

MARINE RESOURCES PANEL MEETING
(83rd Meeting)

**Brief notes & action points from meeting held at Howard Davis Farm on
18 January 2016**

- Present:** Willie Peggie (WP) – Deputy Chief Officer/Director of Environment (Chairman)
Mike Taylor (MT) – representing Jersey Aquaculture Association
Don Thompson (DT) - representing Jersey Fishermen's Association
Paul Bizec (PB) - representing Jersey Fishermen's Association
Derek Buesnel (DB) – representing Jersey Recreational Fishermen
Chris Isaacs (CI) - representing Jersey Recreational Fishermen
Francis Binney (FB) – representing Société Jersiaise
Ian Syvret (IS) – representing Jersey Inshore Fishermen's Association
Martin Le Maistre (MLM) – representing Boat Owners (Norther Section)
- In Attendance:** Deputy Stephen Luce (SL) – Minister for the Environment
Greg Morel (GM) – Assistant Director - Marine Resources
Jonathan Shrivés (JS) – Marine and Coastal Manager
David Yettram (DY) – Senior Marine and Fisheries Officer
Dot Miller – Minutes
- Apologies:** Natalie Porrit (NP) – representing Jersey Merchants

1. Approval of Minutes from the previous meeting and Matters Arising Action

DT's comments from an earlier email sent to panel members regarding any future changes to the minimum mesh size within the commercial sector were added to the minutes. The minutes from the previous meeting held on 23rd November 2015 were approved.

Matters Arising

Unlicensed sale of fish - GM advised that he was unable to confirm a timetable at the present time. New legislation would be required. The Panel's frustrations were noted that this had not progressed. In the interim, GM agreed that press releases and Facebook would be useful to get the message across.

Capture Fisheries

2. To receive an update for information on issues under discussion between the JFA and with French fishermen and with Port of Jersey

DT reported to the meeting that the following issues were under discussion:

- Pot limits.
- Extension to netting ban which covers part of the Granville Bay (the Minister can create an order to extend the area to protect soft shell spider crabs, which would have no effect on inshore fishing).
- Pots on the Écréhous and the Minquiers – strong argument for extending the ban, this would bring the Écréhous into line with the Minquiers. JFA have an

agreement in principal with the French.

It was noted that the Department and the Minister for the Environment are supportive of the JFA suggestions.

GM thanked the JFA for insisting that the last meeting was held in Jersey and not France.

3. To consider the new bass measures for recreational fishermen agreed at the EU Council meeting in December and agree a recommendation

Jonathan Shrivess joined the meeting and gave a quick resume/presentation of data. It was noted that ICES advise information is available to all. UK and French scientists are tagging bass with internal electronic tags (approx. £350 per tags). The data suggests stocks are far more wide ranging than previously believed.

Legislation

The Panel discussed the following legislative measures to protect bass stocks:

- Increase MLS to 42cms
- Maximum of three fish per day for recreational fishermen
- Maximum limit of 50 hooks set on the beach
- Maximum length of 100m of net set on the beach
- Increase minimum mesh size to 110mm for nets set on the beach

Policing of beaches regulations lies with the Minister for Economic Development, GM to liaise.

GM

Lengthy debate followed regarding the additional tranche of EU measures which are being considered but as yet no new regulation has been published, these include:

Commercial fishermen: six month complete ban January to June

Recreational fishermen: six month ban January to June except for catch and release

Maximum of 1 fish per day per person for recreational fishermen

It was noted that it would be unlikely the JFA would be happy to look at additional legislation to the above, considering all the recent changes. A lot is being done for conservation and it is too soon to assess the benefits from these changes as yet.

The recreational representatives felt that it would be extremely unfair if recreational fishermen would not be allowed to keep anything and there is a lack of parity between themselves and the commercial fishermen.

The Minister for the Environment was in agreement with the Panel to keep with the previous measures listed above, however with a caveat that should EU proposals come to fruition, a further decision will need to be taken.

