

## HAVANT BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Southern Coastal Group and SCOPAC hybrid meeting, 10:00am, 7th October 2022 at the Public Service Plaza, Havant and on MS Teams

### Attendees:

Lyall Cairns [LC]	SCG Chair (Coastal Partners)
Dr Samantha Cope [SC]	SCOPAC & SCG – Research Chair (Coastal Partners)
Sam Box [SB]	Coastal Partners
Mark Stratton [MS]	Coastal Partners
Kim Catt [KC]	Gosport Borough Council
Stevyn Ricketts [SR]	Gosport Borough Council
Fiona Crayston [FC]	EA
Thomas Dhoop [TD]	Channel Coast Observatory
Uwe Dornbusch [UD]	EA
Alan Frampton [AF]	BCP Council
Rachael Hill [RH]	EA
Lorraine Horsted [LH]	Coastal Partners
Matt Hosey [MH]	SCG Vice-chair (BCP Council)
Jim Hutchinson [JH]	Balfour Beatty
Jenny Jakeways [JJ]	IOW Council
James Kerr [JK]	Marine Management Organisation
Stuart McVey [SM]	Channel Coast Observatory
Ben Meredith [BM]	EA
Clare Newton [CN]	Coastal Partners
Andy Pearce [AP]	Coastal Partners
Dave Picksley [DP]	SCG Vice-chair (EA)
Rory Pryor [RP]	Natural England
Emma Stainer [ES]	Coastal Partners
Esmari Steenkamp [ESte]	Dorset Council
Steve Fitzmaurice [SF]	Coastal Partners
Alison Stevens [AS]	Chichester District Council
Jonathan Griffiths [JG]	EA
Gavin Holder [GH]	Coastal Partners
Sam Kipling [SK]	EA
Karen McHugh [KMH]	Hampshire County Council
Keith Nursey [KN]	EA
Nick Everington [NE]	The Crown Estate
Emma Harris [EH]	Coastal Partners - observer
Laura Denham [LD]	Coastal Partners - observer
Emma Howarth [EH]	Coastal Partners - observer
Lucy Taylor [LT]	Coastal Partners (Minute taker)

### 1. Welcome, apologies, introductions and instructions for the hybrid meeting.

Apologies were received from: Tim Adams (Yarmouth Harbour), Alison Fowler (HCC), Hilary Crane (CP) Steve Cook (New Forest District Council), Bryan Curtis (Chair,

Coastal Network Group), Neil Watson (EA), Jackie Mellan (EA), Peter Christie (BCP Council), Nick Hardiman (EA), Charlie Thompson (CCO)

## 2. Minutes of the last SCG meeting 4<sup>th</sup> March & SCOPAC 15<sup>th</sup> July 2022

**Lyll Cairns**

The minutes of SCG 4<sup>th</sup> March 2022 were agreed a true and accurate record of the meeting. **Proposed** by Matt Hosey, **seconded** by Sam Cope.

The actions table was updated as below.

Owner	Action	Status
TD	Send MHu storm damage presentation	Closed
All	Send Coastal Assurance photos and a short description of Storm Eunice damage across the SCG.	Closed
LC	Arrange further discussion on recruitment issues with Vice Chairs MH and DP.	Open
All	Inform Coastal Assurance if likely to use the PSC or Minor Works framework over the next 12 months.	Closed
CA	Circulate presentation slides.	Closed
All	Volunteers to host a field visit, send ideas for a trip to CA.	Closed

The minutes of SCG & SCOPAC 15<sup>th</sup> July 2022 were agreed a true and accurate record of the meeting. **Proposed** by Mark Stratton, **seconded** by Dave Picksley.

The actions table was updated as below.

Owner	Action	Status
Officers	SCG Group officers to look at ways to co-ordinate and improve communication with communities. <i>LC &amp; MH will liaise with CP Comms team to take forward.</i>	In progress
Cllrs	SCOPAC Councillors to bring the FCERM Roadmap to Officers' and Councillors' attention within their LAs.	Closed
SC	Dr Sam Cope to write a short summary of how the Sediment Transport Study is used for circulation to Councillors and send to Cllr Penfold. <i>Completed</i>	Closed
Officers/Cllr Penfold	Officers to obtain clarity on inflation issues. The Chair and Vice-Chairs will in time work with Cllr Penfold to draft a message to Government.	Under review / pending
LC & MH	Work with CP Comms to improve SCG comms.	In progress

## 3. PPG Update - Comprehensive update to national planning practice guidance on flood risk and coastal change Alan Frampton & Sam Kipling

SK played a recording of the presentation he gave to RFCC Coastal Reps and Coastal Group Network Chairs meeting, entitled 'Planning Practice Guidance Update on Flood Risk and Coastal Change – Published 25<sup>th</sup> August 2022'.

