

# **Menai Strait Fishery Order Management Association**

**Meeting, 1<sup>st</sup> July 2010, Port Penrhyn**

## **Minutes**

### **Attendance**

#### *Directors*

James Wilson

Bangor Mussel Producers Ltd

#### *Observers*

Keith Andrews

Licensed hand pickers

Rowland Sharp

Countryside Council for Wales

Alan Winstone

Environment Agency Wales

Martyn Boyce

Welsh Assembly Government

Hefin W Thomas

Ynys Môn County Council

Hugh P Hughes

Gwynedd County Council

#### *Advisors*

Jim Andrews

### **Apologies**

School of Ocean Sciences, UCNW

### **1. Welcome & Chairing Arrangements**

James Wilson welcomed everyone

### **2. Chairman's announcements**

The key purpose of the meeting was to consider and endorse the Policies & Procedures tabled at the first meeting.

### **3. Minutes of last meeting**

Minutes of 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010 meeting accepted by all.

### **4. Matters Arising**

Financial Arrangements (see point 8 in this document)

### **5. Membership of the Association**

James Wilson explained that membership of the Association is open to all of the organisations that WAG have invited to participate in it. Currently, the Association consists of two members namely, James Wilson and Keith Andrews.

A maximum of 8 members are allowed as stated in the Articles of the Association (7 members and 1 Chairman).

All agreed to review the question of membership of the Association. JW and JA agreed to re-circulate the paperwork relating to this in advance of the next meeting.

## **6. Draft Policies & Procedures**

The meeting considered the draft policies and procedures, and reviewed their content page-by-page. Minor amendments were noted and it was agreed that a revised version should be considered for final approval at the next meeting of the Association.

## **7. Chairmanship of the Association**

The Association discussed the candidates that had been proposed for the Chairmanship. None of these candidates had been formally approached beforehand, so their availability to fulfil the role could not be determined.

After discussion, it was proposed (by James Wilson) and seconded (by Keith Andrews) that Dr Sue Utting should be invited to take this role.

James Wilson agreed to formally invite Dr Utting to accept this role.

**Action:** Formally approach Sue Utting for the position of Chair of the Association. If not successful, formally approach Stephen Lockwood.

## **8. Financial arrangements**

### **a. Bank Account**

James Wilson announced that a bank account has been created for the Association and that the rental income to the order has been deposited in it. Little outlay had been incurred, and a budget should be drawn up for approval at the next meeting.

### **b. Fees - leases & licences**

It was felt that fees for licences should be maintained at current level.

It was felt that fees from leases could be raised to provide an increased income and establish a reserve for the management of the order. The Minister should be informed of any changes to lease fees.

### **c. Budget for current Financial Year**

There was some discussion about budgeting, and agreement that a budget and 5 year financial plan should be proposed that would meet overheads and enable a reserve fund to accrue.

**Action:** Set up a 5 year financial plan for discussion at the next meeting.

## **9. Fishing Licences**

Licences for fishing in the coming winter were due to be issued on 1<sup>st</sup> September. It was agreed that these should be issued in accordance with agreed procedures, and that a map showing the locations of mussel beds and fishing areas in the Strait should be produced.

It was also suggested that licences could be issued for an annual period rather than the current seasonal (September - April) period, to simplify administration of the Order.

**Action:** Prepare & circulate a map of the mussel beds & fishing areas; circulate a proposal for annual licences.

## **10.Enforcement arrangements**

Progress was being made to formally implement the Memorandum of Understanding with the Welsh Assembly Government. An update on progress would be put to the next meeting.

## **11.Any Other Business**

### **a) Item of Correspondence**

A letter from Dafydd Jones, requesting a list of the Directors of the Company and the organisation they represent, was received.

**Action:** James Wilson will respond to the above letter and thus providing Anglesey Boat Company Limited with the requested details.

### **b) Marine Stewardship Council Assesment**

It was reported that the Assessment was progressing well and that the fishery should soon attain the MSC standard. It would be the first cultivated shellfishery to attain this standard globally.

## **12.Date for next meeting**

Quarterly meetings are suggested. The next meeting is set for 7<sup>th</sup> October 2010.

Huw Hughes requested future meetings to start from 1000 AM. This request was acknowledged by all.