4. To consider a proposal for a protected area for bass

DB highlighted key points from the Proposal for Protected Bass paper, circulated prior to the meeting. The proposal being, a nursery site for bass (under 42cms) from Gorey Pier to La Conchiere Beacon, to protect bass stock long term.

The Panel discussed at length the proposal, with the following points being noted:

- FB enquired if there was any data on bass breeding.
- DT also wanted scientific data, there is no real evidence that a closed area would work and could become contentious with no robust evidence. If there was any evidence of hooks killing undersized bass, DT would be happy to take this information back to the JFA.
- In view of the measures agreed in point 3, is there any need for this proposal?
- DB stressed the aim was to protect bass stocks long term.
- JS commented that a bass permit could raise money to pay for the science, however the scheme would need to be administered and policed.

The proposal will need to be held in abeyance for now, consider using students to compile evidence in the future and take DB's research into account.

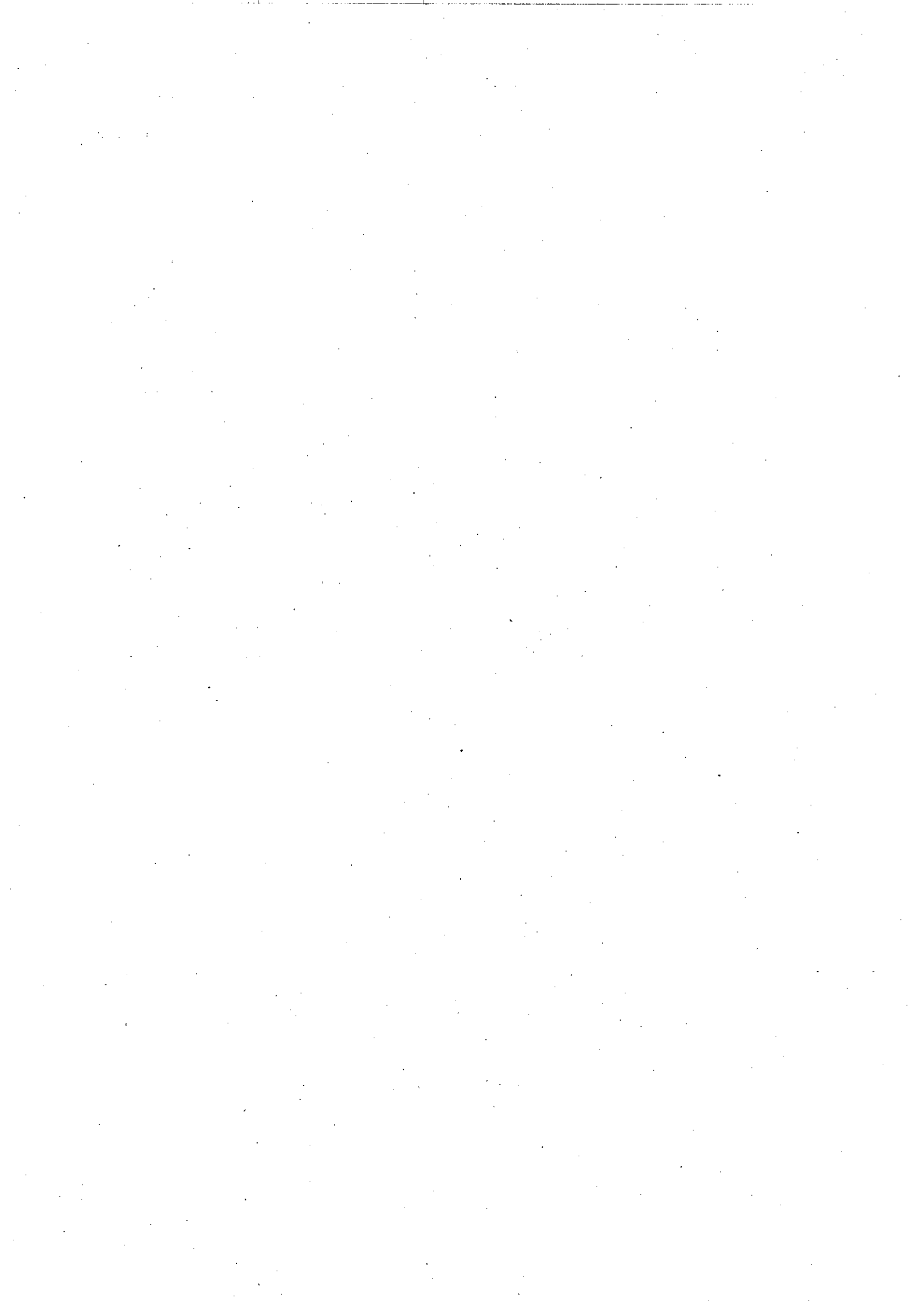
DT made the offer of 3 fishermen who could take an observer on board, in order to assess the impact of what the commercial fisheries are doing.

