



Byelaw & Permitting Sub- Committee Meeting

Final Minutes from 11th
October 2018

Version Control and Drafting

Date	Comments
18 th October 2018	1 st Draft of minutes completed for circulation to DCO Clark for potential amendment and additions
24 th October 2018	DCO Clark amendments and additions
8 th November 2018	Minor correction to actions

Key Contents

Item: Topic:

- 3 Officer Actions
- 4 Diving – Three-Year Review of Permit Conditions
(Review of Phase one consultation & discussions for developing Phase Two – Focussed Consultation)
- 5 Managing Hand Working – (Planning and refinement of document)
- 6 Draft Guide to the Work of the Sub-Committee – (Refining the document)
- 7 Discussions related to a stakeholder request to review spatial access near Plymouth
- 8 The Five-Year Review of the Mobile Fishing Permit Byelaw – (Planning)
- 9 Replacing the Emergency Application Byelaw – (Planning)
10. Any other business
11. Date of next meeting

Minutes of the Byelaw and Permitting Sub Committee Meeting
Held on 11th October 2018 at Larkbeare House, Exeter

Present: Mike Williams (Chair) Richard White Cllr Hellyer
David Morgan Andrew Knights David Cuthbert
Simon Toms Jim Portus Stephen Gledhill

Also Present: DCO Sarah Clark and PPO Neil Townsend

Apologies: Rachel Irish, James Marsden, John May, Natasha Bradshaw, ACO
Mander

Introduction

The Chair explained to the other members that as he was also the Vice-Chair of the full Authority he would be declining the annual payment for this role. The Chair informed members that the payment already received would be donated to charity. The other members thanked the Chair for this gesture

1 To consider and approve minutes of the Byelaw and Permitting Sub-Committee meeting held on 12th April 2018. (Circulated by email)

The Chair invited members to raise any issues resulting from the draft minutes taken at the last meeting. The minutes were examined page by page. Amendments to some of the content on pages three and ten were highlighted and noted by PPO Townsend. A vote was then taken.

That the minutes (as amended) provide a true and accurate record.

Proposed: Stephen Gledhill Seconded: Richard White

All agreed

2 Business Arising

Andrew Knights highlighted page ten of the draft minutes which was focussed on the protection of otter populations. Andrew Knights confirmed to members that since April 2018 he has had some discussions with other organisations about organising continuing and co-ordinated research.

3 To discuss the officer actions resulting from the last meeting (12th April 2018)

The Chair suggested that members examine the list of actions that had been circulated in preparation for the meeting and invited officers to provide a verbal update on each item. DCO Clark began with Action 1 from the last meeting held on 12th April 2018.

Ring Nets – Shad Bycatch (Action from 12th April 2018)

1	DCO Clark and Andrew Knights (Natural England)	To continue development of a Fully Documented Fishery by contacting and including interested parties which include Plymouth University, Environment Agency, and potentially SIFCA and CIFCA.
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DCO Clark explained to members that this was an on-going action item. The required discussions, including those with Natural England had begun but were not completed. DCO Clark informed members that a draft document detailing the requirements of the Monitoring and Control Plan had been prepared and will also be discussed with Natural England prior to its implementation. Jim Portus welcomed the development of this work and commented that the fishery would begin soon in the Plymouth area. Jim Portus also suggested that Gus Caslake, the Chair of the Pilchard management group would be a good contact to keep informed of any developments.

I-VMS Communications (Action from 12th April 2018)

2	ACO Mander & Alison Heiman	To discuss and plan a two-phase communication strategy for the introduction of I-VMS and develop the required information for publication.
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PPO Townsend confirmed on behalf of ACO Mander and Alison Heiman that this action had been completed. PPO Townsend informed members that the D&S IFCA website is the primary platform for D&S IFCA news stories.

Updates (Action from 12th April 2018)

3	ACO Mander	To provide all members with an electronic update of the outcome of the Chief Officers Meeting
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DCO Clark reported on behalf of ACO Mander and explained that the Chief Officers meeting had not been attended by either the ACO or any other D&S IFCA staff member and therefore an electronic update had not been circulated. Members were informed that future updates can be circulated when the meeting is attended, and the following action point was noted:

Resulting Action (11th October 2018)

1	ACO Mander	To provide all members with an electronic update of the outcome of the Chief Officers Meeting if attended
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Drafting & Communications (Action from 12th April 2018)

4	PPO Townsend	To draft suitable clarification/policy documentation to explain how permits can be surrendered and re-issued at zero cost due to I-VMS device failure
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PPO Townsend confirmed that the documentation had been created and published on the D&S IFCA Website. David Morgan inquired if the information had been directly circulated to the mobile fishing permit holders. PPO Townsend suggested that this was highly likely as part of the bundle of information including amended permit conditions and Annexes which were sent out in late August in both electronic and hard copy format. PPO Townsend said he would check what information had been sent and reassured members that this information would be directly circulated if it had not been done so already. An Action point was noted.

