

**Minutes of the Southern Coastal Group meeting held in Meeting Room 1, Guildhall, Portsmouth on 8 April 2011 commencing at 10.30am**

Present:	Prof A Bradbury	-	New Forest District Council (Chairman)
	Dr S Cope	-	New Forest District Council
	Mr G Lane	-	Environment Agency
	Mr N Watson	-	Environment Agency
	Mr T Kermode	-	Environment Agency
	Mr N Hardiman	-	Environment Agency
	Dr U Dornbusch	-	Environment Agency
	Ms E Hellilier	-	Environment Agency
	Mr M Tolhurst	-	Environment Agency
	Mr R Alexander	-	Environment Agency
	Ms A Thurston	-	Environment Agency
	Mr D Lowsley	-	Chichester District Council
	Mr G Wilkinson	-	Eastleigh Borough Council
	Mr B Curtis	-	Adur and Worthing Borough Councils
	Mr L Cairns	-	Havant, Portsmouth and Gosport Coastal Group
	Mr M Hosey	-	Havant, Portsmouth and Gosport Coastal Group
	Mr B Murray	-	West Dorset District Council
	Dr D Harlow	-	Bournemouth Borough Council
	Mr D Robson	-	Poole Borough Council
	Mr S Woolard	-	Christchurch Borough Council
	Mr S Blyth	-	Hampshire County Council
	Mr S Mills	-	Fareham Borough Council
	Mr P Marsden	-	Isle of Wight Council
Apologies:	Ms K McHugh	-	Solent Forum
	Mr A Gilham	-	Environment Agency
	Mr K Buchan	-	Dorset County Council
	Ms B Maguire	-	Southampton City Council
	Mr M Goater	-	Purbeck District Council
	Mr N Lyness	-	Environment Agency
	Mr D Martin	-	Gosport Borough Council
	Mr C Paine	-	Shepway District Council
	Mr G Lymbery	-	Coastal Defence Sefton MBC
	Mr M Cowling	-	The Crown Estate
	Ms P Dart	-	Arun District Council
	Mr T Schindl	-	Natural England

**1. MINUTES OF THE SOUTHERN COASTAL GROUP**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 15 January 2011 be agreed as a correct record.

## **2. RESEARCH PROGRAMME – REPORT ON RESEARCH SUB-GROUP MEETING**

The Group received a report from the Chairperson of the SCOPAC 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')**

The Group was informed that all case studies had now been reviewed and finalised and the following recommendations had been suggested:

- A national HPI interpretation programme be held in a centralised database for all projects to access;
- A national coastal defence programme be held in a centralised database which could be updated and accessed by all agencies and L.A.'s;
- NRD property dataset to be made available to all projects;
- Values used for properties at risk on coast needed to be more consistent between SMP's and Strategy Studies;
- SMP3 and Strategy Study to compare "no defences" flood risk with "no defences" erosion risk (rather than NAI).

It was planned to print the document in summer 2011 and hold a launch event at the National Oceanography Centre later in the year involving Councillors, planners and consultants.

### **2.2) Sediment Tracer Studies East Solent**

The Group was interested to note that the study had made considerable progress and despite expected reductions in the tracer detection rate significant results were still being obtained. It was now planned to conduct quarterly surveys during the next financial year and it was suggested that Clive Moon attend future Southern Coastal Group and SCOPAC meetings to discuss the findings.

### **2.3) Websites**

Officers were pleased with the development of the SCG and SCOPAC websites and it was felt that they now provided a useful tool to work in conjunction with the meetings. The Group endorsed the proposal that Sam Cope of the CCO and Sarah Austin of Vivid Websites continue to maintain the websites for the 2011/2012 financial year.

#### 2.4) Minor Projects Fund

Funding for several minor projects was discussed and it was agreed that Sam Cope circulate a concise brief on the various proposals ready for consideration at the next meeting.

#### 2.5) Update Of SCOPAC Sediment Transport Database And Sediment Transport Study

The Group held a detailed discussion on updating the Bibliographic database and Sediment Transport Study in preparation for SMP3. Opportunities to involve other organisations were discussed and the Group also considered different funding options.