5. Date of next meeting

- GM asked the Panel to consider the frequency of the meetings (currently aim to hold 6 per annum, however quarterly may be sufficient) and agree at next meeting.
- Next meeting will be held on 21st March, 2.15pm at Howard Davis Farm.

All

There being no other business the meeting closed at 5.45pm



MARINE RESOURCES PANEL MEETING
(84th Meeting)

**Brief notes & action points from meeting held at Howard Davis Farm on
21 March 2016**

Present: Willie Peggie (WP) – Deputy Chief Officer/Director of Environment (Chairman)
Mike Taylor (MT) – representing Jersey Aquaculture Association
Don Thompson (DT) - representing Jersey Fishermen's Association
Steve Channing (SC) – representing Jersey Fishermen's Association
Chris Le Boutillier – representing Boat Owners (Northern Section)
Chris Isaacs (CI) - representing Jersey Recreational Fishermen
Natalie Porrit (NP) – representing Jersey Merchants
Ian Syvret (IS) – representing Jersey Inshore Fishermen's Association
Martin Le Maistre (MLM) – representing Boat Owners (Northern Section)

In Attendance: Deputy Stephen Luce (SL) – Minister for the Environment
Greg Morel (GM) – Assistant Director - Marine Resources
Dot Miller – Minutes

Apologies: Paul Bizec, Francis Binney, Derek Buesnel

1. Approval of Minutes from the previous meeting and Matters Arising Action

CI stated that the minutes were not a fair reflection on the points raised and discussed.

WP advised they are not a verbatim record of the many lengthy discussions held amongst panel members, their purpose is to give a brief overview of discussions, and to record decisions agreed upon, matters unable to be agreed upon, along with any action points for attendees to take away from the meeting.

On receipt of the draft minutes, panel members are invited to advise if any decisions or action points have been omitted from the minutes so they can be amended prior to sign off.

Matters Arising

- Bass stock protection: amendment has been made, waiting to be lodged.
- Panel meeting to be held quarterly from now on, agree dates at the end of the meeting.

Capture Fisheries

2. To receive an update on the Parlour Pot Zone at Les Écréhous (JFA)

DT reported on the following:

- 96% fishermen in favour.
- French remain supportive.
- Same in Écréhous as with the Minquiers, parameters still to be agreed.

- GM advised the Panel that the work DT has undertaken in this matter is commendable.
- Legislation should not be too difficult. Need to progress and involve Les Écréhous residents with the Panel.
- Unknown timing (Law Draftsmen) but hopefully this year.
- MT would appreciate seeing a chart produced with this information.
- It was noted that the Panel are supportive.

3. To receive an update on the revised cap to pot numbers per boat and to consider the issue of recreational potting effort (JFA)

DT reported on the following:

Commercial

- Pots capped at 1000 per boat.
- Mechanism for changing this is policy, not legislation, therefore no change in the law so easy to do.
- Excellent news for conservation.
- Minister for the Environment happy to accept recommendation.
- MD to be drawn up.
- Use social media to get message across.