Resulting Action (11th October 2018)

2	PPO Townsend	a) To check if the Policy Document for the failure of I-VMS and the options available for fishers regarding permit surrender has been directly circulated and; b) if not, organise a direct circulation to Mobile Fishing Permit Holders
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Members then began further discussions relating to the introduction of I-VMS both in the D&S IFCA District and Nationally. Jim Portus informed members that European Control Regulations were under review and a Marine Management Organisation consultation on vessel monitoring systems had just begun. DCO Clark informed members that 79 grant funded units had already been fitted to mobile fishing vessels operating in the District. Both David Morgan and David Cuthbert commented that there was some concern within the industry about the funding for the national implementation that is currently being subjected to a six-week Marine Management Organisation consultation. Jim Portus added that some industry members had raised concerns over the lack of clarity regarding the extent of European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) funding and the apparent lack of funding for on-going maintenance costs. All three members explained that fishers have concerns if the units fitted to vessels in the D&S IFCA would be compatible with the national proposals. DCO Clark explained that the equipment fitted to vessels in the D&S IFCA District had been subjected to a lengthy type approval process and would not expect compatibility issues to arise, but this can never be guaranteed.

Soft Shell Crab (Action from 12th April 2018)

5	DCO Clark	To create a mini guide to explain rationale for the protection of soft shell species that can be published and highlighted to fishers and markets and encourage a response from all interested parties to add to the existing D&S IFCA evidence base
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DCO Clark explained to members that this action had not been completed. Difficulties exist defining soft shell species for use in a mini guide that may have benefitted fishers and processors. DCO Clark informed members that it was hoped processors would demand high standards of good quality crab which would minimise the potential issue. David Morgan explained that market demand is often an overriding factor over quality and soft crab will not always be returned. The Chair recognised the difficulties faced by officers trying to define soft shell and commented that poorly worded guidance could open the Authority to criticism. The Chair asked members if the action should be abandoned. Jim Portus commented that this issue is more of a marketing issue rather than a conservation issue. DCO Clark reminded members of the legislation under Sea Fisheries (Shellfish) Act 1967 S. 17 which states that it is an offence for any person to take, have in his possession, sell, expose for sale, buy for sale, or consign any person for the purpose of sale any edible crab which has recently cast its shell. David Morgan suggested that officers focus more on reminding fishers and processors of the legislation surrounding soft shell species. Stephen Gledhill suggested that the key aspects of the legislation could be summarised and used for relevant D&S IFCA communications to raise more awareness amongst the industry. Members came to the agreement that this seemed the most appropriate form of action and without a formal vote suggested a new action item.

Resulting Action (11th October 2018)

3	D&S IFCA Officers	To summarise the key aspects of the relevant legislation and use it in communications work intended to raise awareness to the industry of the legal requirements regarding soft shell species.
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Whelk Guidance (Action from 12th April 2018)

6	DCO Clark	To create a mini guide (1 to 2 pages) to explain rationale for the increase in whelk size, when the measure will be introduced (1 st July) and circulate to fishers.
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DCO Clark informed members that this action had been completed. PPO Townsend added that the guidance had been directly circulated to all Potting Permit Holders and the information was also posted on the D&S IFCA website including inclusion in a news story. The Chair thanked officers for the update on all the actions and returned to the agenda items.

Agenda Item

- 4 To consider the findings of the “open phase” consultation relating to the Three-Year Review of the Diving Permit Conditions and identify items for the second phase of consultation as documented in the supplementary report (March 2018)**

The Chair asked PPO Townsend to introduce this agenda item. PPO Townsend provided a brief recap of the supplementary report and confirmed that the second phase of consultation (including potentially amended permit conditions) could begin when focussed items had been selected. As per item 4 (a) of the agenda, the Chair then asked members to provide their comments regarding the themes identified by stakeholders on pages four to nine of the supplement.