SK informed the group of developments since publication, including new ministerial teams at DEFRA and DLUHC, the mini-Budget, Growth Plan, the intention for the government to create Investment Zones and implement planning reforms.

AF showed a presentation focusing on SMP and coastal change management, comparing the 2014 and 2022 PPGs. The concept to introduce CCMA's along all of the coastline was discussed. SK responded that this was not the intention nor expectation of the new guidance, which was to ensure rigour in making sure HTL policies can be relied on. JH asked if investment zones could draw down funding for projects with funding gaps. SK didn't have that information but will follow up. **Action SK** UD proposed a discussion at the next SCG that the entire SCG frontage become a CCMA. As a group that advise and encourage best practice, LC did not think the proposal would be implementable, but agreed to discuss at a future meeting. JJ added that CCMA's might discourage developers from investing in defences to support HTL.

#### **4. Finance** **Lorraine Horsted**

The finance report was shown, and LH highlighted the main points: The mid-year position showed a surplus of £30k, £13k of which is earmarked for 3 SCOPAC research projects due to start in 2023/24 plus a number of other projects that are due to commence shortly. LH confirmed the money will be spent by FY end. The procurement frameworks is overspent by £1300, to be discussed in Item 7. LH confirmed level of membership fees need to be fixed before FY end. Confirmed at the meeting that they will stay the same next year.

In summary, the actual surplus is only £7k and budgets will need to be tightly monitored to maintain this. LH was thanked for her work on the report.

#### **5. Business Plan** **Mark Stratton**

The Service Plan had been circulated prior to the meeting and MS highlighted good progress against most areas except Climate Change, Carbon and consultation on the Programme Mapping Tool. Significant activity on Call to Arms meant the budget would be spent by the end of October.

##### **Call to Arms Updates**

###### Landfill

**Lead Mark Stratton**

MS requested an agenda item at the February meeting to present a report on the outcomes from the landfill questionnaire and gave a summary of initial findings. The final report will be presented to the All-Parliamentary Working Group. HBC Leader is pushing to raise the issue with MPs to take to Ministers. MS highlighted that the budget for this item would be spent shortly and would like to request further funds if there is underspend elsewhere.

###### Funding and Placemaking

The Working Group activity is ramping up and momentum building in this area as programme delivery risks increase due to cost escalation and inflation, which are impacting on schemes.

###### Adaptation

**Leads Sam Box & Alan Frampton**

SB and AF have joined the Coastal SIG Coastal Adaptation Group which met in August with RH and BC giving updates and a wrap up of the Flood and Coast Adaptation workshop. The next workshop is 18<sup>th</sup> October. RH added that updates by member

organisations of the Coastal SIG Adaptation group will be shared with coastal groups. In addition, there is a new EA engagement website <https://engageenvironmentagency.uk.engagementhq.com/innovation-programme>

Asset Management

**Lead Dr Andy Pearce**

Attended a DEFRA review of statutory powers workshop, which was useful and allowed points to be raised over lack of funding for LA asset maintenance. Awaiting further response from DEFRA. EA Strategy Action 2.5 Asset theme not progressed further due to resources. AP suggested the likely underspend for this theme could be re-allocated.

The Chair thanked all of the leads for the hard work on the Call to Arms themes.

**6. National Strategy Action Plan**

**Dave Picksley**

A presentation on the Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy Roadmap to 2026 was given by DP. The cross-cutting approach was welcomed. The Chair offered the support of CGN to help deliver where possible, and suggested building into business plans and keeping this item on the agenda.

**7. Procurement Frameworks**

**Dr Andy Pearce**

AP presented a paper. Two frameworks were renewed this year, Professional Services in March and Minor Works Framework in May 2022. Having the new 3<sup>rd</sup> generation frameworks both renew in the same year has put pressure on the budget along with the requirement to provide more support to the suppliers. A revision to the budget is an option and the paper outlined income generation options.

