



**MINUTES OF KIMO UK BUSINESS MEETING**  
**Friday 23rd November 2007**

**HELD IN: CONVENTION OF SCOTTISH LOCAL AUTHORITIES (COSLA)**  
**SALTIRE ROOM, ROSEBERY HOUSE, 9 HAYMARKET TERRACE, EDINBURGH**

**14:00**

**Present:**

**Councillor Joanna Strathdee – Aberdeenshire Council (Chair)**

Councillor Jim Henry – Shetland Islands Council  
Councillor Jim Foubister – Orkney Islands Council  
Councillor John Corall – Aberdeenshire Council  
Councillor Mike Sullivan – Aberdeenshire Council  
Councillor George Farlow – Highland Council  
Councillor Norman McDonald - Western Isles Council (CNES)  
Ian Robertson – Aberdeenshire Council  
Jan Falconer – Aberdeen City Council

**Secretariat – John Mouat**  
**Project Officer - Rick Nickerson**

**Apologies:**

Councillor Elizabeth Riches J.P – Fife Council  
Councillor Kevin Stewart – City of Aberdeen Council  
Councillor Robert Thomas – Aberdeen City  
Councillor Len Scouller - Argyle and Bute Council  
Councillor Richard Greene – Highland Council  
Harry Miller - Western Isles Council (CNES)  
Bob McLellan – Chief Officer – Fife Council  
Stuart Turner – Argyle and Bute Council  
Tony Marsh – Orkney Islands Council



	Action
--	--------

**Item 10 (ii) Fishing for Litter South West**

Mr Mouat informed the meeting that The Crown Estate had agreed an extension to 2008 for the funding previously awarded.

**(iii) Other Fishing for Litter Initiatives**

At the KIMO AGM Conference the FFL initiative was presented to the Irish Fisheries Minister John Browne who expressed an interest in developing a similar scheme. It was intended to meet representatives of An Taisce, an organisation similar to Keep Scotland Beautiful who may be interested in pursuing the Minister's invitation.

**Item 4: Finance and administration**

**(i) Provision of UK Coordination Service**

At the last KIMO UK meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup> September it was decided to investigate the possibility of moving the UK Co ordination Service to the mainland combining the roles of Fishing for Litter (FFL) and UK Co ordinator. The aim was to provide best value, reduce travel costs, increase the profile of the organisation and increase membership.

Approaches have now been made to The Crown Estate, Scottish Government and an initial meeting had occurred with SNH. To date £24,500 funding had been secured from The Crown Estate, Natural England, the Duchy of Cornwall and the Environment Agency and applications have been submitted to Biffa Fund, Cita Fund, Sea Fish and the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation.

However the proposal could only proceed if the FFL Scotland funding for 2008 – 2011 was successful.

Mr Robertson advised the meeting that Aberdeenshire Council was considering hosting the post at Woodhill House in Aberdeen should the funding be identified and this would be subject to a Committee Report in December.

It was agreed to note progress to date.

**Item 5: Ship-to-Ship Transfers in the Forth Estuary**

**(i) Response from the Danish Maritime Assistance service re Ship-to-Ship Transfers in Danish Waters**

The report was compiled as a request at the last meeting. Figures for 2007 indicate that there have been 43 STS transfers in Danish