Spiny Lobster

The response offered by Devon Wildlife Trust (DWT) was discussed at length by members. Conversation became more focussed on the suggestions from DWT regarding the protection of spiny lobster, rather than the formatting and numbering issues that would be addressed in any re-drafting exercise that potentially would be undertaken. Members acknowledged the officer comments documented in the supplement and DCO Clark explained that the harmonising of protection measures across several fishing activities (and the issued permit conditions) would be beneficial. DCO Clark explained that increases of juvenile spiny lobster have been reported by several sectors and the longer-term objective would be to have a sustainable fishery and avoid a boom and bust type scenario. Stephen Gledhill inquired if there was any conclusive evidence to suggest why numbers were increasing and DCO Clark reported that although there are reports of increased catches in Devon, Cornwall and the Scilly Islands, gaps in evidence do still exist which may be filled by further research over time. DCO Clark explained the complex life history of the species and how several factors may have culminated in the recovery of the stock. Jim Portus commented on the increased conservation already implemented by D&S IFCA via the management measures set out in the permit conditions, adding that the protection of the species within MPA areas should remain the priority. Jim Portus stated that he would be less supportive additional restrictions applied to this sector such as a daily catch limit or catch restriction. David Morgan agreed that if further conservation measures are required then consideration must be extended to the management of other fishing sectors such as netting,

potting and trawls. DCO Clark explained that an “invitation for information” initiative or scoping exercise could be considered as an alternative to the more focussed diving consultation. The Chair suggested that any such consultation information could be formulated, overseen by the members for potential amendment and then circulated to all permit holders (every sector). DCO Clark suggested that the “invitation for information” scoping exercise would be very open and ask questions to the industry on what further management (if any) they would like to see implemented to increase longer term sustainability of the fishery. The Chair summarised the discussions into an action item rather than a formal vote as follows:

New Action (11th October 2018)

4	DCO Clark	a) To prepare and conduct an independent “invitation for information” scoping exercise to gather the views of the industry associated with the management of spiny lobster. b) To prepare a paper for the Sub-Committee focussing on what is known about the biology and life history of the species and where the gaps in knowledge lie.
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Closed Season – (Possible amendments to management via consultation)

The Chair asked all members in turn to raise their comments. The Chair asked the members if D&S IFCA should go out to full consultation on this. Jim Portus did not favour consultation being undertaken at this time. Jim Portus explaining the extent of national scallop assessment work currently being undertaken in conjunction with Cefas. Although the five-year work stream was only half completed, Jim Portus felt that the eventual findings would be very beneficial to D&S IFCA in the future and help with decision making regarding potential changes to the closed season, potentially across more than one fishing sector. Cllr Hellyer raised the point that during the creation of the Diving Permit Byelaw, the application of a closed season was well supported by the major diving groups and felt more evidence should be assembled to justify any consultation at this time. David Cuthbert felt that if a closed season was in place to help protect the spawning stock then this should remain in place. He added that to separate this issue between different fishing sectors would not be his favoured option and David Morgan suggested that future changes relating to species management are perhaps more suited to wider spread consultation across the board rather than a focussed item in the Three-Year Review of Diving Permit Conditions.

Several members commented that determining what items (in general) should be selected for further consultation was challenging and PPO Townsend explained that Agenda Item six would provide an opportunity to examine and review these expectations. Both Richard White and Andrew Knights acknowledged the different impacts that different activities can produce but also felt D&S IFCA had demonstrated a clear rationale for the original implementation of the closed season and more information and evidence would be needed for changes to be considered. Stephen Gledhill suggested that the relatively low numbers of commercial diving permits (issued to date) may be attributed to the current measures (including the closed season) and amendments may produce unintended consequences. Members further discussed the merits of any consultation at this time, believing that additional evidence about scallops may be lacking. Jim Portus added that some information from the national assessments would potentially be available in January 2019 but could not guarantee if the detail would be detailed enough at that stage. The Chair asked members to formalise a vote.

That potential changes to the scallop closed season is to be subjected to consultation in the focused phase of the Three-Year Review of Diving Permit Conditions.

