

MINUTES

Minutes from ESIN Board meeting no 3-2017

Date & time	Tuesday March 21 st 2017 at 10:00 GMT
Location	Telephone conference

1 Opening

Topic	Notes	Action
Members attending	Aland: Kristian Packalén Denmark: not able to attend Estonia: Leo Filippov Finland: Pia Prost France: Denis Bredin Ireland: John Walsh Scotland: Camille Dressler and Kirsty MacColl Sweden: Anette Larm Johansson and Bengt Almkvist	
Chair	Camille Dressler	
Approval of agenda	Agenda approved, with an AOB: 2 requests to join ESIN	

2 Approval of minutes from last Board meeting 2-2017 (February 21st)

Topic	Notes	Action
Approval of minutes	Minutes were approved	

3 News from the members

Member	Notes	Action
Finland	FOSS will be celebrating their 10th official anniversary (11 th unofficial!) this September	Pia will send some details in due course

4 Finances

Topic	Notes	Action
Financial statements	Funds: Anette reported €12 844 in the ESIN funds. Outstanding payments:	Camille contacted SIF treasurer who should be paying the fee asap. Anette to resend membership fees to

	<p>Expenses of € 305 have finally been made to Laurids for his contribution at the Brussels seminar.</p> <p>ESIN chair Gozo expenses amount to €589.36 and will be paid to SIF funds.</p> <p>Membership fees:</p> <p>Scotland, Italy, Greece and Croatia still outstanding</p> <p>Camille has contacted Italy</p> <p>Christian will get in touch with Greece and Croatia.</p>	<p>Croatia, Italy and Greece</p> <p>Camille and Christian to follow up</p>
--	--	--

5 Discussion issues

Topic	Notes	Action
Feedback to EU	<p>The EU is right now asking for opinions on the CAP programme. The survey is here: https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/e91ba0bf-c5d1-49ac-a71e-45441758180d?draftid=f6e45c55-6bc5-47ca-9d5b-d52922616496&surveylanguage=EN</p> <p>Should ESIN reply? (and each of the members perhaps as well)?</p> <p>Agreed that as a first step we examine the response submitted by CPMR with a view to either submitting a joint response or providing additional input from ESIN. No indication of time limits on the consultation.</p>	<p>Camille to contact CPMR and circulate its consultation response if any.</p> <p>Bengt to lead the ESIN response - review CPMR submission and provide comments to help shape the ESIN input.</p>
Topic	Notes	Action
CPMR AGM on March 9, Gozo	<p>Report from Camille:</p> <p>Full report on the ESIN blog here and the S.I.F. website - here.</p> <p>Very useful and productive event and contributed greatly to the ESIN strategy of increasing our visibility and profile.</p> <p>Key points included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reiterated the need for better statistical instruments for the small islands situation. - Cohesion Policy is a big plank of the EC and going forward it must be maintained and its influence heightened. - INSULEUR – proposals for a better deal for the islands included reduced VAT, changes to the rules and 	<p>Camille has contacted Oliver Heiden from the CoR who was present at the ESIN Brussels event for guidance on how ESIN can progress the idea of new indicators.</p> <p>Keep in touch with Professor Ioannis Spilanis who presented on statistical indicators (we met him in Kastellorizo in 2015).</p>

AOB: membership requests	<p>thresholds for State Aid and De Minimis.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Camille met Tony Zammit from Gozo who is interested in setting up an informal network for island scientific issues (Researchgate island platform) – Tony will forward some details to us. - Requests from the Gozo Federation of local Association via its president Ryan Mercieca and from Marie-Galante (small island off Guadeloupe in the Caribbean) (see link to CPMR ppt about the island here) represented at the CPMR event to join ESIN – were discussed. It was pointed out that both islands have very large populations (32 000 and 12 000) and that representation would not be from a federation but from one island only. Whilst networking and sharing across all islands is to be welcomed, we must be mindful not to lose ESIN's distinct focus which is to provide a voice and representation for European <i>small</i> islands. Agreed that 'associate' membership should be explored as an alternative option to full membership. 	<p>Camille will circulate Tony Zammit proposal when received.</p> <p>ESIN will look at proposal to add associate membership to ESIN statutes.</p> <p>Associate Membership would need to be brought up for and agreed at AGM.</p>
Topic	Notes	Action
Smart islands meeting on March 28, Brussels	Most of ESIN members have sent letters of support.	ESIN Letter to be sent with all the federation's logos.
Topic	Notes	Action
Smart Islands Global Forum on April 20-21, Mallorca	<p>In order to present an ESIN overview, Camille would be grateful of meaningful examples from each federation before the end of March-</p> <p>Camille circulated a questionnaire to help gather information for her presentation but has so far only received feedback from Denmark.</p> <p>The two themes for the presentation are island population and quality of life and Camille is looking for information on changes to island population e.g. declining, increasing, ageing, seasonal etc as well as good examples of things that have or could improve quality of life on the islands e.g. the Scottish island of Tiree has installed a wind turbine and</p>	<p>Camille with circulate the questionnaire again.</p> <p>Everyone to either complete the questionnaire or provide pertinent examples by 10 April.</p>

