

**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 18 September 2015 commencing at 10.30 am**

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

**13 Minutes**

It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 16 January 2015 be set as a correct record.

**14 Apologies**

Apologies were received from

Andy Gilham, Bryan Turner, Lyall Cairns, Nick Hardiman, Scott Mills, Tim Adams, Rachel Pearson, Richard Austin, James Addicott, Neil Watson, Roger Barrow, Will Shields, Stevyn Ricketts, Peter Marsden, Cllr D Guest, Cllr K Smith, Cllr J Branson, Cllr X Dion and Cllr Roebuck.

**15 Consideration of 2014/15 Accounts**

Fiona Smith and Andrew Cox were welcomed by the Chairman to present the 14/15 SCOPAC and SCG accounts to members and officers.

Questions were raised over the underspend in the budget and additional profit outlined and were advised that the underspend was due to Chairmen not claiming their allowances and profit was due to additional unforeseen subscriptions.

Officers and members expressed thanks to the Chairmen for not drawing their allowances throughout the year.

The Chairman thanked Fiona and Andrew for presenting the budget.

**16 Business Plan 15-16 and 16-17**

Matt Hosey introduced the proposed business plan to SCOPAC.

The main areas that were discussed included:

- Maintaining efficiencies of 10%
- The Usefulness of workshops that took place
- The necessity of sharing good practice and promoting shared knowledge
- The possibility of including 'incident response' as a theme in the business plan.

Members raised concerns over funding for SCOPAC and SCG and were advised that at it's level at the time, funding was sustainable for all themes in the business plan.

## **17 Presentation of CITiZAN initiative**

Lauren Tidbury, CITiZAN Archaeologist for Training, was invited to present to SCOPAC on the CITiZAN project.

Lauren outlined that CITiZAN was a project that focused on nationally important, exposed archaeological sites including prehistoric forests, Roman buildings, ancient salt-working sites, lost medieval ports, fishing settlements, coastal defences from both World Wars and countless abandoned boats, barges and ships. The CITiZAN project aim to deliver community-based training to create an infrastructure and network of volunteers with skills and systems to record and monitor archaeological sites.

Partners of the project included Heritage Lottery Fund, Natural England and the Crown Estate. It was advised that this was a national project that was looking to extend its scope to include West Sussex, Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

Members of SCOPAC were advised on the CITiZAN website, [Citizan.org.uk](http://Citizan.org.uk) and the useful information it contained and were encouraged to look.

## **18 R&D Programme**

Sam Cope, Chairman of the Research Sub-Group, presented the group with the 5 year research plan. It was advised that SCG officers had submitted research proposals that had been collated and ranked by the research subgroup. These were then presented to SCOPAC.

There were 9 projects that SCG were hoping to fund and were ranked in order of most beneficial:

- Timber Groyne Maintenance Manual  
This was continuing on from Andrew Bradbury's work, but would no longer sit as a manual specific to the areas of the South Coast but would look to address issues nationally.
- Dismantling Timber Groynes.
- Contaminated Land Study  
this would look to investigate contaminated land areas. This study was already used by the East Solent Coastal Partnership and the SCG would look to extend it to the entire SCOPAC region.
- Design Guidance for Mixed Sand and Shingle Beaches.  
This study aimed to focus on case studies of the SCOPAC coastline and address any design issues that were present. It was noted that this study may not have funding to go ahead depending on central government priorities.

It was considered that the design guide would be highly beneficial for the SCOPAC region and it was proposed that SCOPAC write a letter of support for this study

It was RESOLVED that SCOPAC would write a letter of support for the Design Guide for Mixed Sand and Shingle Beaches.

- Quantifying Sediment Budgets of Ebb Deltas
- Historical Photograph Scanning  
It was highlighted that in order to understand future coastal change, looking at the past may help. Lauren Tidbury of CITIZAN advised that English Heritage may have a database of pictures.
- Vegetated Shingle Project  
This study would focus on the hirst spit and investigate positive and negative impacts of maintenance of vegetated shingle beaches.
- Effectiveness of Precast Technologies on Low Height Sea Walls  
This project would review [proprietary technologies for low height retaining sea walls against a range of sites with their benefits and limitations.

- Preston Beach – Weymouth, Tracer Study  
This would be used as a contribution to a larger tracer study at Preston Beach

## **19 Coastal Monitoring Update**

Nick Lyness was invited to provide a coastal monitoring update to the group.

The update included details of:

- Sensitivity to budget cuts
- South East CMP had gone to tender
- Ecological Mapping tender would go out in October 2015
- Annual Partners meeting would take place in October 2015, an agenda for this meeting would be made available to officers if requested.

The Chairman thanked Nick Lyness for his informative update.

## **20 Round Table Review of all Projects**

The Chairman led a round table discussion of all projects taking place within the SCOPAC region and asked officers and members to comment on any work taking place in or around their respective coastline.

The following projects were discussed:

- The ESCP was continuing coastal defence works at Portchester, North Portsea and Southsea.
- Bournemouth were dealing with beach management plans and advised Bournemouth Borough Council had Elkie and Greenheart timber wood for sale.
- Havant Borough Council advised they were dealing with the beach management plan at Eastoke.
- Southampton City Council advised they were investigating flood defence increases along the river Ichen.
- West Dorset and Weymouth Councils advised the Weymouth bay flood defence study was nearing completion – results would be published when possible.
- Isle of Wight Council advised their Coastal Strategy was nearing completion.

The Chairman thanked the officers and members for their input into the discussion.

## **21 AOB**

Sam Cope advised that an efficiencies workshop would take place in early 2016 – details would be circulated as soon as practicable.

It was also highlighted that Stuart Terry had been nominated and approved as Vice-chairman to the Southern Coastal Group.

## **22 Dates of Future Meetings**

The group were advised that the next SCG meeting was scheduled for the 11th December 2015 and the next SCOPAC meeting was scheduled for the 15<sup>th</sup> January 2016

**The meeting commenced at 10.30 am and concluded at 12.45 pm**

## STANDING CONFERENCE ON PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH THE COASTLINE

### 18 SEPTEMBER 2015 – LIST OF REPRESENTATIVES ATTENDING

Penfold – Chairman of SCOPAC  
– Chairman of Southern Coastal Group

Jenny Jakeways, Isle of Wight Council  
Mr Steve Woolard, Christchurch Borough Council  
Councillor Tim Knight, Fareham Borough Council  
Mr Matt Hosey, Portsmouth City Council  
Mr Nick Lyness, Environment Agency  
Mr Gordon Wilkinson, Eastleigh Borough Council  
Dr Uwe Dornbusch, Environment Agency  
Dr David Harlow, Bournemouth Borough Council  
Dr Samantha Cope, Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership  
Honorary Freeman Cllr John Lofts, Christchurch Borough Council  
Ms Sarah Cairns, West Dorset District Council  
Mr Stuart Terry, Poole Borough Council  
Dr Ken Buchan, Dorset County Council  
Councillor Mrs Forder, Gosport Borough Council  
Cllr Alan Alvey, New Forest District Council  
Steven Cook, New Forest District Council  
Councillor Warwick Payne, Southampton City Council  
Councillor Graham Burgess, Hampshire County Council