	Action
<p>transferred. The transfers took place in 3 main locations Kalundborg Fjord, Frederikshavn Red and Aalbaek Bugt. The table in the report outlines the types of products transferred and the percentage of each type by weight and number of transfers. Interestingly although crude only accounted for 27.9 percent of the transfers by number it accounted for nearly 50% of the total weight of cargo transferred with 1,061,973 tonnes.</p> <p>It was noted that developments to develop 100,000T broad beam and shallow draft tankers were being considered for the Baltic trade. Cllr Foubister advised the meeting that Forth Ports were still considering their position.</p> <p><u>Members noted the report.</u></p> <p><b>Item 6: Report on Radioactive Pollution in Northern Russia</b></p> <p>At the last KIMO UK meeting the Coordinator was requested to investigate radioactive pollution in the Arctic from military and civil facilities on the Kola Peninsula, in Russia. The summary record of a report produced by the Bellona Foundation called the Arctic Nuclear Challenge was highlighted. The report outlined issues such as the nuclear component of the Northern Russia Fleet, civilian nuclear vessels, the Kola nuclear power plant, sources of current arctic contamination, projects for securing nuclear waste and regional storage facilities on the Kola Peninsula. A full copy of the extensive report (102 pages) can be found at: <a href="http://www.bellona.org/reports/The_Arctic_Nuclear_Challenge">www.bellona.org/reports/The Arctic Nuclear Challenge</a></p> <p><u>Cllr Foubister and Cllr Strathdee asked if Norwegian monitoring information was available and the Co ordinator agreed to investigate if this was available.</u></p> <p>Members noted the report.</p> <p><b>Item 7: Shipments of Radioactive Material to Sellafield by Sea from Sweden</b></p> <p>KIMO UK along with KIMO International and KIMO Sweden had been lobbying for many years against the shipment of ultra hazardous radioactive shipments, especially on board the ex roll on roll off ferry the Atlantic Osprey. The most recent shipment of spent nuclear fuel, from a test reactor in Sweden, travelled to Sellafield on the 4<sup>th</sup> of October on board the Atlantic Osprey. Despite repeated reassurances about the safety of these shipments Greenpeace activists managed to board the vessel at open sea and mount a protest against the shipments placing huge doubt over the ability of the vessel, which is unescorted, to fend off a terrorist attack. As a result of pressure from KIMO UK, KIMO Sweden and KIMO International along with other Swedish anti nuclear campaigners and NGO's the Swedish Government has announced that it will no longer send any shipments by sea to the UK. The Minister stated that all their nuclear waste will be stored in Sweden in the future and there will be only one more shipment</p>	<p>UK Coordinator</p>

	Action
<p>taking the equivalent amount of material to that sent in October 4<sup>th</sup> back to Sweden. Members noted the press release from the Nordic Council of Ministers outlining the Swedish Government position.</p> <p>The Chair welcomed this development, which she believed fully illustrated the value of an organisation such as KIMO. <u>She volunteered to forward a copy of the coverage of the item in the Press &amp; Journal.</u></p> <p><b>Item 8: Report on KIMO Expansion into the Baltic Sea</b></p> <p>At the AGM in Gorey, Ireland, on the 4, 5 and 6<sup>th</sup> October a proposal was put forward by Simrishamn Kommune, Sweden, to expand the KIMO Network into the Baltic Sea region. This was agreed by the AGM and the Constitution was amended to include those Baltic Countries not already eligible for membership.</p> <p><u>Members noted the development and welcomed the initiative.</u></p> <p><b>Item 9: Update on Home Working/Data Trawl Project (verbal)</b></p> <p>Mr Nickerson advised the meeting that the project was scheduled to end at the end of December and was on target for a successful completion. It had received 12 home worker applicants and these were successfully matched to 8 clients. Questionnaires had been circulated to both the home workers and clients and responses were being compiled. The final report was being completed and would be launched early in 2008. There was potential to expand this project to other KIMO members subject to future funding.</p> <p><b>Item 10: Update on Fishing for Litter Initiatives</b></p> <p><b>(i) Fishing for Litter Scotland 2008-2011</b></p> <p>Mr Nickerson presented a report outlining recent developments on accessing funding opportunities to expand the Fishing for Litter initiative in Scotland beyond March 2008 and to seek delegated authority to enter into dialogue with potential sponsors and submit funding applications.</p> <p>Since that time meetings have taken place with officials of the Scottish Government (SG) (September 24<sup>th</sup>) and the Cabinet Secretary Richard Lochhead (November 8<sup>th</sup>). A draft proposal to expand the project has been developed and submitted to the SG as a discussion document and a formal application has been submitted to The Crown Estate. The first meeting with SG officials was positive but they wished to see more targets in the proposal and also suggested that due to the tight Spending Review Settlement for next year it was unlikely that substantial funding would be available from the SG. It was suggested that KIMO UK should seek funding from other sources. This was confirmed by the Cabinet Secretary at the most recent meeting. A meeting with Scottish Natural Heritage to seek advise whether any additional funding might be available for the project was held (November 20<sup>th</sup>).</p>	<p>Cllr Strathdee</p>