Proposed: **Andrew Knights** **Seconded:** **Cllr Hellyer**
In favour **3**
Against **6**

Catch Restrictions (Possible amendments to management via consultation)

PPO Townsend introduced the item and highlighted page seven of the members supplement. Conversation focussed on the recreational bag limits for scallops. Whilst Stephen Gledhill commented that he recalled the difficulties experienced by members when the daily bag limits were initially formulated, recognising that a restriction is totally appropriate to differentiate between recreational and commercial fishers, the review process (with consultation) provides an opportunity to potentially refine the levels of scallops that can be taken. Jim Portus agreed that a consultation could provide more information, however it is difficult to know how effective the original measures have been if no assessment of how many scallops have been removed by diving has been undertaken. PPO Townsend explained that any estimations of total take based on permit numbers and daily take provides only a very poor estimation. Richard White commented that whatever evidence would potentially be supplied, it would always be challenging to set a level that is viewed as proportionate across the board, however he did suggest that consultation may provide feedback that could be of use to consider amendments. David Morgan agreed that although relatively low numbers of stakeholders had responded to phase one of the consultation, this topic was more suited to further consultation. Establishing the correct balance between commercial and recreational fishers would obviously be challenging, however this potential consultation item could be “open” with no suggested limits for scallops specified in the information circulated. Stakeholders would therefore not be influenced in their determination of what constitutes the correct level of recreational take. Richard White proposed the following for a vote:

That potential changes to the recreational daily catch limits for scallops are to be subjected to consultation in the focused phase of the Three-Year Review of Diving Permit Conditions.

Proposed: **Richard White** **Seconded:** **David Morgan**
All in favour

Members then examined and discussed the remaining elements of the supplement report. PPO Townsend explained that several summarised topics (raised by stakeholders) had been documented but were not possible to review via consultation for the reasons specified in the report. PPO Townsend then presented section five of the report – Other Identified Items. PPO Townsend explained that several items have been identified (by officers) as potentially suitable for additional consultation as this would harmonize with the approach taken in the reviews of both mobile fishing activity and potting. The officer identified items included:

- **To use Permit Conditions to Replace a Reliance on the Deeming Clause**
- **Management of the Removal of Spiny Lobster from Tranche 2 Marine Conservation Zones**
- **Protection of Spiny Lobsters that have Recently Cast their Shell**
- **Lundy Island – No take Zone**

Members concluded that the officer identified items were suitable to be subjected to consultation with draft amended permit conditions created to accompany the proposed changes. A vote was taken:

That the officer identified items be subjected to consultation.

Proposed: Stephen Gledhill Seconded: Andrew Knights
All in favour

Agenda Item

5 To consider the content of the draft Managing Hand Working Fishing Activity Planning Document (2nd Edition – June 2018)

PPO Townsend introduced this agenda item by explaining that the report offers the opportunity for members to consider the contents with three items identified for focus.

- a) To review and establish guiding principles for the review of management
- b) To consider the communication plan identified in the planning report
- c) To consider the implementation of the Hand working Plan and the timetable for the work

Members began discussions centred on the timetable for the work with the recognition that, due to the unavoidable cancelation of the August 2018 Sub-Committee meeting, the original timetable was no longer accurate. DCO Clark explained that a refined timeline will allow the plan to be completed as specified, however the first batch of information would now be presented in February 2019, rather than November 2018. Considering the amount of information that will be assembled and presented during the project members accepted the concept of the plan to divide core elements and were satisfied that focus on Crab Tiles would be the starting point for this review work. DCO Clark explained that evidence relating to the use of crab tiles would be assembled for members and relevant environmental assessments would be completed shortly in preparation for the first set of member discussions in February 2019. After the initial discussions the Chair invited further debate on the principles for management that had been documented within the Planning report. PPO Townsend commented that the principles were also a discussion point in Agenda Item six. Members discussed the principles as set out and Richard White suggested minor amendments regarding the significance of MCZs which he said he would assemble in written format and forward to PPO Townsend. The Chair suggested that the report be circulated in word format to all members, so they could apply track changes to the document if they wished to do so. This Action point was noted.

New Action (11th October 2018)

5	PPO Townsend & Members	a) PPO Townsend to re-circulate the Hand Working Planning document in “word” format to all Sub-Committee members. b) For members to highlight suggested amendments, apply track changes and/or report to PPO Townsend.
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Members then focussed on the communications aspect of the report. Members broadly supported the documented initiatives with some additional suggestions raised and noted. Jim Portus suggested that the angling press would be a good avenue to consider for any attempts in raising more awareness of the subject matter. Stephen Gledhill commented that the bullet point communication list was more focussed on communication tactics rather than the targeting

messaging that could potentially be employed. PPO Townsend suggested that if time permits, Stephen Gledhill may be able to assist with more specialised communication planning and he agreed. A proposal was formulated for a vote.

