

**Minutes of the Standing Conference on Problems Associated with the Coastline (SCOPAC) held in Hurstwood Room, Public Service Plaza, Civic Centre Road, Havant, Hampshire PO9 2AX on 11 April 2014 commencing at 10.15 am**

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

**10 Minutes**

RESOLVED That the minutes of the meeting held on Friday 17 December 2014 be approved.

**11 Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Chris Lisher, Jenny Jakeways, Lyall Cairns, Mike Goater, Uwe Dornbusch and Councillors D smith, J Branson, T Knight, N Cake, L Dedman, X Dion, J smith.

**12 Research Programme - report from Sam Cope (Paper B)**

Websites

Channel Coastal Observatory and Vivid Websites to continue website maintenance for 2014/2015 at a cost of £3,000, this was agreed by members of the SCG meeting 14 March 2014.

Minor fund projects 2013-2015

- University of Southampton coastal sediment budget project

The University of Southampton sediment budget project would investigate the sediment pathways around Poole and Christchurch Bays. Onshore and offshore sediment samples would be taken for sediment grain-size trend analysis and mineralogy analysis to identify transport directions and sources. A SCOPAC contribution would be used to fund 5 man days on boat to collect sediment samples.

- Channel Coastal Observatory Seabed mapping project

The Channel Coastal Observatory were seabed mapping a 30 km<sup>2</sup> block from the East Solent 2013 swath bathymetry and backscatter data.

- Sediment Transport Study.

An update was given regarding the Sediment Transport Study (STS) outlining progress and future steps. Progress to date included; a Literature review undertaken for Christchurch Bay and the West Solent, a Contract set up with Dave Carter to work on literature review, Reproduction of maps and a Christchurch Bay pilot for sediment budget analysis. Future steps included;

continuing with the literature review and to compare outputs of sediment budget analysis example with South-east Beach management plan.

- Waves Project

The MTP waves project was due to start last year but the test facility had not been available. The study that occupied the test facility had reached completion and the MTP waves project could progress. The purpose of the study was to recreate the conditions of the storms in the recent adverse weather. At the time the bed moulding of the research facility was somewhat similar to that of Chesil beach so that would be the first site tested. The test would begin in the new financial year and last approximately 6 months.

#### Maintenance of Timber Groynes

The manual was in a draft stage. It was outlined that the purpose of the project was to provide an outline of successful and unsuccessful maintenance experiences and discuss common problems with timber Groynes such as abrasions and gribble worm. There had been input from engineers to discuss proper maintenance and succession planning for the future.

#### Poole Nearshore Replenishment Trials

David Robson from the Borough of Poole gave a brief update on the Poole Nearshore Replenishment Trials. Unfortunately the trial wasn't able to attract the MMO license, however have to trying to gather all the information necessary to meet the licensing conditions. The problems with the conditions included the positions of fisheries and cuttlefish traps which would have potentially caused damage to any dredging equipment.

### **13 Presentation: Sediment Sinks and Stores project: (Claire Wilkinson and Sam Cope)**

Claire Wilkinson provided the group with an in-depth overview of the Sediment Stores and Sinks project and the progress that had been made. The presentation provided details of Beach Stores, Ebb Tidal Deltas, Landward Sinks and Offshore Shoals.

It was outlined that the primary aim of the project was to identify sediment stores & sinks across the SCOPAC region for future beach recycling operations and to save costs by using locally sourced material for beach management activities.

The chairman thanked Claire Wilkinson and Samantha Cope for the interesting and informative update.

### **14 Summer field visit - Medmerry (Sam Cope)**

Samantha Cope advised members that an invite had been circulated for the forthcoming SCOPAC field visit to Medmerry. The trip would commence in the morning and finish in the afternoon and involve talks at Bunn Leisure, walking on the beach for up to an hour and lunch. Please register by sending an email to [samantha.cope@noc.soton.ac.uk](mailto:samantha.cope@noc.soton.ac.uk)

## **15 Report of the Chairman of the southern coastal group (Paper C)**

Andy Bradbury, Chairman of the Southern Coastal Group, provided his report to members containing details of the following:

- National Network of Regional Coastal Monitoring Programmes.

