

Minutes of the Standing Conference on Problems Associated with the Coastline held at the Public Service Plaza, Havant on Friday 26 April 2013, commencing at 10.15am

Present: A list of those present is appended to these minutes.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from:

Cllr D Smith	-	Bournemouth Borough Council
Cllr J Connor	-	Chichester District Council
Dr K Buchan	-	Dorset County Council
Cllr L Ames	-	Dorset County Council
Mr J Addicott	-	East Solent Coastal Partnership
Mr M Hosey	-	East Solent Coastal Partnership
Mr G Wilkinson	-	Eastleigh Borough Council
Ms W Brooks	-	Environment Agency
Mr J O'Flynn	-	Environment Agency
Mr N Watson	-	Environment Agency
Ms L Jewell	-	Fareham Borough Council
Cllr D Kimber	-	Gosport Borough Council
Cllr T Swain	-	New Forest District Council
Mr G Mason	-	Portsmouth City Council
Mr M Goater	-	Purbeck District Council
Ms B Maguire	-	Southampton City Council
Cllr A Thorpe	-	Southampton City Council

2. Minutes

RESOLVED That the minutes of the meeting held on Friday 8 March 2013 be approved.

3. Presentation – Aggregate Dredging

Nick Everington of the Crown Estate provided a presentation on an “Introduction to Marine Aggregates”. Members were interested to note the licensing process involved, how the supply chain operated and the uses of materials dredged.

The Chairman thanked Nick Everington for an interesting and informative presentation and suggested that a future presentation from Crown Estates focusing on the renewable sector be brought to SCOPAC.

RESOLVED that Nick Everington be thanked for providing an interesting and informative presentation.

4. Research Programme

The Group received a report from the Chairperson of the Research Sub-Group setting out progress made on the following current and proposed SCOPAC projects:

4.1) Evolution of Coastal Sediment Stores and Sinks Study

An update on the study was provided which explained that the maps were currently being produced and forwarded onto the Research Sub-Group for comments. It was expected that that the study would be completed shortly.

4.2) SCOPAC Minor Projects Fund (2011/2012 and 2012/2013)

A brief update on the following projects, each awarded £4,000 from the SCOPAC Minor Projects fund, was provided:

- Havant, Portsmouth and Gosport Partnership Beach Tracer Studies – 500 tracers had been deployed each at Solent Breezes, Lee-on-the-Solent and Stokes Bay. Follow up surveys were now being undertaken to analyse sediment movement and a series of tests were also being commenced to investigate the burial depth of tracers.
- Bournemouth Borough Council Undertaking Non-Standard Rock Groynes Project – Dr Dave Harlow had presented his findings to the Southern Coastal Group on 14 March 2013 and these were now available to download on the SCOPAC website.

4.3) SCOPAC Minor Projects Fund (2013/14)

SCOPAC members and officers had been invited to submit potential future projects that would benefit from a minor contribution of up to £4,000. Full member SCOPAC officers would cast a vote for their preferred project at the Southern Coastal Group, with the outcome due to be reported back at the next SCOPAC meeting.

4.4) SCOPAC Bibliographic Database Update

4.5) SCOPAC and SCG Websites

It was reported that the Southern Coastal Group had approved the continued maintenance of the SCOPAC and Southern Coastal Group websites by Vivid Websites for the total sum of £3,000 for the 2013/14 financial year.

4.6) Regional Studies Delivered Via MTP

The Chairman of the Southern Coastal Group provided an update on the large scale physical testing that was due to commence shortly to examine the relationship between wind and swell waves. The facilities required to carry out the testing were currently in use which had delayed the start of the project, however once a date had been identified members would be invited to witness the tests.

RESOLVED That the report be noted.

5. Field Visit Summer 2013

The Chairman announced that the 2013 field visit would be to Lyme Regis, Dorset on 12 June 2013 and would focus on works undertaken since the early 1990's to prevent landsliding and coastal erosion.