That (subject to the required amendments) the Managing Hand Working Fishing Activity (planning document) be implemented by officers

***Proposed: Cllr Hellyer Seconded: Jim Portus
All in favour***

All members reconvened after lunch and the Chair explained that the remaining agenda items would be discussed in a different order as follows: **(8, 9, 6, 7, 10 & 11)**

Agenda Item

8 To discuss the required five-year review of the Mobile Fishing Permit Byelaw (officer paper)

PPO Townsend introduced the officer paper. Members acknowledged the requirements of the review work and discussions focussed on how best to complete the work. The Chair informed the other members about some of the technical working that would be required as part of the re-drafting of the Byelaw and discussions followed on how best to proceed. Andrew Knights favoured the option to establish a smaller technical working group and other members agreed this was the most suitable option. The Chair explained that the decision-making process would not be affected in any way, as the technical working group would report back to all members at Sub-Committee meetings, and if required the Full Authority meetings. The Chair invited members to formulate the membership of the technical working group. Members were content that Mike Williams, selected officers and Fred Howell (prosecuting solicitor) form part of the group. Richard White also offered to join and was thanked by the other members. Members agreed that this was sufficient in number to complete the task and report back. A vote was then taken.

That a Technical Working Group is formulated for byelaw drafting work to consist of Mike Williams, Richard White, selected officers and the D&S IFCA prosecuting solicitor with the requirement to report back to members.

***Proposed: David Cuthbert Seconded: Simon Toms
All in favour***

Agenda Item

9 To discuss the already introduced Emergency Application Byelaw (officer paper)

PPO Townsend introduced the officer paper, explaining that a permanent replacement should be established by May 2019. Jim Portus raised his concerns regarding the completion of this work by this deadline and asked if the time period could be extended to allow more time to develop the replacement Byelaw. He also enquired if the task could be simplified by using the existing emergency Byelaw as the template with minimal alterations. PPO Townsend explained that this was possible but there was also the opportunity via drafting and consultation to widen the scope of the Application Byelaw, potentially to include an appeal process and heritage activities. In addition, PPO Townsend explained that the technical elements of the task may be more suited for the smaller Technical Working Group to complete and report back. Members favoured the option to potentially widen the scope of the Byelaw and could see the merits in the

Technical Working Group doing the drafting work in preparation for members to see the final draft and potentially agreeing for the Byelaw to be subjected to formal consultation. PPO Townsend reminded members that they have delegated powers for byelaw related decision making, but in recognition of the time pressures, PPO Townsend informed members that the updates may be delivered at both or either the Sub-Committee and Full Authority meetings. A vote was taken.

That the newly formed Technical Working Group conduct the drafting work for the creation of a permanent Application Byelaw with the requirement to report back to members.

Proposed: Simon Toms **Seconded:** Cllr Hellyer
All in favour

Agenda Item

6 To consider the content of the Draft Guide to the Work of the Byelaw & Permitting Sub-Committee (Version 1 – June 2018)

PPO Townsend introduced this agenda item and after a re-cap of the contents and the suggested purpose of the document, the Chair invited members to comment. In the discussions that followed, the Chair reported that he had already emailed some suggested amendments and urged others to follow suit if they wanted any amendments. The requirement to re-circulate the report in word format was noted.

New Action (11th October 2018)

6	PPO Townsend & Members	c) PPO Townsend to re-circulate the Guide to Work of the Sub-Committee document as a ‘word document’ to all Sub-Committee members. d) For members to highlight suggested amendments, apply track changes and/or report to PPO Townsend.
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Members focussed on the flow chart with some amendments suggested to the simplified review process (Diagram 1) in section 8 of the report before examining section 9 of the report with the title;

- How can a fisher/stakeholder trigger a review of permit conditions?

Members broadly supported the attempts made to clarify expectations as documented. Slight amendments to wording was suggested, but the key prompts were recognised to be of use for the members decision making. Simon Toms raised the point that there does not appear to be an appeal process especially if recommended measures would impact businesses. Cllr Hellyer commented that each case would be examined on its merits, but the requirements as documented can help stakeholders understand what the expectations will be in terms of a submission of information for consideration. Richard White suggested that rather than calling the 1ST phase of any engagement a consultation, perhaps it should be termed a “scoping exercise” to avoid confusion. Andrew Knights suggested that officers can act as the initial filter process and respond to stakeholders with suggestions to supply the required information or further detailed information (based on the listed factors as documented in the Guide to the Sub-Committee work) which will ultimately assist the decision making of members. Stephen Gledhill suggested that a review might be triggered by an ‘exceptional’ proposal or event, and that ‘exceptional’ may need to be defined in the future. A definitive time frame or requirement for the request to trigger a review was not defined as members felt that each case should be examined

on its merits and then balanced against other factors such as the resources and time available to complete consultation and the required documenting of process. Members then voted as follows:

