

**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 27 January 2017 commencing at 10.00 am**

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

**47 Election of SCOPAC Vice-Chairman (Paper A)**

Nominations for Vice-Chairman were invited. One nomination was received and there were no further nominations.

RESOLVED that Councillor J Branson be appointed as Vice-Chairman for SCOPAC.

**48 Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Warwick Payne, David Smith, Margaret Phipps, Carol Purnell, Ray Nowak, Robert New, Ingeborg Forder, Andy Garner-Watts, Lesley Dedman, Jonathan Potts, Sam Foulds, Nick Gray, Dave Robson, Nick Hardiman, Gordon Wilkinson, Tim Adams, Karen McHugh, Dave Harlow, Lyall Cairns, Angela Marlow, Jenny Jakeways and Rob Whitham.

**49 Nick Lyness Remembered**

The Chairman of the SCG paid tribute to Nick Lyness, who sadly passed away on 2 January 2017.

His passion and work for helping communities affected by flooding had a significant impact in the region and in honour of his memory, the Group held a one minute silence.

**50 Minutes of Previous Meeting (Paper B)**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the SCOPAC meeting on 7 October 2016 be approved as a correct record.

**51 Update from Southern Coastal Group Chair - Neil Watson (Paper C)**

The Chairman of the SCG introduced the reports to the Group and highlighted the following points:

- Environment Food and Rural Affairs (EFRA) Committee Report on flooding – EFRA had expressed concern over the lack of recommendations implemented following their report on future flood prevention. Specific concerns covered national flood management, prediction and community flood risk and a Flood Commissioner, to co-ordinate regional flood response. The report and notes were available online.

- Autumn Statement – The Autumn Statement had announced a £170m investment in flood risk management and resilience measures. This would contribute to important infrastructure projects, mainly based in Yorkshire and Cumbria.
- Funding for Natural Flood Management – Funding had been made available for using natural materials and methods to aid the management of flooding.
- Flood and Coastal Engineering Higher Education Programme – This was an important opportunity to enable the development of officers and the Foundation Degree had enjoyed previous success.

## **52 Storm Angus, 19th / 20th November 2016 - Update from Members**

The Group received a presentation from the Chairman of the SCG, detailing the impact of Storm Angus on the Swanage area. The data showed 860mm of surge affected Swanage on 19 and 20 November 2016, with changeable wind direction and speed. The presentation included images which showed flooding in the Parade area of Swanage, which had affected 7 commercial properties.

Steve Woolard was also invited to present images of the impact of Storm Angus on the Christchurch area. The pictures showed substantial draw down on beach materials and damage to terracing caused by the storm.

## **53 Presentation on Surgewatch - Dr Ivan Haigh, Southampton University**

The Chairman invited Dr Ivan Haigh to deliver a presentation on Surgewatch to the Group. Surgewatch was a web-based collation of coastal flooding events in the UK for the last 100 years, instigated by the recent storms that had affected the area, and was designed to provide a comprehensive coastal flooding database.

The presentation highlighted data and analysis on rising sea levels and the impact of storm events when considered with tide levels. The data highlighted the strong evidence to indicate sea levels had increased by 20cm over the last 100 years, and the likelihood of increased sea levels and more frequent storm events impacting the SCOPAC region in the future.

The Group thanked Dr Haigh for his interesting work and presentation, and highlighted the potential uses for Surgewatch to inform and educate communities on coastal flooding.

## **54 SCG Recommendations on Research Programme - Samantha Cope (Paper D)**

The Chairman of the Research Sub-Group delivered an overview of the current research programme and highlighted new studies for consideration.

The Group considered proposals agreed by the SCG from the research sub-group to reallocate funds for the following projects:

- Reallocate £10,000 from the Maintenance of Timber Groynes guide to Contaminated Land Study
- Remaining £5,000 from the Maintenance of Timber Groynes guide to be used as an 'in kind' contribution to the CIRIA guide through officer time.

- Reallocate £2,000 from the Design Guidance for Mixed Sand and Shingle Beaches budget to the Historical Aerial Photography scanning project.
- Reallocate £8,000 from the Design Guidance for Mixed Sand and Shingle Beaches budget to the Minor Fund Projects.