6. Report of the Chairman of the Southern Coastal Group

The Group received a report from the Chairman of the Southern Coastal Group setting out recent developments and progress made on the following subjects:

6.1) Annual Report

The annual report was introduced and the Chairman of the Southern Coastal Group explained that it had been structured in the same way as the previous years. The report highlighted SCOPAC's key activities, the political aspect of the Group and the recent changes in leadership. The report also referenced the successful development of the field trips and training events along with the upgrading of both websites.

A key aspect of the report was the focus on funding and how the research projects funded by SCOPAC were carried out on a cost effective basis. Members were interested to note the section which highlighted how SCOPAC was able to make small investments help deliver significant returns.

6.2) Funding of Coastal Chairs for EA Strategic Activities

6.3) National Network of Regional Coastal Monitoring Programmes

The programme continued to be delivered to budget through the efficiency savings achieved despite the current severe financial challenges. Opportunities for partnership working had been identified and recent constructive discussions with the British Geological Survey had taken place in light of the many landslides caused by the recent heavy rain. It was hoped to develop further joint working in the future and the possibility of including an item on landsliding at the next meeting was suggested.

6.4) Feedback on National Coastal Chairs Meeting – Funding of Coast Protection in Local Authorities

A paper providing details on local authority funding changes was presented and the Chairman of the Southern Coastal Group highlighted the following two key areas:

- i) Coastal protection funding would no longer be ring fenced; and
- ii) Local authorities would no longer allocate a contingency to project costs in order to maximise the programme.

6.5) RFCC Coastal Focus – Opportunity to Highlight Coast Protection Issues

Members held a detailed discussion over coastal erosion funding and the reasons why these schemes often fared badly in the grant aid assessment

process. It was suggested that officers attend the next RFCC meeting and use the opportunity to highlight coastal issues and express their views over the challenges facing local authorities. Partnership funding was another area members felt needed highlighting and the Chairman of the Southern Coastal Group requested that if members had any issues they felt needed raising to please contact him.

RESOLVED That the report be noted.

6. Budget 2013 - 2014

The Chairman of the Southern Coastal Group presented the draft 2013/14 draft budget for SCOPAC and the Southern Coastal Group and provided a summary of the overall changes that had taken place.

RESOLVED that the SCOPAC and Southern Coastal Group draft budget 2013 – 2014 be approved.

7. Date of Next Meeting

RESOLVED that the following schedule of SCOPAC meetings be approved:

- (i) Friday 27 September 2013
- (ii) Friday 17 January 2014
- (iii) Friday 11 April 2014

The meeting commenced at 10.15am and concluded at 12.00pm.

STANDING CONERENCE ON PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH THE COASTLINE

26 APRIL 2013 – LIST OF REPRESENTATIVES ATTENDING

Cllr Mary Penfold – Chairman of SCOPAC

Professor Andy Bradbury – Chairman of Southern Coastal Group

Adur & Worthing Councils
Mr B Curtis

Isle of Wight Council
Mr P Marsden

Bournemouth Borough Council
Dr D Harlow

New Forest District Council
Dr Sam Cope

Chichester District Council
Mr D Lowsley

Borough of Poole Council
Cllr X Dion
Mr S Terry

Christchurch Borough Council
Cllr J Loftis
Mr S Woolard

Portsmouth City Council
Cllr H Mason

The Crown Estate
Mr N Everington

Purbeck District Council
Cllr K Green
Cllr G Marsh

Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership
Mr L Cairns

Southern RFCC Chair
Ms L Brown

Environment Agency
Dr U Dornbusch
Ms L Hughes

West Dorset District Council
Mr B Murray

Fareham Borough Council
Cllr T Knight

Worthing Borough Council
Cllr B Turner

Hampshire County Council
Cllr A Rice T.D.
Ms L Sheffield

Yarmouth Harbour Commissioners
Mr C Lisher

Havant Borough Council
Cllr J Smith