There is some ambiguity regarding who has free access to the frameworks and a vote was taken on allowing free access only to full and associate members of the Southern Coastal Group. Non-members will pay a fee to access, as set out in the paper. **The proposal was recommended by SB, seconded by DP and the vote was in favour of the proposal.**

**8. SMPR 13 North Solent**

**Sam Box**

SB attends monthly leads meetings to share issues, experiences and ideas. Quarterly report issued to national team last week. Actions are being progressed on the plan with an Environmental Group sub-group led by Gavin Holder. A Planning sub-group is also being set up.

SB also informed the group that an SMP wide planning workshop was being arranged, mainly for SMP 13 but JJ would also be invited. SM, AF & JJ are also working with the NW Planning Task Group to share ideas on progressing actions. The national team have requested all SMP2 documents to be submitted for inclusion on SMP Explorer by 21<sup>st</sup> November.

**SMPR 14**

**Jenny Jakeways**

JJ reported also to attending monthly meetings and has also submitted the quarterly report. The management group is now up and running and the Action Plan has been updated. Planning themed actions have been drafted as there is one LPA for the whole

SMP. JJ is working closely with the management group on identifying priorities.

**SMPR 15**

**Alan Frampton**

AF updated the group with slides and informed the group that the management group meet quarterly, have terms of reference, set out how decisions will be made and changes made to SMP documents.

The Chair thanked the leads for their hard work and welcomed their collaborative approach.

Fiona Crayston from the EA gave an update from the national team. Specialist consultants have been brought in to help with engagement planning for SMPs. There is some time available to help local groups with their engagement planning and a briefing pack with EOI form will be sent out shortly. FC also informed the group the SMP Explorer tool is being developed and user research is being undertaken. So far local planners have not engaged widely, and FC asked if planning contacts could be encouraged to participate and asked for contacts.

**9. Coastal Research Programme Dr Sam Cope**

SC focussed on updates since the previous meeting. The historical photography scanning project from the previous programme is being uploaded and once complete, a webinar will be arranged. SC updated on current projects including a webinar on the tracer pebble surveys to be arranged for early 2023

SC reported that the scoping study for the SCOPAC Sediment Transport Study is due to commence, although we'll wait until the year end budget has been confirmed given budgets across the coastal group are tight. The Chair proposed that SC clarifies requests with LH so it can be incorporated into the Business Plan. The Chair suggested that he and the Vice-Chairs meet in the new year to look at priorities and what is affordable and report back at the next meeting in February with a proposed budget for 2023/24.

**A proposal was raised by DP, seconded by MH, motion carried.**

**Actions:** SC to work with LH and MS. LC to follow up with DP and MH

**10. South-East Coastal Monitoring Programme Stuart McVey & Thomas Dhoop**

SMV and TD led the group through the paper.

TD also presented changes to the Coastal Monitoring website, especially the real time data and map viewer and catalogue page. The CCO website is recording £4.1m of data downloads and 10-12 million hits per month. It was announced that Ben Davis' Coastal Process Scientist replacement is Daniel Hendy

**11. Environment Update**

**Gavin Holder**

GH presented slides with updates on the Regional Habitat Compensation Programme (to offset habitat loss from SMP policies), partner initiatives, proposed projects and the environmental improvements incorporated into schemes at Southsea and North Portsea Island.

**12. Climate Change and Carbon**

**Steve Fitzmaurice**

Time constraints meant that SF's item on the climate change workshop with carbon being deferred to the next meeting. SF showed the group the questionnaire that will be going out shortly and encouraged members to complete it. The climate change workshop will be scheduled for 2023.

**13. Field visit, webinars and conference**

The Chair suggested a SCOPAC and SCG field visit to Southsea in 2023 to see the progress so far and current work. This will be out-side of the election period, in summer 2023 around July.

**14. AoB**

Observers attending SCG meetings

The Chair stated the importance of bringing colleagues such as planners and young engineers to the meetings and it was agreed for SCG to be an open invitation.

**Table of New Actions**

Owner	Action	Status
SK	Item 3 Find out more information on Investment Zones	
SC LH MS	Item 9 Clarify research budget requirements to possibly incorporate into the Business Plan	
LC MH DP	Item 9 Chair and Vice-Chairs to discuss funding priorities for next meeting.	