	Action
<p>He also wanted to seek what funding might be available from Westminster as much of the marine litter and fishing activities are out with the 12-mile limit and thus a reserved matter. He undertook to write to the appropriate UK authorities to seek their opinion on co funding. Officials will require more robust targets in terms of number of fishing vessels participating, increased tonnages and an element of recycling.</p> <p>A formal application for funding has been submitted and been acknowledged. No decision is expected until December 2007.</p> <p>Although SNH only funds pilot projects for development and start-up costs, further to discussions it has been suggested that an application should be submitted but as this is continuation of an existing project it would stand less chance of success. Applications for projects for &lt; £10,000 can be submitted at any time with a decision period of 30 days. For amounts &gt; £10,000 the deadline is 15th April 2008 with a decision period of 30 – 40 days. Grants up to 50% are available. The project certainly meets many of the requirements of the Water for Life Funding Programme but the challenge will be to fully illustrate new and innovative elements of the project.</p> <p>Other sources of funding had not been investigated as yet. Approaches would be made to the oil industry and the Scottish Fishermen's Federation and other potential sponsors. Currently assistance from Aberdeenshire Council and Western Islands Council for waste disposal costs had been helpful and Mr Mouat suggested that it might be appropriate to seek similar assistance from other local authorities either in terms of finance or in kind contributions. This would assist in reducing the overall budget.</p> <p><u>Members agreed to give delegated authority to the UK Coordinator to develop and submit applications for funding for the project to potential sponsors and to write to Member authorities to investigate whether they might provide sponsorship for waste disposal costs in the project.</u></p> <p>Cllr Sullivan left the meeting</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>(ii) Update on Fishing for Litter Scotland (verbal)</b></p> <p>Mr Nickerson advised the meeting on progress on the project. Mr Nickerson presented the project at the 17<sup>th</sup> KIMO International Annual General Meeting attended by 70 delegates in Wexford, Republic of Ireland. At that event an opportunity was presented to highlight the project to Irish Minister of State at the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Mr John Browne TD who offered to consider a similar scheme in Ireland.</p> <p>Visits by the Co ordinator have taken place in Eyemouth (Nov 7<sup>th</sup>) and Pittenweem (Nov 8<sup>th</sup>) where meetings took place with Harbour Masters. These visits have been useful in highlighting the project</p>	<p><b>UK Coordinator - Done</b></p>

	Action
<p>implemented the project. Dialogue to enhance the activity in these harbours has begun with new personnel. It was also an opportunity to identify some minor operational problems that since have been addressed. As part of this trip a meeting with project sponsor SNH was held in Perth to explore future funding. Contacts with unregistered vessels continue to be undertaken.</p> <p>A media launch, in partnership with the Solway Firth Partnership, took place in Kirkcudbright on 22<sup>nd</sup> November. Good media coverage was obtained from local radio and print media and Border TV covered the event. Articles on the project were also written for the Firth of Forth Estuary Forum Newsletter and the Peterhead Harbour Authority</p> <p>Attempts to initiate the scheme in Troon have been slower than expected due to operational delays with AB Ports.</p> <p>Follow up discussions have taken place with KIMO Faeroes (in Ireland) to enlist Faeroese vessels, which are currently landing in Scrabster.</p> <p>Mr Mouat presented the project to a meeting of the Grab Trust in Oban in October.</p> <p>The new size of fishing for litter bags have proved successful and a new batch had been ordered along with the larger size as stocks were running low. Distribution of additional FFL bags (small) to Tarbert, Stornoway, Scrabster and Shetland was completed in September.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>(iii) Update for Fishing for Litter Southwest England (verbal)</b></p>	
<p>Mr Mouat advised on attempts to progress this initiative in partnership with Seafood Cornwall. Due to some administrative delays with ENTRUST applications to funders were delayed and decisions on funding were not expected until early in 2008.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>(iv) Other Fishing for Litter Initiatives (verbal)</b></p>	
<p>Mr Nickerson attended a conference of an Interreg IIIa Clean Coast Project for the Irish Sea in Wales in September and gave a presentation on the FFL project, expenses being met by the organisers.</p>	
<p><b>Item 11: Date and location of next KIMO UK Meeting</b></p>	
<p>Mr Mouat explained that for the last 5 years KIMO UK Business Meetings have been held at COSLA conference centre in Edinburgh. This was undertaken so meetings could be run in conjunction with the COSLA Regeneration &amp; Sustainable Development Committee to attract more members and reduce the travel costs for members that attended both meetings. However this has not proved as successful in attracting new members as hoped. Since the last meeting in May this year...</p>	

