

Minutes of the Standing Conference on Problems Associated with the Coastline held at the Guildhall, Portsmouth on Thursday 22 September 2011, commencing at 10.15am

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

<u>Apologies:</u> Cllr S Derham-Wilkes	-	Christchurch Borough Council
Mr M Cowling	-	The Crown Estate
Mr M Bateman	-	Environment Agency
Dr U Dornbusch	-	Environment Agency
Mr N Hardiman	-	Environment Agency
Mr A Gilham	-	Environment Agency
Mr N Lyness	-	Environment Agency
Mr J O'Flynn	-	Environment Agency
Ms L Spicer-Howard	-	Environment Agency
Mr S Mills	-	Fareham Borough Council
Mr M Pam	-	Gosport Borough Council
Cllr A Buckley	-	Hampshire County Council
Cllr D Guest	-	Havant Borough Council
Mr P Marsden	-	Isle of Wight Council
Cllr T Swain	-	New Forest District Council
Cllr X Dion	-	Borough of Poole Council
Ms K McHugh	-	Solent Forum

1. Minutes

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on Friday 13 May 2011 be approved.

2. Report of the Chair of the 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:

2.1) ACCESS' (Adapting to Climate Change Along England's Southern Shorelines')

It was confirmed that the ACCESS project launch would be held on the 18 November 2011 and attendance would be free for all SCOPAC members, £200 for consultants and their displays and £100 for non-SCOPAC members. The venue would be confirmed once attendance numbers had been established.

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

A brief overview for each proposed project was provided and members were informed that, following a vote, the Bournemouth Borough Council and Havant, Portsmouth and Gosport Coastal Partnership projects would be taken forward. The SCOPAC Research sub-group was due to meet in October to scope the two projects and an update would be provided at the next meeting of SCOPAC.

2.3) Update of SCOPAC Sediment Transport Database and Sediment Transport Study

The Chairman of the Southern Coastal Group highlighted the importance of the Sediment Transport Database, explaining it was used in all SMPs as a basis for sediment transport work. Members were advised that it was now in need of updating as some gaps had been identified and it was important to improve it for future SMPs. It was hoped that funding for the update could be achieved through the Medium Term Plan and a SCOPAC contribution. In response to a question it was confirmed that work on the study would follow an appropriate procurement process and an update would be provided at a future meeting.

2.4) Extreme Wave Conditions

It was explained that this was a region wide scheme that cut across many SMPs and the preliminary studies had been funded through SCOPAC. A moderation case had been approved and the Chairman of the Southern Coastal Group was positive that further funding for the scheme would be received through the MTP. Members held a detailed discussion over the importance of the study for SMPs when designing schemes and also expressed concern over the possible disjoint regarding flood forecasting.

RESOLVED That the report be noted.

3. Presentation on Sediment Tracer Studies

Clive Moon of the Havant, Portsmouth and Gosport Coastal Partnership provided a presentation on the recent sediment tracer study conducted on Hayling Island and Portsea Island. Members were interested to note the techniques used, initial deployments of pebbles and potential future research and analysis. Clive Moon then answered members questions following the presentation.

RESOLVED that Clive Moon be thanked for providing an interesting and informative presentation.

4. 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:

4.1) National Network of Strategic Regional Coastal Monitoring Programmes (2011 – 2017)

Financial approval would not be confirmed until February 2012 but the programme was on schedule for commencement in April 2012. Members were pleased to note that the programme was in place and appeared to have been given a high priority on a national basis.

The possibility of joined up working with other agencies and organisations was being explored in order to create best value and recent discussions had taken place with Natural England relating to aerial surveys and ecological mapping.

4.2) SMP Progress

All the SMPs in the SCOPAC region had now been approved and the next phase would be the delivery of the action plans. The Southern Coastal Group would establish an Action Plan Sub-Group to coordinate and review the progress of the action plans and was due to meet in November 2011.

4.3) Member and Officer Events

Feedback from the recent site visit to the Spinnaker Tower had been very positive and members were encouraged to feed any further comments back to the Chairman of the Southern Coastal Group.

The Coastal Change Management Areas Workshop had taken place and had provided a good opportunity to meet with planners to discuss the issues of coastal change in the planning process. It was reported that the conclusions reached had been very interesting and had highlighted a disconnect with planners regarding policy.