GM

Recreational

- The following was noted from discussions:
- CLB – no justification for setting limits at present
- IS - consider a maximum of 20 pots
- CI – agreed mechanism is needed to control stocks, however lobsters are prolific at the moment.
- SL – consider number of lobster instead of pot, however this is extremely difficult to police. Bag limit may be a better option, but again very difficult to police.
- More thought needs to be given to how many pots should be limit – thoughts please to GM.

All

4. To receive a report on the recent whelk stock assessment (MR)

JS joined the meeting and reported the following:

- Annual whelk trials take place in February.
- Dr Simon Bossy started collecting figures in 1996.
- 2011 / 2012 records set the 2013 pot limits.
- Whelks reach maturity at approximately 5 years old.
- Slipper limpets attach themselves to whelk shells and there are colonies on the seabed, a mixture of both affects whelks.
- DT commented that the trials have been really useful and it now needs to be decided what to do with the results. The JFA recognise the need for caution within the 3 mile limit and a genuine review of stock levels is needed.
- DT advised of concerns about a closed period of 2 – 3 months as this could give other fishermen access, but worth considering alongside redistribution.

- It was noted that the Panel was not minded to increase efforts, but to discuss mechanisms at a future meeting.

5. To receive an update on the progress of the bass measures (MR)

- New measures will be lodged end of May beginning of June.
- Order for bag limits will be set at agreed European limit.
- CI read an article from a UK Parliament debate regarding bass.
- CI felt that if recreation accept a reduction of 3 to 1 on bags then everything should be set quid pro quo.
- New EU measures: prohibition for 6 months, then 1 per person from July for 6 months for recreational fishermen, netters closed for 2 months.
- CI felt the measures were imbalanced and unscientific, very unfair that a recreational fisherman cannot keep 1 fish, but gill nets can be put out and catch large quantities of fish. CI strongly urged the Minister to address this.
- GM advised that the EU have used the best available science in setting limits, the decisions are socio-economic and are there to help people who derive a living from it.
- CI also quoted from the recent consultation document and cautioned that this could be taken to the press. GM advised that the document was not written by the department but independently and is a public document.
- SL stated that he did not intend imposing a 1 bag limit without consultation with the Panel.

Aquaculture

6. To receive an update on the Aquatic Animal Health Regulations (MR)

GM advised that regulations only cover fish farms and in need of updating. The States Vet has written to the Aquaculture industry inviting them to contact her with their comments.

Marine Environment

7. To receive an update on PoJ dredging programme and FEPA permits

GM confirmed the following:

- A licence is required to dump what is dredged.
- Need to test for various chemical parameters before dumping.
- Dumping is only permitted when what is in the silt can be carried away from aquaculture concessions and Ramsar sites.
- All relevant parties must be communicated with effectively prior to the dredging operation.
- Vessel has to be on AIS.
- NP enquired where the dredging was being undertaken at La Collette / New North Quay, GM to confirm.
- The department can regulate on what is being dumped and when.
- Permits are issued with conditions.

GM

- SL enquired if it would be worthwhile providing timescale suggestions for Harbours, GM to consider prior to next meeting.
- JFA stakeholders must be allowed input into applications.

GM

8. Any Other Business

WP thanked CLB for his many years contribution to the Panel. DT also thanked CLB for his valuable contribution.

DT also thanked both GM and SL for pushing through crayfish tagging – a good example of the fishing industry and the Minister/Government working together.

9. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 13th June 2016 @ 2.15 p.m., Committee Room, Howard Davis Farm.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 5.25 p.m.

