

EAST HEAD COASTAL ISSUES ADVISORY GROUP

**Wednesday 27th November 2019
West Wittering Estate Beach Cafe**

Present:

Dominic Henly (DH)	Chichester District Council (CDC)
James Crespi (JC)	West Wittering Estate (WWE)
Max Ambrose (MA)	West Wittering Estate (WWE)
Stella Hadley (SH)	Cakeham Manor Estate (CME)
Lee Walther (LW)	National Trust (NT)
Katie Archer (KA)	National Trust (NT)
Keith Martin (KM)	West Wittering Parish Council
Malcom Bray (MB)	Portsmouth University
Emily Last (EL)	ESCP
Stuart Dobbin	FG Woodger Trust
Richard Austin	Chichester Harbour Conservancy
David Lowsley	Independent Expert
Nicolette Pike	West Wittering Parish Council
Uwe Dornbusch	Environment Agency (EA)

Apologies

Richard Craven	Chichester Harbour Conservancy
Patrick Byrne (PB)	West Wittering Estate (WWE)
Angela Marlow (AM)	Natural England (NE)

MINUTES:

- 1. Site visit at the Hinge**
- 2. Minutes from 4th April 2019** – reviewed and approved
- 3. Asset Condition Update**

MA briefed the group on asset conditions referring to the photographic surveys WWE had conducted over the autumn months

4. Next Steps

G24 – KM raised concerns regarding the rear of G24 and asked if the group is happy with the latest developments. All agreed current status is in line with what is expected – no action and continue to monitor

G24-G23 – no action and continue to monitor

G22 – G21 – MB stated the swash waves are a slight concern and something to keep an eye on if they continue to reach the backstop berm. SH questioned as a result of this whether the berm needed to be raised or another put in place? MB suggested the group should be ready to do so if required. UD urged the group to continue to monitor and understand what happens to the area and material over the winter months another recharge could potentially be counterproductive. KM agreed but suggested simply to enhance the current one.

DH to check with Natural England and understand if planning permission is required to do so or whether the existing policy of the group would cover this – in the meantime continue to monitor.

MB commented that even in the very worst case of an over wash situation on the berm, it would still generate a natural barrier to protect from the sea but could remove the pedestrian access for some time.

KM asked if the changes expected could happen quicker than initially expected? MB answered that it is likely changes to a more natural form will now be accelerated as there is less resistance. Reiterated the importance of monitoring and asked WWE to continue with the photographic surveys.

DH expected the area to settle down once the main changes had occurred.

WWE will continue to manage the area in terms of removing broken defenses that pose a safety threat

G21 – G20 – DH commented that this area appears to be holding and it could be an option to leave the 'temporary repairs on' as little change has occurred. WWE said this would be beneficial to them and would provide a level of protection as this area has little space between the high tide line and car park. DH to check with Natural England to gain their thoughts on the proposal.

G20-G19 – group discussed the idea of moving exposed concrete blocks from G22 to the corner section of G19 that is eroding back quickly. All agreed this would be a good action to take

5. Potential Sand Recycling (Beach Huts to Hinge)

NE had asked for this point to be raised following AM email to the group suggesting a new approach to sand clearance from the WWE foreshore. WWE explained they have not deposited sand in the sea this year and have instead been moving the material further down the beach. In principle WWE are keen to look at NE's suggesting of relocating sand elsewhere on the beach but would need to consider the practical element of this – WWE and NE to discuss further outside of the meeting

6. Cakeham and Sand Dune Evolution

SH explained that ongoing work and research has taken place regarding the dune system on the Cakeham Estate. Faggots they have used have worked well. SH also asked that Cakeham Dunes and other coastal issues be discussed within the ECHIAG meetings as it could have an impact on the ECHIAG area itself.

MB agreed and said there would be a benefit to look at the areas as one. Explained that the Chanel Coast report is not identifying ongoing risk but is providing early warnings instead.