

HAVANT BOROUGH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Southern Coastal Group held on 9 December 2016

Present:

Dr Ken Buchan, Dorest County Council
Mr Lyall Cairns, Eastern Solent Coastal Partership
Steve Cook, New Forest District Council
Dr Samantha Cope, Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership
Mr Bryan Curtis, Worthing Borough Council
Mr Mike Goater, Purbeck District Council
Nick Gray, Environment Agency
Ivan Haigh, University of Southampton
Dr David Harlow, Bournemouth Borough Council
Dominic Henly, Chichester District Council
Mr Matt Hosey, Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership
Matthew Penny, Dorset Council Partnership
David Picksley, ESCP
Emma Rendle, HR Wallingford
Mr David Robson, Borough of Poole Council
Mr Stuart Terry, Borough of Poole Council
Mr Neil Watson, Environment Agency
Mr Gordon Wilkinson, Eastleigh Borough Council
Mr Steve Woolard, Christchurch Borough Council

101 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Nick Lyness, Mike Cowling, Tim Adams, Nick Williams, Stuart McVey, Angela Marlow, Jenny Jakeways, Stevyn Ricketts and Grant Armfield.

102 To confirm the minutes of the meeting of the Southern Coastal Group held on 23 September 2016 (Paper A)

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of 23 September 2016 be set as a correct record.

103 Chairman's Update on Coastal Issues (Paper B)

The Chairman introduced the update papers from the Environment Agency and outlined activity since the previous Group meeting. The outline included the following key points:

- Coastal Group Issues – Coastal Group Chairs were asked to detail high priority issues at national meetings in November. Issues identified by the Chairman included land-fill erosion, SMP Action Plans and erosion benefits and priority scoring. Officers discussed Local Levy funding and how this could be used to support a wide range of studies. It was suggested that the Group could bid for levy funding to use to support the NERC / Wessex RFCC / Southern RFCC funded project on the protection of landfill sites.
- Review of Coastal Group Terms of Reference – Questions had been raised at coastal chair meetings on whether coastal issues were being fully represented at RFCC level and whether suitable succession planning was in place.
- SMP Web Hosting – Proposals had been submitted to improve accessibility and clarify of coastal information on the web.
- Coastal Adaptation: Defra Working Group Activity – Defra / EA had progressed the work undertaken to set out the barriers to local authorities delivering adaptation. Specific focus had been given to those people directly disadvantaged by erosion.
- Review on Major Coastal Floodings – Major Incident Plans had been completed assessing the impact of major storm surges on coastal regions in the UK and figures on the potential effects on properties, people and transport infrastructure had been produced. Officers challenged the figures for the south coast as concerns were raised on asset data for the region.
- Marine Plan Consultation – A strategic response to the consultation from the Group would be submitted prior to the deadline of 27 January.
- National Flood Resilience Review – The report had been published and included information on extreme rainfall, the effects of climate change and the impact of infrastructure resilience.

104 HR Wallingford (James Sutherland and Emma Rendle - Paper C)

The Chairman invited Dr Emma Rendle to deliver a presentation to the Group on the work that HR Wallingford were undertaking. The presentation detailed the following projects:

- State of the Nation coastal loading data set
- Modelling for beach management
- Project for US Army Corps of Engineers to examine UK experience with natural and nature based features.

Officers discussed potential areas in the region that could contribute to the natural and nature based features study. It was agreed the HR Wallingford questionnaire would be shared amongst officers.

105 Feedback on Business Planning Workshop, 9 November

The Chairman updated the Group on the topics covered at the Business Planning Workshop on 9 November.

The main area for discussion was the updates to the SMPs and Action Plans. The Group were shown the updated documents and considered the priorities that had been identified within the plan. It was hoped the plan would act as a central resource for the Group.

It was agreed that officers would send any projects for inclusion on the SMPs to Lyall Cairns. It was also suggested that the Chairman present the SCG SMP Action Plans at national coastal chair meetings.

106 Coastal Monitoring Update (Paper D)

The Chairman invited Steve Cook to introduce the report to officers and give an update on the Southeast Regional Coastal Monitoring Programme.

Officers were informed that the contract for the maintenance of the waverider buoys was due to go out to tender in January and GeoData had been awarded the Data Management contract for the CCO website.

107 Presentation of 'Surgewatch' (Ivan Haigh)

The Research Chair invited Dr Ivan Haigh from University of Southampton to deliver a presentation to the Group on Surgewatch. Surgewatch is a collation of coastal flooding events in the UK for the last 100 years, instigated by the recent storms that had affected the area, and was designed to provide a comprehensive coastal flooding database.

