

HAVANT BOROUGH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Southern Coastal Group held on 24 June 2016

Present:

Mr Lyall Cairns, Eastern Colent Coastal Partnership
Rob Clarke, West Dorset District Council and Weymouth and
Portland Borough Council
Steve Cook, New Forest District Council
Dr Samantha Cope, New Forest District Council
Mr Bryan Curtis, Worthing Borough Council
Dominic Henly, Chichester District Council
Mr Matt Hosey, Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership
Jenny Jakeways, Isle of Wight Council
Angela Marlow, Natural England
Nicholas Rogers, Havant Borough Council
Mr Stuart Terry, Borough of Poole
Mr Neil Watson, Environment Agency
Mr Gordon Wilkinson, Eastleigh Borough Council
Mr Steve Woolard, Christchurch Borough Council

Apologies

75 Apologies

Apologies were received from Andy Gilham, Eleanor Blundell, Scott Mills, Solent Forum, Tim Adams, Sarah Cairns, Bret Davies, Julia Potter, Keith Nursey, Dave Harlow, Stevyn Ricketts, Nick Gray, Uwe Dornbusch and Ken Buchan.

76 To confirm the minutes of the meeting of the Southern Coastal Group held on 11 March 2016 (Paper A)

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of 11 March 2016 be set as a correct record.

77 Update on Coastal Issues (Paper B)

The Chairman introduced the update papers from the Environment Agency and LGA Coastal SIG to officers and outlined the content. The outline included:

- A review on the Coastal Strategic Overview and its links to the direction of core Coastal Group business.
- An update on the Coastal Overview Refresh. The themes identified for 'refresh' were improving collective understanding of risk, governance around strategic coastal management and preparedness for coastal incidents. Officers discussed the need for the re-refresh to ensure all groups understood their roles within incident management and that best practice was shared. The Group considered this as a possible topic for a future workshop, and agreed that a further report should be circulated on the refresh.
- SMP Action Plan Updates
- Review of Coastal Group Terms of Reference and the summary findings.

Officers also considered the need for the Group to investigate possible funding opportunities, such as the Coastal Communities Fund.

78 Report on 2015/16 Financial Year and Recommendation for Subscriptions (Paper C)

The Chairman introduced the report on the 2015/16 Financial Year to the Group, which was an indication on the status of the combined accounts of SCOPAC and the Southern Coastal Group. Concerns were raised that certain figures needed to be clearer as to when transactions were coming in.

It was agreed the report would be adjusted to include commentary from Havant Borough Council accountants to ensure clear reporting.

Officers also discussed using the SCOPAC / SCG accounts as examples of best practise for other coastal groups, and the Group agreed subject to the removal of outcome figures. It was agreed an edited version would be sent to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman before wider circulation.

There were further discussions on proposed use of the reserves. The reserves were to be kept ready for future research plans and the research sub-group needed to have a clear indication of these plans. Officers were also advised that future subscriptions and budgets may diminish due to the changing landscape under proposed devolved authorities.

It was recommended that the Group issue invoices for the financial year.

79 Research Update (Sam Cope - Paper D)

Dr Samantha Cope gave an overview on the progress of the Research Programme. The update included details of ongoing research projects and those that had reached completion.

The following studies were discussed:

- Coastal Sediment Budget Project – The report had been submitted and would be published on the SCOPAC website following a research sub-group review. Officers discussed the possibility of presenting the project at the next SCOPAC meeting.
- Establishing shingle transport pathways – Church Norton Spit – The results of the study had shown the pebbles were landward moving, with a strong correlation between wave strength and distance travelled. A report would be uploaded to the SCOPAC website. With a budget of £2,000 remaining, there were discussions due to take place with the University of Portsmouth to progress the study. Officers considered the possibility of replicating this methodology in other studies.
- Beach response in front of structures in open coast – The study would commence in the winter of 2016/17. Funding would be provided if this study proves to be successful, with the possibility of circulating the results nationally.

Officers discussed introducing a more co-ordinated and strategic approach to tracer studies across the area and the opportunities for efficiencies that this would bring. It was agreed that the research chair would scope possible options.