The Design Guidance for Mixed Sand and Shingle Beaches project was to be retained on the future studies list, but would not proceed at the current time due to the withdrawal from the FCERM Research and Development Programme.

RESOLVED that SCOPAC endorse the current research programme.

The following new studies were discussed:

- SCOPAC wide tracer study – A number of organisations were interested in using the ESCP tracer method. It was envisaged that SCOPAC would co-ordinate similar studies at a maximum cost of £5,000 per year across the region and make results freely available.
- SCOPAC wide storm analysis – The study into storm events across the SCOPAC region would summarise the impact and investigate the storm events in the past few years. Scoping for the study was due to begin.
- Design Guidance for Mixed Sand and Shingle Beaches – SCOPAC Research Chair to investigate alternative funding options.
- Surgewatch - £500 per annum was proposed to fund website domain renewal. It was also proposed that Dr Ivan Haigh be invited to future SCOPAC meetings to keep the Group up to date on the progress of the project.

Members commented on the importance of the proposed funds for Surgewatch and their interest in receiving updates on the research.

RESOLVED that the prioritised list of research be approved.

## **55 SCG Business Plan Theme Priorities**

The Chairman of the SCG was invited to provide an oral update to the Group on the SCG Business Plan Theme Priorities. The update outlined the work of officers in reviewing the progress and prioritisation of themes within the Business Plan.

The following areas were discussed:

- Supporting Delivery – This theme comprised of the work sharing best practice and achieving efficiencies across the SCOPAC region.
- Professional Services Framework – Matt Hosey advised the Group that the framework was in place and being used for several projects across the region to access consultancy services.
- Minor Works Framework – Matt Hosey informed the Group that the procurement exercise to renew the framework was underway. This would be free to use for all SCOPAC members following the agreement of the Group to allocate funds to allow this at the last meeting.
- Informing Coastal Policies – There was a need to ensure that SCOPAC provided formulated opinions for contact and consultations on national incentives.

- Communications – The budget for this theme covered costs of the SCG and SCOPAC websites, publicity and artwork.

Members were informed that the full Business Plan would be presented as part of the annual audited accounts.

## **56 Coastal Asset Data Collection and Storage**

The Chairman of the SCG provided an update to members regarding Coastal Asset Data Collection and Storage. The Group was aiming for an organised database of all coastal assets, including those owned by agencies, local authorities and third parties. A consistent data set would allow for savings and efficiencies, and would also inform maintenance of the assets.

Members were informed that officers were investigating funding options to conduct a laser scan of accessible beaches in the SCOPAC region for inclusion in the database.

## **57 Dates of Future Meetings and Visits**

Members considered the proposed dates for the annual site visit and the next meeting.

It was suggested that a visit to the North Portsea scheme would be suitable, as this would provide members with an insight into an on-going project with certain phases completed.

It was AGREED that the annual site visit would be conducted at North Portsea and details would be circulated to all officers and members.

**The meeting commenced at 10.00 am and concluded at 11.42 am**

## STANDING CONFERENCE ON PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH THE COASTLINE

### 27 JANUARY 2017 – LIST OF REPRESENTATIVES ATTENDING

Councillor Mary Penfold – Chairman of SCOPAC  
– Chairman of Southern Coastal Group

Councillor Mark Anderson, Bournemouth Borough Council  
Councillor Noel Atkins, Worthing Borough Council  
Natasha Barlow, University of Leeds  
Councillor Jackie Branson, Chichester Harbour Conservancy  
Dr Ken Buchan, Dorset County Council  
Councillor Graham Burgess, Hampshire County Council  
Ms Sarah Cairns, West Dorset District Council  
Councillor John Connor, Chichester District Council  
Steve Cook, New Forest District Council  
Dr Samantha Cope, Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership  
Dr Uwe Dornbusch, Environment Agency  
Councillor Keith Evans, Fareham Borough Council  
Ivan Haigh, University of Southampton  
Dominic Henly, Chichester District Council  
Mr Matt Hosey, Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership  
Honorary Freeman Cllr John Lofts, Christchurch Borough Council  
Mr Stevyn Ricketts, Gosport Borough Council  
Mr Will Shields, Westminster Dredging  
Councillor Ray Tindle, Poole Borough Council  
Mr Neil Watson, Environment Agency  
Mr Steve Woolard, Christchurch Borough Council

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