MARINE RESOURCES PANEL MEETING

(85th Meeting)

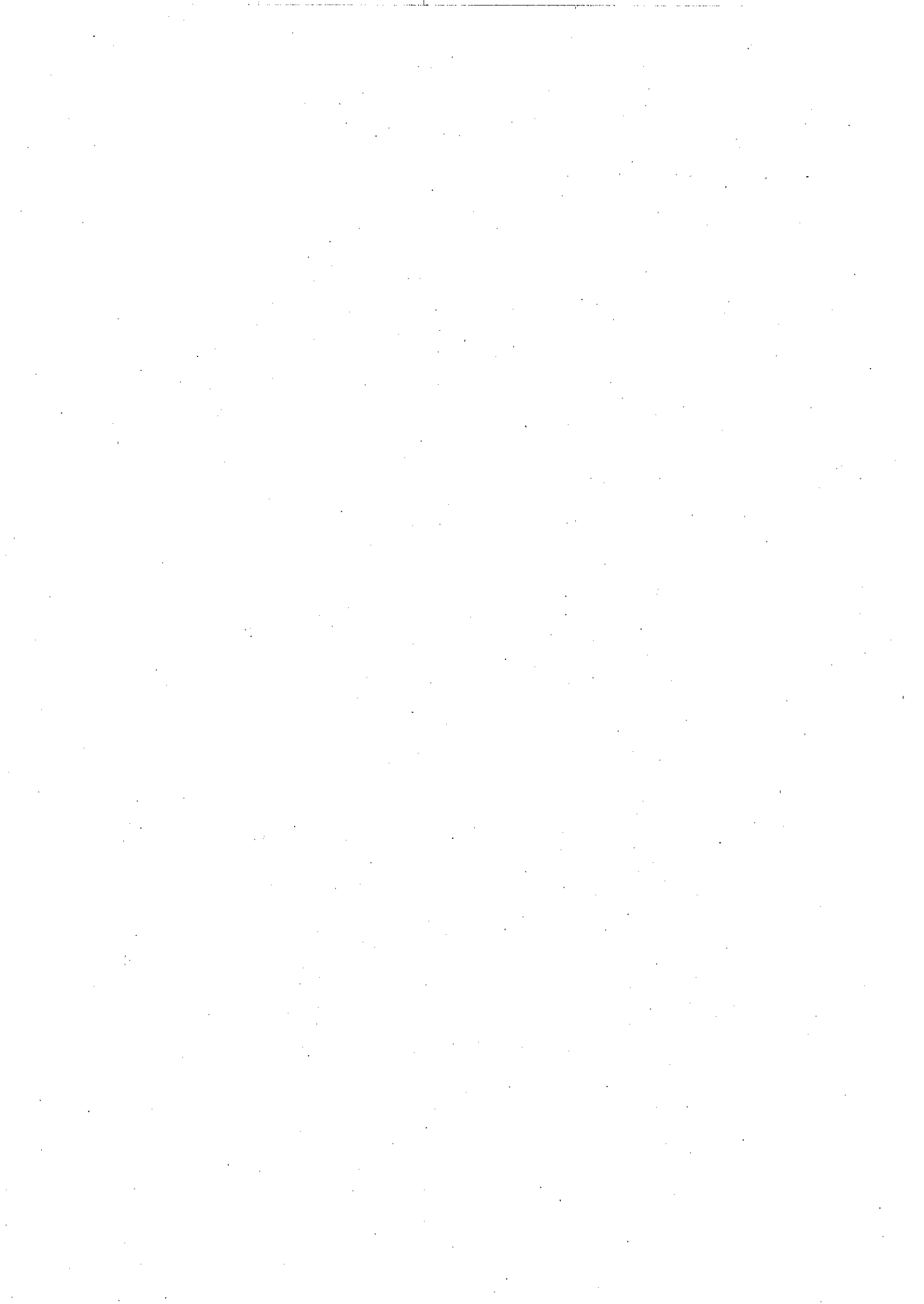
**Brief notes & action points from meeting held at Howard Davis Farm on
13 June 2016**

