

All Party Parliamentary Fisheries Group



Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 17th October in Room 19.

Attendance: Peter Aldous MP, Rt Hon Alistair Carmichael MP, David Duguid MP, Sheryll Murray MP, Melanie Onn MP, Liz Saville-Roberts MP.

Guests: Bertie Armstrong, CEO, Scottish Fishermen's Federation and Barrie Deas, CEO, National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Scott Mann MP and Luke Pollard MP.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were circulated and approved.

3. Presentation and discussion: Brexit: Opportunities and Challenges

Bertie Armstrong and Barrie Deas provided an overview of the opportunities and challenges of Brexit to the fishing sector, both catching and processing. They provided the historical and policy context around the evolution of the Common Fisheries Policy and the creation of Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs). A discussion then took place. It was agreed that the zonal attachment of fish species is strong and that sustainability should be central to policy proposals going forward. Under Article 61 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) the UK has an obligation to determine the allowable catch of the fish in our EEZ; this is critical going forward.

It was agreed that links to maps, catching data and legal opinions would be shared with the Group.

4. Any other business

Isabella Gornall of Maitland Green gave a brief overview of the *On The Hook* campaign.

5. Future meetings

Tuesday 14th November, 16:00: Welfare of migrant workers in UK fishing industry—The Apostleship of the Sea and Fishermen's Mission (Room A, 1 Parliament Street).

Tuesday 28th November, 16:00, Committee Room 12 (subject to change): George Eustice, Minister of State, Defra.