

**Minutes of 14<sup>th</sup> European Marine Biological Resource Centre (EMBRC) UK  
Node meeting – 13<sup>th</sup> October 2017 – telephone conference call**

**Present:**

David Paterson - University of St  
Andrews / MASTS (Chair)  
Colin Moffat – Marine Scotland  
Martyn Cox - Marine Scotland  
Alistair Main – University of St  
Andrews  
Gavin Grewar - Marine Scotland  
Iveta Makejusova - Marine Scotland

Beatrix Schlarb-Ridley – British  
Antarctic Survey  
Melody Clark – British Antarctic Survey  
Jon Parr - Marine Biological  
Association

**Apologies:**

Colin Brownlee – Marine Biological  
Association  
Vincent Janik – University of St  
Andrews

Claire Gachon - SAMS  
Axel Miller – SAMS

**Welcome and introduction**

1. David Paterson welcomed everyone to the meeting. It was noted that Nick Pade had now left MBA and Jon Parr was welcomed. This meeting was being held to develop an UK position required for the meetings next week: EIB on 17<sup>th</sup> and ASSEMBLE+ start off on 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup>.

**Minutes and review actions of 13<sup>th</sup> meeting**

2. Minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting. The Actions were all completed or would be covered as part of the agenda, except for a few actions carried forward:

**ACTION 13.1:** *e-infrastructure (new web site, access platform and EMBRC data policy)* - Jon Parr (JP) in contact with Dan and confirmed Dan still linked in. JP to follow up with Dan and Nick if necessary who is now at EMBRC Paris.

**ACTION 13.2:** *External funding and resources* - map of funding opportunities will be available by February 2017. DMP has established that this was not available yet. To be pursued as still promised by EMBRC HQ.

**ACTION 13.13:** M Cox to add appropriate links (e.g. [EU Marine Training Portal](#) and UK Node member training pages) to EMBRC UK web site. In hand.

**New ACTION 14.1:** All to seek opportunities to promote training available in their institutes and make links to the EU Marine Training Portal

**ACTION 14.2:** M Cox to arrange upload of minutes of 13<sup>th</sup> meeting to web site.

### **EIB matters**

3. The next EIB meeting was on 17<sup>th</sup> October. Colin Moffat was dialling in. The ASSEMBLE+ start off meeting on 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> October was also in Paris. Recent communication from EMBRC HQ suggested that the 1<sup>st</sup> General Assembly scheduled for 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> November might be postponed as the ERIC Declaration had been delayed. Clarification of the future timeline would be sought.

**ACTION 14.3:** CM to ask EIB meeting (17<sup>th</sup> Oct) re anticipated ERIC timeline. CM to report back to UK Node.

**ACTION 14.4:** DMP to add latest versions of 'Statutes' and 'Rules of Operation' to Node Google drive.

**ACTION 14.5:** DMP to add Jon Parr to Google Drive access

**ACTION 14.6:** All to check latest versions of 'Statutes' and 'Rules of Operation' for matters of interest.

### **Committee of Nodes**

4. Axel's report of the Naples meeting was reviewed. A number of observations were made:

- a. The policy position on intellectual property rights was noted. Most participants would expect to keep IPR.
- b. The ASSEMBLE\_+ launch meeting in Paris was important. Representatives from BAS, MBA and St Andrews were known to be attending. Melody Clarke was happy to take any UK Node queries to the meeting, lead involvement and report back to the Node.
- c. A live funding call was expected in month 2 so having the EMBRC web site ready for this was critical as was as having all necessary Access arrangements in place.
- d. For the national nodes web sites, our preference for Option 1 was noted.

**ACTION 14.7:** M Clarke (MC) to raise a number of points at ASSEMBLE+ mtg 19/20 October. MC to:

- Ask for budgets to be clarified.
- Ask for timeline for web site and inclusion of ASSEMBLE + pages on EMBRC web site to be clarified as important for when ASSEMBLE goes live – expect first call in January.
- Ask for longer deadlines for completion of necessary forms for the ACCESS arrangements.
- Ask who is on the new EMBRC Project Working Groups so that we can make links.
- Inform meeting that UK preference is for Option 1 for UK Node web site.
- Seek clarification as to what is required re news / events being sent to Arnaud
- Report back to Node
  
- M Cox to ask EMBRC HQ which UK logos needed

### **EMBRC UK Node business**

5. Recent liaison with BEIS / STFC re Brexit - the paper published by UK Gov - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/collaboration-on-science-and-innovation-a-future-partnership-paper> called 'Collaboration on science and innovation - a future partnership paper' which *outlines the UK's objectives for an ambitious science and innovation agreement with the EU* was noted. It is from Department for Exiting the European Union Part of Article 50 and negotiations with the EU and Brexit Published: 6 September 2017.

**ACTION 14.8:** DMP to add Ed Hill Brexit presentation to EMBRC Google drive.

6. Ambition / aspirations for UK Node – M Cox had developed a paper following the discussion at Cambridge. The intention being that this would provide material to add to the EMBRC UK Node web site.

**ACTION 14.9:** M Cox to send DP the draft aspirations paper and then circulate to Node.

7. Communications Group - T of Ref have been drafted and members identified. It was agreed that David ask Anuschka Miller (SAMS) to chair the group.

**ACTION 14.10:** M Cox to circulate Comms Group Terms of Ref for comment

**ACTION 14.11:** DMP to ask Anuschka Miller re chairing Comms Group

8. EMBRC UK recognition from UK Research councils – DMP had spoken with NERC but their priority at the moment was the transition to the new UKRI. It was agreed that the Node needed to take all opportunities to bring the work of EMBRC to the attention of NERC bodies.

**ACTION 14.12:** BAS (Bea and Melody) will make connections within BAS contacts to alert NERC re EMBRC

**ACTION 14.13:** All to use appropriate opportunities to feed EMBRC activity into NERC at a variety of levels (e.g. at meetings, events etc.).

9. UK Agreement – the current agreement runs until 31 December 2018. The next step would be to review it in light of the final EMBRC statutes.

10. Payments – all were currently up to date.

11. UK Node web site – this was live but there may be changes necessary once EMBRC had decided re the use of a Node template.

### **AOB**

12. EMBRC-UK metadata and biobank database – it was noted that EMBRC was trying to be efficient with data handling and consolidate existing infrastructure. It was necessary for the UK Node to keep a watching brief

**ACTION 14.14:** JP to follow up matter with Nick Pade to make MEDIN DAC connections. M Cox to keep on future agenda.

13. Monetary / non-monetary benefits of EMBRC membership – the table was reviewed. It had proved to be valuable when passing a copy to BEIS to demonstrate the benefits flowing to the UK from being part of EMBRC.

**ACTION 14.15:** All to add any Monetary / non-monetary benefits of EMBRC to the table. MC to advise re BAS being invited to participate in the 2<sup>nd</sup> TA call.

14. T&S reconciliation – the last reconciliation covered 15/12/15 to 14/12/16; it was agreed to initiate another reconciliation to cover until end 2017.

15. Date of Next Meeting

**ACTION 14.16:** M Cox to finalise dates for next Node meetings around:

- a. Day prior to EMBRC forts General Assembly meeting in Paris
- b. February / March – next face to face meeting. Provisional location to be MBA, Plymouth

Martyn Cox  
Marine Scotland  
October 2017

EMBRC Web page <https://embrc.uk/>

A flyer that could be used to promote EMBRC – see [here](#).