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| Present: | Willie Peggie (WP) – Deputy Chief Officer/Director of Environment (Chairman) Mike Taylor (MT) – representing Jersey Aquaculture Association Don Thompson (DT) – representing Jersey Fishermen’s Association Steve Channing (SC) – representing Jersey Fishermen’s Association Chris Isaacs (CI) – representing Jersey Recreational Fishermen Derek Buesnel (DB) – representing Jersey Recreational Fishermen Natalie Porrit (NP) – representing Jersey Merchants Francis Binney (FB) – representing Société Jersiaise Ian Syvret (IS) – representing Jersey Inshore Fishermen’s Association Martin Le Maistre (MLM) – representing Boat Owners (Norther Section) |
| In Attendance: | Greg Morel (GM) – Assistant Director - Marine Resources Jonathan Shrives – Marine & Coastal Manager – Marine Resources Dot Miller – Minutes |
| Apologies: | Deputy S Luce, M Le Maistre |

| 1. | Approval of Minutes from the previous meeting and Matters Arising | Action |
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| | Point 4 ref. whelks stocks trials, sentence to read ‘the JFA recognise the need for caution within the 3 mile limit.’ Subject to the above amendment, the minutes from 21 st March 2016 were approved. | |
| | Matters Arising – Dredging programme – DT to consider requesting information on dumping/dispersal. | DT |
| | <u>Capture Fisheries</u> | |
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| 2. | To receive an update on progress of bass issues | |
| | A paper from JRFA was previously circulated to all for discussion at the meeting, the following points were noted: GM confirmed the following: <u>Legislation</u> – 5 different pieces of legislation are now lodged. – Cannot write the order until the order is passed, however the order can be in place 7 days after the States agree. – Limit will be 1 fish. – Order can be changed if required. | |

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| | <p><u>Moratorium</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Imposed in the UK and EU but not in Jersey. - SL has been very clear that a package is needed and is looking at what is appropriate locally. <p>CI advised that he has been inundated with calls regarding the bag limit being reduced for recreational fishermen and it felt very unfair to go with this just because it is the EU setting the limit.</p> <p>It was noted that the Panel follows a democratic process and regardless if some feel the decisions it takes are unfair, the process must be followed.</p> <p>CI clarified that he was in agreement with bag limits and was no way trying to stop them, however they need to be part of a local plan and not just following the EU.</p> <p>SC pointed out that commercial fishermen have also been affected in just the same way as the amounts of bass they are permitted to catch have been massively reduced.</p> <p>DB and GM to liaise regarding a leaflet that DB has which could be tweaked to suit locally. DB agreed to put some ideas together and forward to GM.</p> <p>The ability to police bag limits was also discussed and the difficulty the department would have with a reduced staff headcount and reduction in finances. Voluntary officers would be useful, but caution would need to be exercised on giving people these roles. CI suggested that it would be better to agree a package that the recreational fishermen want to support, then less enforcement would be needed.</p> | DB/GM |
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| 3. | To consider the issue of recreational potting effort | |
| | <p>Papers from both JIFA and JRFA were previously circulated to all for discussion at the meeting, the following points were noted:</p> <p>IS stated that a level of control should be brought in for recreational fishermen whilst stocks are healthy and strong. He has had conversations with many potters who although are not very happy with idea understand the need for it.</p> <p>CI stated it was critical that the Department of the Environment has a means of control so it can introduce measures as and when needed.</p> <p>Lengthy discussion followed in regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bags/pots limits - Data collection - Formulating a clear action plan - Mechanism for pot limit <p>Following the discussion, GM felt that a wider consultation may be the best way forward and would discuss with the Minister.</p> <p>CI also stated that he felt that the berried females issue is not being dealt with. This</p> | |

