Summary and Actions from NZOA Community Meeting, 8 July 2016

As was quite rightly pointed out at the Council meeting this week, I neglected to circulate any summary of the NZOAC discussion at our annual workshop in July.

I did write an email on 13 July outlining the Outreach plan that had been discussed.  Attached.  Otago has, at least, been beavering away at our bit.

After the council report was presented on 8 July 2016, there were four items for discussion.  These are my recollections of what we decided; I would be grateful for feedback or additions if you remember something different.

1. Budget for Council and Workshops – agreed not to become an Incorporated Society or to adopt a formal budget, but to ask workshop hosts to find institutional funding and top up with registration fees.  Student travel awards from home institutions of students, supervisors, and possibly the hosting institution if any available.

2. 2017 Workshop – Agreed Dunedin, Feb 2017, Abby.

3. Communications – Agreed newsletter, website and facebook all good.  Commended Helen B and Vic for above.  Discussed outreach at some length, including: consider OP-ED newspaper articles, push the newsletter out wider among stakeholders e.g. fisheries forum exec, perhaps host/fund a lecture tour of NZ, info sheets aimed at specific groups (e.g. aquaculture farmers, high school students); RSNZ holds media briefings for science reporters we could get one maybe.

4. Council Membership – ratified Nicky Hawes replacing Jess Ericson, agreed all two-year terms end in 2017 and thus need new people then.

So in terms of actions this council might be expected to do, outreach progress was really the thing.

I hope this is what you were asking for.

Abby