	the income it generates its used to fund island projects; Bere Island in Ireland has a weekly Parkrun that is good for health but is also a great social event.	
Topic	Notes	Action
Ferry Fares	Previous draft was based on five cases and needed some corrections: we only map up small islands i.e., that are members of our national island organisations, respectively. Tables need to be tidied up (take away all lines not for our islands) and completed with fares.	Draft and Questionnaire to be re-circulated. Those who have not responded are invited to do so.
Topic	Notes	Action
Entrepreneur-ship project	<p>NOW the subject of a transnational LEADER proposal, outline from John Walsh. Project could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Filling the current gap in information on island entrepreneurship (its value, support, potential and barriers). - A focus on micro-business with an option to explore specific sectors e.g. tourism, food & drink, science & technology, creative industry and social enterprise. - Junior entrepreneurship programme – potential to replicate the model in schools in Ireland across other islands. - Programme of activity could include mentoring, best practice examples and study visits. <p>There are at least 7 potential partners - may be simpler to work within two cluster groups rather than across all countries but with an opportunity for the two clusters to come together for a study visit and networking.</p> <p>Pia highlighted a pilot LEADER project that had tried to cluster micro-businesses together to increase collaboration and improve economies of scale – agreed that this could be a valuable addition to the current proposal.</p> <p>Camille highlighted two developments discussed in Gozo:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Potential replication of ERASMUS +project done by Marie Galante island. - INSULEUR (network of islands 	<p>All to read emails sent by John on 21 March</p> <p>John, Camille and Kirsty to draft a short project description.</p> <p>Each partner to contact their own Rural Network/LEADER to clarify the rules and process for transnational co-operation projects within their own country and report back to John.</p> <p>English copy of Erasmus + project to be circulated.</p> <p>Brussels INSULEUR</p>

	chambers of commerce) is hosting an event to discuss island enterprise on 2 nd June in Brussels and would value input from ESIN as an observer member of INSULEUR	Island Enterprise meeting: 2 June (morning only) – let ESIN secretariat know who is interested and could attend.
Topic	Notes	Action
Orkney AGM	<p>Update from Camille:</p> <p>20 rooms have been provisionally booked in Kirkwall (Sun 10 – Thu 14 Sep). £85 per night for a single room, £65 if sharing.</p> <p>Flight timetable and costs due to be finalised April/ May. Estimated return flight £176 - £248. Ferry from Aberdeen may be a cheaper option.</p> <p>Visit to the small island of Westray is planned – look at renewable energy and low carbon transport. If possible we may stay one night in Westray (hiring a boat to take us to Westray and back may be an option).</p> <p>Programme will include cultural tourism, renewable energy and low carbon transport – all happy with this concept.</p> <p>Still to clarify costs and budget requirements.</p>	Camille to provide a more detailed programme and indicative travel costs for next meeting on 25 April
Topic	Notes	Action
Social media	It would be of great value if everyone was contributing to Facebook at least one post a month. Also, we could have more administrators, who would like to engage in this?	<p>Everyone to send the name of one person from their Federation that can add regular updates to Facebook.</p> <p>Camille to add Pia as an 'administrator' then Pia will add all the others as 'editors'.</p>

6 Next meeting

Topic	Notes	Action
Date and time	<p>April 25th at 10 GMT</p> <p>May 23rd at 10 GMT</p>	

Camille Dressler
Chairman

Kirsty MacColl
Secretary