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| | would be included on another Panel agenda. | |
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| 4. | To consider the issue of buyers and sellers regulations | |
| | <p>A paper from JRFA was previously circulated to all for discussion at the meeting, the following points were noted:</p> <p>IS raised the question of legislation to insist paperwork is shown to a fisheries officer. GM checked and this legislation already exists.</p> <p>DT advised that the source of the problem needs to be looked at instead of the layers of legislation – the illegal fishing and selling of the fish needs to be stopped. Consider issuing licences to sellers, if no licence then the buyer could be prosecuted thus making it an offence to purchase from non-licenced sellers.</p> <p>GM undertook to look at mechanisms the department currently has, where we got to before with this issue and clarify what we can actually do at the moment.</p> <p>WP to check with Environmental Health legislation and update at next meeting.</p> | <p>GM</p> <p>WP</p> |
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| 5. | Any Other Business | |
| | <p>DT asked whether the Type 35 licence system should be formally closed, possibly by MD. GM said that the scheme was a DEFRA one but he would investigate and report back.</p> <p>WP extended thanks to JS for this hard work over the last nine years and wished him every success in his new role. JS wished the Panel all the very best and thanked them for their support.</p> | |
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| 9. | Date of Next Meeting | |
| | Monday 24 October 2016 @ 2.15 p.m., Committee Room, Howard Davis Farm. | |
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| | There being no other business the meeting closed at 4.40 p.m. | |



MARINE RESOURCES PANEL MEETING

(86th Meeting)

**Brief notes & action points from meeting held at Howard Davis Farm on
31 October 2016**

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| Present: | Willie Peggie (WP) – Deputy Chief Officer/Director of Environment (Chairman) Mike Taylor (MT) – representing Jersey Aquaculture Association Don Thompson (DT) - representing Jersey Fishermen’s Association Paul Bizec (PB) – representing Jersey Fishermen’s Association Chris Isaacs (CI) - representing Jersey Recreational Fishermen Derek Buesnel (DB) – representing Jersey Recreational Fishermen Natalie Porrit (NP) – representing Jersey Merchants Francis Binney (FB) – representing Société Jersiaise Gareth Jeffreys (G) – representing Société Jersiaise Ian Syvret (IS) – representing Jersey Inshore Fishermen’s Association Martin Le Maistre (MLM) – representing Boat Owners (Norther Section) Deputy S Luce |
| In Attendance: | Deputy Stephen Luce (SL) – Minister for the Environment Greg Morel (GM) – Assistant Director - Marine Resources Paul Chambers (PC) – Marine & Coastal Manager – Marine Resources David Yettram (DY) - Senior Marine & Fisheries Officer Julia Elvidge – Minutes |
| Apologies: | None |

| 1. | Approval of Minutes from the previous meeting and Matters Arising | Action |
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| | <p>Point 2 ref. Moratorium, sentence to read ‘It was noted that the Panel follows a democratic process and regardless if some feel the decisions it takes are unfair, the process must be followed’.</p> <p>Point 3 ref. To consider the issue of recreational potting effort, add under ‘Lengthy discussion following in regard to’: Considered recreational permit – initially not required. Also replace ‘Following the discussion, GM felt that a wider consultation may be the best way forward and would discuss with the Minister’ with It was felt that the Minister may consider the best way forward with a wider consultation.</p> <p>Point 4 ref. To consider the issue of buyers and sellers regulations – possible addition ‘IS raised the question of legislation to insist paperwork is shown to a fisheries officer. GM check and this legislation already exists.</p> <p>Subject to the above amendment, the minutes from 13 June 2016 were approved.</p> <p>WP welcomed PC to the meeting and informed the panel that Francis Binney would be commencing employment with the Marine Resources Section from 7 November 2016.</p> <p>FB introduced Gareth Jeffreys to the panel as his replacement for the Société Jersiaise, FB then left the meeting.</p> | DT |