The presentation highlighted data and analysis on still water levels and skew surges collated from the last 100 years and the number of storm events in that time. It was intended the information would be used to inform future responses to similar storm events.

Officers discussed presenting an item on Surgewatch at a SCOPAC meeting and highlighting as part of national coastal network meetings. Officers also discussed recommending to SCOPAC that £500 be agreed to be allocated to Surgewatch to fund website domain renewal.

RESOLVED that SCOPAC be recommended to allocate £500 per annum to Surgewatch to fund website domain renewal.

The meeting was adjourned at 11.55 and reconvened at 12.09

108 Asset Coast Workshop, 16 November (Paper E)

The Chairman introduced the paper on the Asset Data Workshop held on 16 November 2016 and outlined the content of the session. Officers discussed the proposed plan of action for collating and managing coastal asset data and it was highlighted that it would be important to complete a baseline survey prior to any equipment being purchased.

Officers endorsed the proposed approach and agreed that a further workshop be arranged for Wednesday 11 January to develop a system specification.

109 Research Report (Sam Cope - Paper F)

Dr Samantha Cope gave an overview of the current research programme and highlighted new studies for consideration.

The Group considered proposals from the research sub-group to reallocate funds for the following projects:

- Reallocate £10,000 from the Maintenance of Timber Groynes guide to Contaminated Land study
- Reallocate £5,000 from the Maintenance of Timber Groynes guide to use as an 'in kind' contribution to the CIRIA guide.
- Reallocate £2,000 from the Mixed Sand and Shingle budget to the historical aerial photography project – it was agreed that David Harlow would lead on Phase 2 of this project.
- Reallocate £8,000 from the Mixed sand and Shingle budget to the Minor Fund Projects.

The following new studies were discussed:

- SCOPAC wide tracer study – A number of organisations were interested in using the ESCP tracer method. The £5,000 SCOPAC cost would enable co-ordination of studies across the SCOPAC region.
- SCOPAC wide storm analysis – The study into storm events across the SCOPAC region would summarise the impact and investigate the hydro-dynamics of the recent stormy winters of 2013/14 and 2015/16. Scoping for the study was underway and all funding options would be considered. Design guidance for mixed sand and shingle beaches – SCOPAC Research Chair was investigating alternative funding options.
- Surgewatch - £500 per annum proposed to fund website domain renewal.

Officers discussed the Solent Forum BuDs project and where the project should be categorised in the Group's priorities. It was agreed that the project was not to form part of the RSG work programme. Officers were interested in phase 2 of the project for the operational outputs but felt that phase 1 of the project mirrored similar exercises already completed. It was agreed the proposal would need to be reshaped to incorporate phases 1 and 2 in a single phase for the Group to consider.

RESOLVED that SCOPAC be recommended to re-allocate funds as below:

- a. Reallocate £10,000 from the Maintenance of Timber Groynes guide to Contaminated Land study
- b. Reallocate £5,000 from the Maintenance of Timber Groynes guide to use as an 'in kind' contribution to the CIRIA guide.
- c. Reallocate £2,000 from the Mixed Sand and Shingle budget to the historical aerial photography project – it was agreed that David Harlow would lead on Phase 2 of this project.
- d. Reallocate £8,000 from the Mixed sand and Shingle budget to the Minor Fund Projects.

RESOLVED that SCOPAC be recommended to approve the research programme.

110 Completion of the SCG Programme Management Tool

The Chairman invited Lyall Cairns to introduce the item and discuss the updates to the SCG Programme Management Tool. Lyall presented the tool to the Group in its current format and requested all officers to submit completed spreadsheets to enable the tool to be fully representative of the SCG region.

It was agreed that a deadline of 31 January be set for completed spreadsheets to be sent to Lyall Cairns.

111 Update from Members

Bryan Curtis informed the Group of a RFCC Development Day on Coastal Matters scheduled for Tuesday 14 February 2017. The session was intended to raise the profile of the coastal group's work to the RFCC and support was requested from officers to deliver and present at the event.

Officers discussed the proposed layout of the session and topics to be highlighted to the RFCCs. It was agreed that any officer interested in contributing would contact Bryan Curtis.

112 Confirmation of Dates for Next Year

The Group agreed to set the following dates for 2017:

- 17 March 2017 – 10am
- 9 June 2017 – 10am
- 15 September 2017 – 10am
- 15 December 2017 – 10am

The meeting commenced at 10.00 am and concluded at 1.12 pm

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