



## **Minutes of a General Meeting held on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2024**

**Present:** Phil Bennet (Chair), Hannah Fennell (Orkney Fisheries Association) Neil Matheson (Fisherman), Kirsten Leahy (Scottish Fishermen's Federation) via Teams, Andy Braunston, (Minutes) via Teams

**1: Apologies**

Apologies were received from Andrew Livingston (Marine Directorate Operations) Christine Rosie (Orkney Fish Producers) and Tam Marcus (Fisherman)

**2: Minutes of the Last Meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> July 2024**

Following receipt of comments, minor adjustments had been made to the draft minutes and they are now accepted as an accurate record.

Note: Phil stated that he had received the following from Abhinav Chaudhary (MCA technical Manager, Aberdeen) who was at the last meeting.

***"Update and correction since last meeting, we will be roll testing vessels as a default weather bilge keels or not (except catamarans)."***

### **3: Meeting Abandoned**

Phil suggested the meeting be abandoned, due to the low turnout, and this was agreed by those present. Phil confirmed that the agenda items would be rolled forward to the next meeting, where appropriate.

Phil explained that at the last meeting, this meeting had been moved forward from the planned date, to facilitate attendance of the minute taker. This unfortunately meant that it fell in the half term break and Phil experienced difficulties gaining access to the Nav School.

Phil had already sent out an e-mail, stating that the meeting was going to be online only, before receiving confirmation that arrangements had been made to gain access. Although another email had been sent out confirming this, it was felt that it may have not been seen or had caused confusion.

### **4 MCA.**

Fasal from the MCA requested the following reminders be added to the minutes for distribution.

Fishermen are urged to responded quickly to the survey renewal reminders (which are sent out 6 months before their current certificate expires). This will help make sure that a survey can be arranged and a new certificate issued timeously.

If a certificate is allowed to expire, the process of deregistration of the vessel starts quickly. Re-registration would be very expensive, especially as it would be considered a new vessel and be required to meet regulations for new vessels.

Likewise, fishermen are encouraged to report any change of ownership to the UK ship register and the Aberdeen MCA office as soon as it occurs. This will again enable a survey to be arranged and a new certificate issued timeously.

### **5 Date of Next Meeting**

7.30pm Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at the Nav School and via Teams

### **6 Close**

Phil thanked those present for attending and formally closed the meeting