The Regional Monitoring Annual Review was scheduled for 18 October 2011 and it was primarily aimed at officers but members were welcome to attend.

The Chairman informed members that the date of the next SCOPAC meeting would be confirmed shortly.

4.4) National Coastal Erosion Risk Mapping – Regional Validation

New Forest District Council had undertaken the technical validation of the NCERM for the North Solent and Poole and Christchurch Bays SMPs. Local authorities were reminded to ensure that the information within the NCERM did not conflict with the SMP. A few differences had been identified and it was proposed that that the SMP information is used as it had already been confirmed by local authorities and the Environment Agency and was already in the public domain.

Alison Baptiste of the Environment Agency provided a summary on the projects current status and discussed member concerns over the data to be made available on the Environment Agency website.

RESOLVED That the report be noted.

5. **Annual Report for Standing Conference on Problems Associated with the Coastline 2010/2011**

Members were interested to note the SCOPAC Annual Report and the key outcomes achieved over 2010/2011. Table 1 was highlighted as being particularly useful in emphasising the annual value of SCOPAC's activities. The Chairman thanked the officers for all their efforts, in particular developing the role of workshops.

The Chairman also informed members that Cllr Wride had resigned as vice-chairman of SCOPAC and thanked her for all her hard work and support. Members who were interested in taking on the role of vice-chairman and supporting SCOPAC on national issues were encouraged to contact the secretary.

RESOLVED That Annual report for Standing Conference on Problems Associated with the Coastline 2010/2011 be approved.

6. Any other Business

Dave Harlow of Bournemouth Borough Council updated members on a statement of community consultation received from Eneco concerning the Navitus Bay Wind Park. The review had commenced on 7 September 2011 and an initial response was due by 16 October 2011. Any local authorities who wanted to respond to the consultation were invited to contact Dave Harlow.

Cllr Lofts of Christchurch Borough Council informed members that it had been reported that the Coastguard may reduce the number of emergency tugs in the English Channel. It was suggested that the Penzance tug may be removed and the English Channel would be covered through the one remaining tug based at Dover. It was proposed that members raise this issue with their local authorities and county councillors.

7. Members Issues Presentation – Cllr Penfold – West Dorset District Council

SCOPAC members received a presentation on 'Coastal Protection – A Maritime Local Authority Perspective' by Cllr Penfold of West Dorset District Council. Members were interested to note the geography of the West Dorset coast, the unstable coastal slopes and the three case studies explained. Cllr Penfold then answered questions and invited members to visit the sites described.

RESOLVED That Cllr Penfold be thanked for providing an instructive and interesting presentation.

8. Date of Next Meeting

Details of the next SCOPAC meeting would be circulated to members shortly.

The meeting commenced at 10.15am and concluded at 12.21pm.

Date of next meeting: To Be Confirmed

STANDING CONERENCE ON PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH THE COASTLINE

22 SEPTEMBER 2011 – LIST OF REPRESENTATIVES ATTENDING

Cllr Roger Elkins – Chairman of SCOPAC

Professor Andy Bradbury – Chairman of Southern Coastal Group

Bournemouth Borough Council
Cllr R Lawton
Dr D Harlow

Chichester District Council
Cllr R O'Brien
Mr D Lowsley

Christchurch Borough Council
Cllr J Loftis
Mr S Woolard

Dorset County Council
Dr K Buchan

Eastleigh Borough Council
Cllr T Craig

Environment Agency
Mr N Watson
Ms A Baptiste
Mr N Bean

Hampshire County Council
Cllr A Rice T. D.

Havant and Portsmouth and Gosport
Councils Coastal Partnership
Mr L Cairns
Mr M Hosey

New Forest District Council
Cllr T Swain
Dr Sam Cope

Poole Borough Council
Mr D Robson

Portsmouth City Council
Cllr H Mason

Purbeck District Council
Cllr G Marsh
Mr M Goater

Solent Protection Society
Mr A Inder

Southampton City Council
Cllr M Jones
Ms B Maguire

University of Portsmouth
Dr M Bray

Weymouth and Portland Borough Council
Cllr I Roebuck

West Dorset District Council
Cllr M Penfold
Mr B Murray

Westminster Dredging
Mr W Shields

Worthing Borough Council
Cllr B Turner
Mr B Curtis

Yarmouth Harbour Commissioners
Mr C Lisher