accounts were approved and signed by Councillor Strathdee and Councillor Hamilton.</u></p> <p>(iii) Letter from Shetland Islands Council on the provision of the Secretariat.</p> <p>After a Shetlands Islands Council Internal Audit the service agreement between the Council and KIMO had been flagged up for review. This process would take place over the next year and would be implemented in 2007 subject to agreement of all parties.</p> <p>Item 4: Update on the Fishing for Litter Scotland Campaign</p> <p>Mr Mouat informed the meeting that the scheme was operating in Fraserburgh and 4 boats had already been registered. In Aberdeen an agreement had been reached with the harbour and the infrastructure was almost in place although local boats had yet to be approached. Mr Nickerson had also approached Stornoway harbour on a recent trip to the Western Isles and they were also willing to participate. Mr Mouat would also be visiting five harbours on the west coast over the next week to discuss the project with the aim of having them reach a stage where litter collection could begin at the start of the next financial year.</p> <p>Mr Mouat explained that as expected the most difficult part of the project was contacting the boats and persuading them to participate. However with over 30 boats already registered the target of 40 boats in the first year should be surpassed.</p>	

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<p>Item 5: Update on Maritime and Coastguard review of the UK National Contingency Plan for Marine Pollution</p> <p>Mr Nickerson stated that he had circulated the KIMO response to the review in advance of the meeting to allow Councils the opportunity to comment on it.</p> <p>Mr Nickerson informed the group that even after the review there was still no statutory duty, with corresponding funding, for local authorities to clean up marine pollution. In addition, at a recent meeting the MCA had agreed to make considerable changes to the Plan although it had gone out to consultation a point, which would be raised in the KIMO submission.</p> <p><u>It was agreed that the additional comments should be added to the KIMO response. Mr Robertson stated that the report covered his concerns.</u></p> <p>Item 6: Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment in the North East Atlantic (OSPAR)</p> <p>(a) Summary Record of OSPAR Commission, June 2005, Ireland</p> <p>Mr Nickerson advised the meeting that he had attempted to provide a briefing cover note for the Summary Record highlighting where KIMO had had an influence. On the EU strategy KIMO had highlighted its difference in opinion with the other green NGO's to ensure it was not incorporated in their response. On the subject of Ecological Quality Objectives, KIMO presented the results of the Fulmar study to the Commission.</p> <p>The last elements of the work programme on Dumped Chemical and Conventional Weapons were approved and France had supplied information on dumps in its waters although Portugal was yet to report.</p> <p>The UK had blocked the call for an extension of the North Sea special area for marine litter to be expanded outside the North Sea. It has now been referred back to the Marine Litter Monitoring Working Group who will develop new proposals.</p> <p>KIMO had persuaded Ireland to present a paper on its success in implementing a levy on plastic bags to reduce their usage. This would be used as a background to lobby for the implementation of similar levies in all OSPAR countries.</p> <p>The information provided by the National Federation of Fishermen in relation to the debris on the seabed around the Forbes field had proved to be inaccurate therefore the view of the industry was also put to the commission by KIMO.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">UK Co ordinator DONE</p>

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<p>However this has set down a marker to the industry that they are being watched and that they cannot step out of line.</p> <p>At the last Commission meeting (2004) KIMO presented a paper on behalf of all the NGO's requesting that they should be allowed access to the Heads of Delegation (HOD) meetings. However after consideration OSPAR had decided that this was not possible although they would now be given access to the HOD documents and be allowed contribute by written procedure.</p> <p>Finally Mr Nickerson also highlighted the symposium on Sustainable Shipping training being run by ProSea on the 2nd and 3rd November at the Port of Rotterdam.</p> <p>Councillor Strathdee stated that she was impressed by the level of input KIMO now had within OSPAR.</p>	
<p>Item 7: The UK's approach to assigning Place of Refuge</p> <p>Mr Nickerson explained that he had not written to the MCA as there was a large amount of information already on their website. The Secretary of States Representative for Marine Salvage (SOSREP) has the powers to appoint any area along the coastline a place of refuge if he/she thinks it is appropriate, without consultation. The introduction of places of refuge has come in response to EU legislation following the Erika and Prestige disasters. It is still not clear how this would affect liability and compensation regimes for areas outside harbour limits. Mr Miller said that he would bring up this issue with his Emergency Planning Department.</p> <p>Councillors Rumney, Hawkins and Foubister entered the meeting at this point.</p>	
<p>Item 8: Implementation of the End of Life Vehicles Directive (ELV) – Mr Rufus Marland – Keep Scotland Beautiful</p> <p>Mr Rufus Marland gave a presentation on the work he was undertaking for Keep Scotland Beautiful on ELV's. He had been collecting statistics on the extent of the problem, the cost to Local Authorities and Fire Brigades and the preparedness of manufacturers to implement the Directive. His result showed that, as KIMO had predicted, the arrangements put in place for Scotland were woefully inadequate and would lead to increased disposal costs for owners of ELV's.</p> <p>Mr Nickerson asked how the manufactures were going to provide Authorised Treatment Facilities (ATF) to ensure ELV's did not have to travel more than thirty miles to be scraped.</p> <p>Mr Marland explained that he was currently taking this up with the industry and was developing a map of the ATF's including the maximum limit indicated on them to illustrate this to the industry.</p>	

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<p>Mr Nickerson thanked Mr Marland for his presentation and wished him well for his work for the future and asked if KIMO could be kept informed of any further developments.</p> <p>Item 9: Scottish Parliament Environment and Rural Development Committee Call for Comments on the Environmental levy on Plastic Bags</p> <p>Mr Nickerson explained that plastic bags had a large impact on the marine environment and referred members to the Irish report to OSPAR, which showed a 66% reduction in the number of plastic bags found on beaches after the introduction of the levy.</p> <p>However the planned system for administration and enforcement of the scheme in Scotland where the Local Authorities were responsible was a concern.</p> <p>Councillor Rumney stated that COSLA had held a seminar on this issue and that there could be a cost to local authorities in the future when revenues for the levy reduced, due to the reduction in the use of plastic bags, as the scheme would cost £3 million to implement and £3.4 million annually to run. There was also a concern that there would be added pressure put on Environmental Health Officer's who were already in short supply.</p> <p><u>The members agreed that although they could support the ethos of the bill they still held concerns about its administration and it was agreed to highlight this in KIMO's submission.</u></p> <p>Item 10: Developing Proposals for Marine and Coastal Parks – Invitation from Scottish Natural Heritage.</p> <p>Mr Nickerson explained that this was not an area where KIMO had traditionally been involved however as we did have a Resolution covering the subject he wanted the members to decide if we should become more involved. Councillor Jim Foubister from Orkney agreed that there were many areas's that needed protection but was slightly concerned about SNH's track record in this area.</p> <p><u>It was agreed that KIMO should continue to focus on marine pollution but keep a watching brief on marine and coastal parks.</u></p> <p>Item 11: Press Report regarding Radioactive Contamination on Aberdeen Beach</p> <p>Mr Nickerson explained that this had been added as an agenda item to seek advise if members thought KIMO should follow up on this incident with SEPA. Councillor Hamilton suggested that KIMO should wait until the SEPA report on the issue was released however Councillor Strathdee was of the opinion that we should write to SEPA to request more information on their response to the incident.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">UK Co ordinator DONE</p>