That the Draft Guide is refined and re-presented to members in due course for final approval with the view to publishing it on the D&S IFCA website as a guide for both members and stakeholders

Proposed: Mike Williams
All in favour

Seconded: Richard White

Agenda Item

7 To discuss the status of the request by a stakeholder to consider reviewing spatial access for mobile fishing vessels near Plymouth (officer paper)

DCO Clark introduced this item and members examined the three-sided officer paper that included a summary of what actions had been taken to date and the summary of responses. DCO Clark explained that there was potential for D&S IFCA to gather more information over time by monitoring vessels now fitted with I-VMS and continuing discussions with the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) I-VMS team. The Chair asked all members to comment with focus on potential closure of fishing areas for the mobile fishing sector between 1st June to 31st December. Members concluded that this proposal has been formulated for gear conflict resolution rather than conservation objectives and recognised that there was not unanimous support for the proposed closure as documented in Table 1 of the officer report. The rationale that the area is rarely fished did not appear to be accurate in the view of members based on the officer report. The consultation responses and the experiences and observations of some members suggested that the area is fished by mobile fishing vessels, especially in the winter months as the site is relatively well protected from the weather. In addition, the suggested dimensions of the closure would hamper and effectively end the possibility of mobile fishing activity between the site and the shore line to the east. Members also noted the large areas of ground to the North and South of the site that is already closed to the mobile fishing vessels via the Mobile Fishing Permit Conditions. The Chair suggested two options for action as follows:

- a) For officers to collect more information and monitoring information over at least a 12-month period (to allow for winter fishing) to assess which vessels fish in the area and for members to review the request in due course.
- b) For members to take a decision at this time and resolve the matter based on the evidence supplied to date.

Several members recognised that further monitoring could be conducted but questions remained about the effectiveness of such an initiative. Members highlighted that certain vessels such as those using static nets would not have vessel monitoring equipment fitted to their boats. Regarding monitoring, members concluded that if the site has little or no mobile fishing activity, then why is there a need to provide additional protection to the site to avoid gear conflict.

A vote was taken:

That the proposal to close the area as documented will not be subjected to a review at this time and the stakeholder is informed in writing of the decision.

Proposed: David Morgan
All in favour

Seconded: David Cuthbert

The Chair then formulated an officer action:

New Action (11th October 2018)

7	DCO Clark	DCO Clark to respond to the stakeholder, including an explanation of the rational for the decision making within the correspondence.
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Agenda Item

10. Any other business

DCO Clark raised the subject of the potential use of the existing legacy Byelaw No. 9 – Temporary Closure of Shellfish Beds. DCO Clark explained that there are signs that the mussel stock in both the Exe Estuary and Teign Estuary are in decline and requested that officers could produce an officer paper or evidential report, so members could consider closing the effected areas. DCO Clark informed members that any potential closure would only be for the protection of stock as the legacy byelaw does not consider any health-related concerns associated with the removal of mussel by stakeholders. The Chair commented that officers have freedom to present papers to the Sub-Committee at any time, so the content can be considered by the members. An action point was noted as follows:

New Action (11th October 2018)

8	DCO Clark & Officers	To produce an officer report and evidence for members on the status of the mussel stocks in the Exe and Teign Estuaries.
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DCO Clark also reported that two new people had been selected to join the Authority, one with a recreational fishing interest and one with a commercial fishing background. The Chair commented that hopefully both new members of the Full Authority would consider joining the membership of the Sub-Committee.

The Chair informed the other members about a proposal to develop a Plymouth Marine Park that would encompass the Plymouth Sound. David Cuthbert was also able to add some more detail and both he and the Chair said they would monitor any developments of the proposal.

PPO Townsend requested that a photograph/s of the Sub-Committee is arranged in due course. The reason provided was for communication and presentational use on the D&S IFCA website. Members agreed to the request.

Agenda Item

11. Date of next meeting

PPO Townsend informed members that the next scheduled date was on 15th November 2018. A few members explained that they may have to give their apologies. The Chair requested that officers circulate a doodle poll (with a preferred date of 15th November) but also a selection of possible alternatives.

End.