

# **Minutes of the Foyle Marine Tourism Focus Group**

**Loughs Agency Headquarters, Prehen**

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2015 at 11am**

## **Present**

Enda Craig

## **In attendance**

Kevin Wilson (Director of Development)

Andy Sides (Development Officer)

Lionel Knobbs (Angling Development Manager)

Willie Burke (Development Officer)

Laura McCready (Minutes)

## **1. Apologies**

David Friel

Adrian Harkin

John McLaughlin

Denis Kelly

## **2. Loughs Agency Update**

Kevin Wilson thanked Enda for attending the meeting. He advised that there had not been a meeting in quite some time as he had intended to make alterations to the structure of the group whereby he would split the group into 3 sections, Marine Tourism, Angling Development and Education. He added that it was also his intention to co-opt other members and organisation representatives onto the newly formed Focus Group.

Kevin also advised that there had been communication from one member asking if the meetings could be held in the evening. He advised that an email was sent to all members but there was not a consensus, some members preferred morning to evening and vice versa. He added that it was his intention to therefore alternate morning, afternoon and evening meetings going forward.

Andy Sides, Lionel Knobbs and Willie Burke then gave a very comprehensive PowerPoint presentation on the current Interreg funded projects, Angling Development and Sustainable Development Project.

Enda thanked the gentlemen for their presentation stating that the work currently being undertaken was all very positive.

Enda asked for further clarification in relation to the E Licensing project not being completed. Andy Sides advised that the project had got to business case stage and had been agreed by both Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI) and the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure (DCAL) however the funders could not allow the Agency the time required to complete the project therefore it had been shelved. Kevin Wilson confirmed that it was still the intention of the Agency to move forward with E Licensing with IFI and DCAL.

### **3. Possibility of Beach Designation at Carnagarve, Moville**

Enda Craig had sent a number of documents and evidence to the group prior to the meeting for their consideration. Enda gave an overview of the issue to the group. There was a lengthy discussion in relation to same.

Kevin Wilson advised that he could not make any decisions in relation to Enda's request but would talk to the CEO and Senior Management Team and get back to Enda.

### **4. Next Steps**

Kevin Wilson advised that the next step for the Development Directorate was working on a Strategic Development Plan 2015-22. He advised that the Agency would be running roadshows to gauge the interest of stakeholders and get their input.

### **5. A.O.B.**

Enda thanked everyone for their presentations and added that he was not aware that there was so much positive work going on in the Foyle and Carlingford areas.

### **6. Date and Venue of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2015 at 7pm in Loughs Agency Headquarters, Prehen.