Further storm events since the last SCOPAC meeting have provided the opportunity to demonstrate the value to all operating authority partners of the regional coastal monitoring programme. A systematic approach to review of the programme content is under way for all regions. Andy Bradbury was looking at ways to reduce the costing and content of the of the next phase of programme. The review will also consider the value of the monitoring for assessing storm damage and will be used to plan for modifications to the MTP.

- Reporting to county recovery coordination group

Following the stormy winter, recovery groups have been established by some of the lead local flood authorities. This has drawn on the data submitted by local authorities to the EA and the regional coastal monitoring programme.

- EA recovery programme

The Environment Agency would establish a recovery programme project board. The board would deal specifically with additional funding made available for expenditure on urgent works required to restore the system to a similar standard of service to that prior to the past winter. Andrew Bradbury agreed to act as a local authority representative on the project board, on behalf of the regional coastal chairmen and asked member for any recommendations.

- National reporting of state of defences

The Environment Agency had been tasked by Government to report on the State of the Nation's Flood Risk though any inspections will not include coast protection assets. The aim was to get a record of how much of the length of the coastline was damaged and to what state. Brian Curtis would be coordinating a smaller assessment with coastal engineers. Andy Bradbury asked members to engage with the assessment and participate fully.

- Emergency FDGIA funding following winter storms – procedures and funding availability

It was advised that all authorities had been given the opportunity to apply for additional funding through the FDGIA and that applications could no longer be made for further funding if they had not been submitted.

## **16 Budget for year 2014/15 (Paper F)**

The Chairman provided an overview of the draft budget 2014/15 for the Southern Coastal Group. The budget remained in most part the same as the 2013/14 budget. There were changes in regard to Artwork & Graphics and SCOPAC Field Meetings. During 2013/14 less money had been spent on artwork and graphics so the chair had allocated extra funds for potential field visits. Members considered approval of the budget proposed by Councillor H Mason and seconded by Councillor K Smith.

RESOLVED that:

The members approve the draft budget for 2014/15.

**17 Overview of recent coastal flooding and erosion events since January- actions, lessons learned and implications (general discussion led by Andy Bradbury, Neil Watson)**

The Chairman invited members to advise the group on the problems that had occurred from recent adverse weather conditions. Members from each authority in the SCOPAC area gave an outline of the problems faced and implications these problems had caused. The majority of local authorities had found extensive damage to their area and were undertaking repair works to rectify the damage. Members reported that since January, where mostly beach loss had been noticed, structural damage had been shown.

The chairman thanked members for their contributions.

**18 AOB and dates of next meetings**

The chairman advised members of the dates of the next SCG and SCOPAC meetings.

**The meeting commenced at 10.15 and concluded at 12.17**

## STANDING CONFERENCE ON PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH THE COASTLINE

### 11 APRIL 2014 – LIST OF REPRESENTATIVES ATTENDING

Councillor Mary Penfold – Chairman of SCOPAC  
Andy Bradbury– Chairman of Southern Coastal Group  
Mr Bryan Curtis, Worthing Borough Council  
Mr Steve Woolard, Christchurch Borough Council  
Councillor H Mason, Portsmouth City Council  
Councillor Ian Roebuck, Weymouth & Portland Borough Council  
Mr Matt Hosey, Portsmouth City Council  
Mr Gordon Wilkinson, Eastleigh Borough Council  
Councillor J C P Connor, Chichester District Council  
Dr David Harlow, Bournemouth Borough Council  
Dr Samantha Cope, New Forest District Council  
Honorary Freeman Cllr John Lofts, Christchurch Borough Council  
Mr Peter Marsden, Isle of Wight Council  
Mr Ben Murray, West Dorset District Council  
Councillor Keith Evans, Fareham Borough Council  
Mr David Robson, Poole Borough Council  
Mr Will Shields, Westminster Dredging  
Mr Neil Watson, Environment Agency  
Councillor Tony Swain, New Forest District Council  
Dr Ken Buchan, Dorset County Council  
Councillor Phil Jordan, Isle of Wight Council  
Councillor Kenneth Smith, Havant Borough Council (Guest)  
Councillor Victor Pierce Jones, Havant Borough Council (Guest)

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