

EAST HEAD COASTAL ISSUES ADVISORY GROUP MEETING

West Wittering Beach Café
2nd November 2016

MINUTES

Present:

Dominic Henly (DH)	Chichester District Council (CDC)
James Crespi (JC)	West Wittering Estate (WWE)
Patrick Byrne (PB)	West Wittering Estate (WWE)
Jayne Field (JF)	Natural England (NE)
Stella Hadley (SH)	Cakeham Manor Estate (CME)
Lisa Trownson (LT)	National Trust (NT)
Mark Wardle (MW)	National Trust (NT)
Richard Craven (RC)	Chichester Harbour Conservancy (CHC)
Richard Shrubb	F.G. Woodier Trust (FGWT)
Uwe Dornbusch	Environmental Agency (EA)

Apologies: Keith Martin (KM) West Wittering Parish Council (WWPC)

Item		Action
1	Site visit to Hinge 9.30am	
2	<p>Review of previous minutes</p> <p>JF commented on the policy stated in the last minutes concerning WWE carrying out emergency work without consultation. JC confirmed that other than 'fencing a damaged area off' no additional work would be undertaken without NT consent.</p> <p>SH to send Cakeham coastal survey to the group.</p> <p>DH confirmed the Trigger Point document had been sent to the group and that ECHIAG annual subscriptions had been paid by all members.</p> <p>LT explained the video project had not gone any further but she had found some good examples of coastal change media and will pick the project back up again.</p> <p>The group discussed the option to plant Marram grass on the newly formed shingle bank. All agreed that it was holding up well and with the heavy footfall it will experience over the summer, no grass will be planted but the group will review post summer.</p>	

Item		Action
3 & 4	<p>Asset condition update and next steps</p> <p>Following the site visit, all agreed the asset appears to be stable and there is good evidence of the adaptive management approach working. The sea has deposited a noticeable amount of material in front of the section of failed breastwork that was removed and is 'shaping' the shingle into a 'rolled back' beach which in turns dissipates the wave energy well.</p> <p>WWE removed temporary repairs to the area in September as agreed. The recent tide however has revealed a temporary repair board that was initially below the shingle level. All agreed the board in question will be removed and WWE will monitor the section of breastwork it belongs to. At present, the footpath that runs directly above the breastwork remains open. WWE will close the footpath when and if any sink holes appear over the weekend. LT said she would consult with John Perks of West Sussex CC to ensure there is no issue with closing that particular section for safety reasons – alternative routes remain in place.</p> <p>Corner of G22 – Temporary repairs have been removed from the west facing section of the breastwork. As a result the sinkhole has reappeared. All discussed the possibility of a new groyne and associated costs – DH stated approximate costs of 50k – 100k. All agreed that its current condition does not warrant any further action and structurally it is still working as it should. WWE will monitor over the winter period and manage the sink-hole area as required.</p> <p>Gabions – All agreed that whilst the gabions between G21 and G22 are exposed, they are structural sound and currently pose no safety threat. Again WWE will monitor weekly.</p> <p>JF reminded all that any intervention to the area would still require consent from Natural England – JC acknowledged.</p>	
5	<p>The group confirmed they had all received the summary of the MSc research project carried out by Rebecca Creed.</p>	
6	<p>UD and DH informed the group that David Lowesly's project on collating lessons learned from the ECHAIG group is progressing. DH will ask DL to produce a draft document and potentially present to the group at the next ECHIAG meeting.</p>	
7	<p>DH informed all of the group's finances that currently show a healthy balance. As a result, all agreed that the fee for the 2016/2017 year will be zero.</p>	
8	<p>AOB – LT showed an example of the signage that will be used to inform people when the footpath along the top of G21 and G22 will be closed. All agreed with the design – JC and LT will produce and install when required. LT explained that a more detailed info map will be worked on that can be displayed on the National Trust notice boards. A draft will be worked on and sent round the group for approval.</p>	
	<p>LT also showed a map of East Head that had been produced by drone footage as part of a study carried out by Southampton Solent University. All agreed it to be a very useful document – LT will report back as the study will continue and further parts of East Head will be 'mapped' in greater detail.</p>	

Item		Action
9	Date of next meeting agreed for Wednesday 1 st February 2017	