

Minutes of a Meeting of the **COASTAL CHANGE & BEACH MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**
held at the Town Hall, Swanage, on **WEDNESDAY**
5th FEBRUARY 2025 at **2.15 p.m.**

In Attendance: Councillor M Bonfield – Chairman (from 2.20pm)

Councillor C Sutton – Swanage Town Council
Mr A Espana – FCERM Team, Dorset Council
Mr A Frampton – South West Flood and Coastal
Mr T Greasty – Designated Bathing Rep/ RNLI
Mr S Hill – Swanage Boat Hire
Mr R Lloyd - Land and Wave
Mr A Mears – Wessex Water
Miss I Milmer – Dorset Coast Forum (Work Experience)
Mr P Palmer – Pierhead Watersports
Ms S Parker - Dorset Coast Forum
Mr D Picksley – Environment Agency
Mr N Reep – Swanage NCI
Mr G Richardson - RNLI
Mr E Saloman-Carter – Dorset Council
Mr M Turnbull – Swanage Coastal Change Forum
Mr C Wiggins – Beach Concessions

Also Present: Councillor D Monkhouse – Swanage Town Council
Councillor S Vile (from 2.50pm)

Dr M Ayres – Town Clerk
Mrs S Layton-Kelly – Administration Officer
Mr C Milmer – Visitor Services & Business Development Manager
Ms G Percival – Assets and Compliance Manager

There were three members of the public present at the meeting.

Public Participation Time

There were no matters raised.

1) Election of Chairman

Owing to the delayed arrival of the Chairman, Councillor M Bonfield, it was proposed by M Turnbull, seconded by Councillor C Sutton and **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:**
That Councillor C Sutton act as Chair pro tempore.

2) Apologies

Apologies for their inability to attend the meeting were received from Mr H Potter (Swanage Pier Trust), Mr R Eatwell (Beach Hut Freeholder), Mr I Brown (Maritime Coastguard Agency), Mr D Pratten (Beach Buddies), Mr R Marsh (Marsh Boats Stone Quay), Ms B Betts (Dorset Council), Ms E Wright (National Trust), Ms J Lane (Cumulus), Mr B Compton (Ocean Bay)

3) **To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Meeting of the Beach Management Advisory Committee held on 13th November 2024**

Proposed by Mr P Palmer seconded by Councillor Sutton and RESOLVED
UNANIMOUSLY :-

That the Minutes of the Beach Management
Advisory Committee Meeting held on 13th
November 2024 be approved as a correct record.

The Chairman, Councillor Bonfield, joined the meeting at 2.20pm and assumed the Chair.

4) **Dorset Council's Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (FCERM) Team**

Further to Minute No. 3) of the Coastal Change and Beach Management Advisory Committee meeting held on 13th November 2024, an update was provided by the FCERM team which included the following:

a) **Swanage Town Centre Coastal Protection Scheme**

Work has continued to refine the preferred option for flood defences consisting of a series of seawalls that are sympathetic to the surrounding environment. Liaison with Wessex Water regarding access to the sewage treatment works at Peveril Point is ongoing, and preparations for a public engagement exercise are in progress.

b) **Beach Renourishment scheme**

The outline design has been completed and project costs are currently being updated; further studies and surveys are required. Collaboration with contractors and BCP Council is continuing, to ensure a full understanding of costs. In terms of the current beach condition, the committee was informed that no significant events have occurred over the winter period and that routine monitoring is continuing.

c) **North Beach Cliff Management Strategy**

The first round of LiDAR data has been assessed and processed, and the annual cliff monitoring reports have been received. The next round of inspections and monitoring is scheduled to commence in March 2025.

d) **Coastal Transition Accelerator Programme (CTAP) project**

The Outline Business Case (OBC) had been approved by the Environment Agency in November and subsequently endorsed by Dorset Council's Cabinet on 17th December 2024. The new CTAP Project Officer, Elliott Saloman-Carter, was introduced.

