

All Party Parliamentary Fisheries Group



Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 20th March, 16:15, Boothroyd Room.

Attendance: Melanie Onn MP (chairing), Peter Aldous MP, Alistair Carmichael MP, David Duguid MP, Liz Saville-Roberts MP, Baroness Wilcox.

Guests: Professor Martin Solan, National Oceanography Centre, University of Southampton. Ian Wilson CBE, Cruising Association.

1. Apologies for absence

Sheryll Murray MP, Scott Mann MP, Martin Vickers MP, Lord Tebbit, Lord Teverson.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were circulated and approved.

3. Presentation by Professor Martin Solan, National Oceanography Centre, University of Southampton

Martin gave an overview of his project around the impacts of bottom fishing on fish species. He emphasised that it is hard to find a completely unaffected control area and there is a limited set of smaller vessel data. Celtic Sea and off Bangor in the Irish Sea are the main study areas. A discussion then took place around a wide range of issue including climatic impacts. Electro-pulse fishing was also raised and Martin explained on going collaboration with CE-FAS on ocean recovery times and sustainability.

4. Any other business

Ian Wilson CBE of the Cruising Association presented on their campaign on small craft safety and static fishing gear. A Ministerial response was expected on the day of the meeting. The Cruising Association and National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations are engaged in consultation with the Government and will keep the APPG informed of progress.

5. Future meeting

Tuesday 17th April, 4:00pm, CR7 (room subject to change):

Seafish.

Tuesday 24th April, 4pm, CR20 (room subject to change):

Aaron Brown, Fishing for Leave.