- Monitoring of Poole Nearshore Replenishments Trials – 7 topographic and swath bathymetry surveys had been completed. A draft report had been submitted and further details would be published in due course.
- Scanning of Historical Aerial Photography – An exercise to collate local authority photography was on-going and officers were encouraged to send aerials to the project. Officers requested information on the possible costs of geo-rectifying a sample of the images.
- Dismantling of Timber Groynes at Bournemouth Borough Council – 13 groynes had been dismantled and Jon Williams was assessing the timber. Officers asked for clarification on the outputs of the study, as recommendations on future groynes would be useful.
- Maintenance of Coastal Structures – Phase 1: Timber Groynes – It is proposed the 'CIRIA Timber Groynes Manual' will be updated to the 'CIRIA Groynes in Coastal Management Manual' to reflect use of other materials such as plastic and rock. Officers emphasised the importance of communicating to SCOPAC the work that the Group are doing is featured in national programmes.
- Update of the SCOPAC Sediment Transport Study – Results would be emailed to officers for review in August.

- Reducing Regional Flood and Erosion Risk from Wave Action on the Channel Coast Project – The study was almost complete and would be launched at a workshop at the National Oceanography Centre on 28 June 2016. Officers were interested in the outputs of the study as this could result in a number of subsequent projects. It was suggested there would be a presentation at a future SCG meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 11.50 and reconvened at 12.01

80 SMP Action Plans

The Chairman and Stuart Terry updated the Group on the review of the SMP Action Plans. The number of live actions included in the SMPs for Christchurch and Poole and for Devon and Dorset had been 379, but this had been reduced to 47 live actions following a review exercise. The live actions were then categorised into 27 themes.

Officers agreed that the SMPs needed to be regularly reviewed and the Group should receive an update on progress. It was also agreed that actions should be assigned to themes and theme leads with the Group maintaining a strategic perspective.

Officers then suggested conducting an internal audit exercise on the SMPs in the coastal group area, with the possibility of hiring a consultant for this work.

81 CIP Refresh Partnership Funding (Nick Gray - Paper E)

In Nick Gray's absence, the Chairman introduced this item and gave the Group an update on the CIP Refresh Partnership Funding. The bids from authorities had been received and the moderation process would be commencing in July, with a decision due in March 2017.

The Group considered removing this agenda item at future meetings as authorities now controlled this matter.

82 Regional Habitat Creation Programme Update (Nick Gray - Paper F)

The Chairman introduced the paper which provided an update to the Group on the Regional Habitat Creation Programme. Officers expressed concerns that problems experienced in previous years would re-surface under the new recommendations and that there would be negative implications on developments in coastal areas.

83 Identification of Theme Leads within the SCG Business Plan

The Group discussed identifying theme leads for themes within the SCG Business Plan. It was agreed that Gavin Holder would be the lead on the Habitat Creation Programme for the SCG.

It was also agreed that theme leads would be identified at the next meeting.

84 Procurement of a Professional Services Framework

Matt Hosey was invited to provide the Group with an update on the procurement process. 7 suppliers had been shortlisted and the framework would be sent to the local authorities shortly.

The Group discussed setting up a 'Procurement Workshop' after the next Group meeting on 23 September, with local procurement officers invited. The minor work framework was due to expire at the end of the year and the renewal process was underway, with officers advised to send on details of any potential suppliers.

85 Coastal Monitoring Update (Steve Cook - Paper G)

The Chairman invited Steve Cook to introduce his report and receive any questions from officers. The Group was advised that the Habitat Mapping contract had been awarded and the signing process was underway, while the contract for data management would be going out soon.

86 Coastal Asset Data

The Chairman updated the Group on his attendance at numerous workshops on compatible Coastal Asset data systems and advised the Group he had requested funds from the EA for the acquisition and storage of data. Officers discussed the need for a Group level agreement on the minimum level of consistent data, an understanding of what each user would need for such a system and the possible use of consultants / procurement in the process.

It was agreed that proposals for the minimum standards would be discussed at the next Group meeting.

87 Date of Next Meeting 23 September 2016

The meeting commenced at 10.00 am and concluded at 1.21 pm

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