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| | <p>Matters Arising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Pots – CI queried 20 pots in total or 20 parlour pots or ink wells, GM suggested it would be part of the consultation. | |
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| | <p>Capture Fisheries</p> | |
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| 2. | <p>To receive a report on the recent Granville Bay meetings (MR)</p> | |
| | <p>GM updated the Panel on the meeting that had recently taken place in St Malo. The Jersey fishermen had made a considered decision not to attend this meeting. The French were not going to support the zero catch quota for bass. There was no ray update, waiting for additional quota in the Channel. Most of the meeting was taken up with their interpretation of the Granville Bay Treaty.</p> <p>Lengthy discussion took place around the various issues, it was decided that a letter to the French asking them to meet and discuss what we intend to do, this had the full support of the Minister.</p> | <p>GM & WP</p> |
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| 3. | <p>To receive an update on bass legislation (MR)</p> | |
| | <p>GM informed the Panel that the bill of legislation went through the States at the end of June. ICES advice for zero catch for both commercial and recreational sectors for 2017. On 15 November small amendments are to be made to the number of hooks and length of net that can be set up on the beach by order rather than regulation.</p> <p>Concern was raised over the following issues–</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Netting in potential nursery areas is not sustainable – Due to tidal restrictions more fish caught and dying before anyone managing to release them – A lot of people are supplementing their living from nets <p>DB asked if there had been many complaints about netting on the beach, DY replied no calls so far this year.</p> <p>GM said that there is legislation in place for the Minister to decide to reduce trots and net to zero. Once we have the December decision we can then act.</p> <p>CI also stated that he felt that the berried females issue is not being dealt with. This would be included on another Panel agenda.</p> | |
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| | <p>Aquaculture</p> | |
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| 4. | <p>To receive an update on intertidal aquaculture concessions (MR)</p> | |
| | <p>PC gave details of the current concessions, there were a possible 3 to 4 new entrants and these would be added onto the edge of the proposed to the sanitary areas. New concessions would be approx. 2 hectares in size. Some shuffling around and</p> | |

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| | <p>changing the shape of some of the current areas would be required. The sanitary area would be expanded by 5.5 hectares, work is currently being done by Cefas.</p> <p>GM said that no planning application was required, future applications would need to go through the Marine Panel.</p> <p>It was asked if there was a waiting list, what happens if they wanted to expand or a new entrant gives up? GM informed the meeting that there have been 3 expressions and could expand to 4 hectares a period of 3 years, there is scope for expansion in the area. It is a finite resource and stated that in order not to have planning permission, an assessment of the whole would have to be put in place by ourselves throughout the whole blue area. The Minister can ask for whatever conditions he sees fit and the applicant would have to adhere to these.</p> | |
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| 5. | To consider an application for the extension to aquaculture concession held by Seymour Oyster Company (attached) | |
| | <p>John Le Seelleur, from Seymour Oyster Company came into the meeting, he gave a brief history, since 2008 they have expanded from 3 to 8.5 hectare and would like to expand 1 hectare to the south. Discussion took place around the condition of the bay and the placement of the tables. The Minister defended the placement of the tables. WP said that the way forward is that if the Panel is content, to recommend to the Minister that the extension to the concession be advertised in the normal way.</p> <p>MT said that the JAA were in full support of the application. The Panel agreed the application should be recommended for advertising.</p> | GM |
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| 6. | Any other business | |
| | <p>TOPE</p> <p>DY informed the meeting that there are no protection measures in place for Tope in Jersey, but England do. Discussion took place around the number of Tope caught in our waters, it was decided that it was not a common occurrence. It was agreed to recommend to the Minister that a license condition be brought in to regulate the fishing of tope from commercial vessels and that a bag limit if zero be introduced for recreational fishermen.</p> <p>DT raised 3 points for future discussion –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ports of Jersey meeting concerning the pontoons for fishermen in St. Helier harbour. 2. New entrants scheme. 3. Discussions concerning scallop efforts and management options. | GM |
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| 7. | Date of Next Meeting | |
| | Monday 23 rd January 2017 @ 2.15 p.m., Committee Room, Howard Davis Farm. | |
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| | There being no other business the meeting closed at 5.30 pm | |