Thanks were given to the FCERM Team for their ongoing support and special thanks were given to Mr A Espana for his valuable contribution as this was his last committee meeting prior to leaving Dorset Council.

5) **Wessex Water online coast and rivers watch map – update**

Further to Minute No) 4 of the Coastal Change and Beach Management Advisory Committee meeting held on 13th November 2024, a presentation was given by a representative from Wessex Water, which included an update about the Coast and Rivers Watch webpage. During the ensuing discussion, Members raised concerns regarding sewage spills and the increasing demand placed on the town's existing sewage infrastructure, particularly in light of recent residential developments. Specific reference was made to Schedule 3 of the Flood and Water Management Act, 2010 which sets out the requirement for developers to implement sustainable drainage systems to direct surface rainwater to rivers and streams and prevent the flow of additional surface water into the sewerage system. It was proposed by Mr M Turnbull, seconded by Mr R Lloyd and AGREED: -

TO RECOMMEND

That a letter be sent to the relevant authorities in support of Schedule 3 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 being implemented in a

timely manner.

6) Swanage Bay Byelaw Review - Update

The Chairman read aloud an email provided by the Environment Advice Team Manager, Dorset Council (EATM), who was unable to attend the meeting, to update the committee about recent progress regarding the Swanage Bay Byelaw review. It was reported that input has been received from both Swanage and Studland Water Safety Groups to inform any potential changes, and the Studland Marine Partnership have contributed to discussions with regards to the voluntary no anchor zone. Members of the committee were invited to contribute any comments they had to the process.

7) Shoreline Management Plan Activities – Demonstration of the new Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) Explorer

The Committee received a presentation and a live demonstration from the lead SMP Officer, providing an overview of the SMP, its long-term strategic vision, and the key components of the plan. As part of the presentation, the representative demonstrated the new SMP Explorer tool, highlighting its functionality and how Members can access and explore detailed data relevant to the local area and wider coastline. The following link was shared - <https://environment.data.gov.uk/shoreline-planning>.

8) Updates from representatives/organisations

• Invitation to join the Coastal Change and Beach Management Advisory Committee –

It was proposed by Councillor Sutton, seconded by Councillor Bonfield and AGREED:-

That Swanage Bay Sauna be formally invited to join the Coastal Change and Beach Management Advisory Committee.

It was further proposed by Councillor Sutton, seconded by Councillor Bonfield and AGREED:-

That an invitation be extended to representatives from the Swanage sea swimming groups to join the Coastal Change and Beach Management Advisory Committee.

It was noted that these changes would be incorporated into revised terms of reference for the advisory committee which would require Council approval.

- Dorset Coast Forum** – The value of the Dorset Coast Forum website as a key resource was highlighted. Members were invited to explore the site for information on various partnership projects including the Swanage CTAP and the Swanage Town Coastal Protection Scheme. – www.dorsetcoast.com
- Swanage Town Council** – The RNLI Beach Lifeguards would return later in the year, the Blue Flag Award application had been submitted, and the water quality notice board is now in situ outside the Information Centre. Members were advised that during the summer months, the notice board would display daily updates on water quality, while during the winter months it would display the most recent reading provided by Wessex Water. It was further reported that advertisements had been issued inviting applications from charities and local community groups for the beach huts allocated by the council for community use.

- **Environment Agency** – An update on the National Assessment of Flood and Coastal Erosion Management was provided via a presentation. The methodologies used for risk evaluation and the strategic planning for climate adaptation were highlighted.
A live demonstration was given, showcasing data and future projections related to potential flood risks from rivers, seas and surface water, as well as climate change projections and coastal erosion.

9) **Items of information and matters for forthcoming agendas**

There were no items of information and matters for forthcoming agendas.

10) **Date of next meeting**

It was noted that the next meeting of the Coastal Change and Beach Management Advisory Committee had been provisionally scheduled for Wednesday 4th June 2025 at 2.15 p.m. at the Town Hall. The Chairman thanked everyone present for their attendance.

The meeting closed at 3.50pm.