#### 2.6) SCOPAC Events

It was suggested that a future SCOPAC training event focus on beach nourishment and sediment recycling. Officers also discussed the Old Portsmouth event and were updated on the visit details and associated costs.

RESOLVED that

- 1) the paper be noted;
- 2) Sam Cope of CCO and Sarah Austin of Vivid Websites continue to maintain the Southern Coastal group and SCOPAC websites for 2011/2012 financial year.

### **3. FEEDBACK ON SCHEME APPLICATION WORKSHOP**

The workshop was confirmed for 12 May 2011 to be held at the National Oceanography Centre. The importance of integrating the Groups own experiences into the workshop was highlighted and the Chairman agreed to contact Matt Hosey to produce a business case that could be considered at the workshop. If any members were interested in contributing to the event they were asked to please contact the Chairman.

### **4. BEACH MANAGEMENT PLAN REVIEW UPDATE**

An update on the plan was provided and officers were informed that a final version was now available to be downloaded from the SCG website. The Group held a detailed discussion on the plan and the Chairman advised officers that a skills audit spreadsheet would be distributed shortly. Officers were invited to complete the spreadsheet if they were interested in participating.

## **5. MEDIUM TERM PROGRAMME UPDATE**

Tim Kermod of the Environment Agency introduced a spreadsheet detailing indicative funding for a five year programme of flood and coastal erosion schemes.

The Group was pleased to note that the underspend situation had significantly improved and this was due to realigned expectations and allocated money being utilised. Officers were informed that the situation was likely to change next year with a reduction in the number of allocations and it was important for local authorities to have clearly defined expenditure plans. The Chairman encouraged the Group to submit their applications in a timely manner and stressed the importance of sharing scheme information with planners.

*(Since the meeting was held the following information has been supplied: The Southern LA Programme is predicted to come in at £11.2m against an allocation of £11.8m, a significant improvement on 2009/10.)*

## **6. PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2011/12**

The Chairman provided a brief summary of the proposed budget for 2011/12. The Group agreed the budget subject to the following amendments:

- i) A new line under Southern Coastal Group Other Expenditure be included titled "FRM Infrastructure Need" with an allocated figure of £2,000;
- ii) The Contribution from SCOPAC be amended to £11,600;
- iii) Bibliographic expenditure under the SCOPAC budget be amended to £13,000.

RESOLVED that the budget be approved.

## **7. CONSULTATION ON FUTURE FUNDING FOR FLOOD AND COASTAL EROSION RISK MANAGEMENT**

The Chairman introduced a paper which detailed the response made to the Defra consultation on behalf of the Group. It expressed significant concerns over the funding review and it was suggested that the level of grant available, particularly for coastal erosion, could be adversely affected. The Group held a detailed discussion on the consultation and thanked the Chairman for formulating a thorough response.

RESOLVED that the paper be noted.

**8. PROPOSED COASTAL CHANGE MANAGEMENT AREAS WORKSHOP**

Officers discussed the importance of involving planners in the workshop and ensuring they had an opportunity to feed into its aims and objectives. It was also proposed to invite input from the Environment Agency on community engagement. Once a suitable date had been identified it was agreed to publicise the event and raise its profile amongst officers, in particular planners.

**9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The Group thanked Andy Colenutt for his efforts in obtaining IROPI approval for the North Solent SMP.

The Chairman also gave his thanks to Tim Kermode and Gary Lane of the Environment Agency who were attending their last meeting of the Southern Coastal Group. They were thanked for the hard work and input they had always provided to the Group and were wished all the best for the future.

**10. PRESENTATION ON CREATING ASSET MANAGEMENT CAPACITY**

Southern Coastal Group members received a presentation on Creating Asset Management Capacity by Rob Alexander of the Environment Agency. Officers were interested to note the objectives and scope of the project and Rob Alexander answered officer's questions after the presentation.

RESOLVED that Rob Alexander be thanked for providing an interesting an informative presentation.

**The meeting commenced at 10.30am and concluded at 1.16pm.**