

**Minutes of Meeting held on 9 July 2018
at Council Chamber, Suffolk Coastal District
Council**



In attendance:

AA		Alison	Andrews	AOEP			PW		Phil	Watson	SCC
SA		Simon	Amstutz	AONB			EJ		Eleanor	Johnson	MMO
NCri		Nick	Crick	BCP			PG		Peter	Garret	MSBDC
TW		Tim	Woodward	CLA			JJ		John	Jackson	NE
LW		Lucy	Williams	CPE (minutes)			RW		Rob	Wise	NFU
PP		Paul	Patterson	CPE			GL		Grant	Lohoar	NT
SB		Sharon	Bleese	CPE			PC		Pete	Cosgrove	Pioneer
TP		Tamzen	Pope	CPE			GH		Graham	Henderson	SCAR
CB	Cllr	Christine	Block	DEP			JB		Jane	Burch	SCC
DK		David	Kemp	EA			AJAS	Cllr	Andy	Smith	SCDC
GW		Gary	Watson	EA			DR	Cllr	David	Ritchie	WDC (chair)
PM		Paul	Miller	EA			ED		Emma	Dixon	WMA
JG		Julian	Gregory	EIFCA			RW		Robin	Whittle	RDA
IH		Ian	Houlston	LDAdesign							

Apologies: Cllr David Rose (MSBDC), Cllr Richard Rout (SCC), Jane Skepper, Karen Thomas (WMA), Mark Johnson (EA), Nick Collinson (NT), Peter Garrett (MSBDC), Rob Wise (NFU)

1.	Welcome and introductions	The Chairman shared a brief round of introductions with the group.
2.	Previous minutes	The previous minutes were approved.
3.	Slaughden SMP Policy Review study	<p>The Chairman welcomed Paul Patterson to the meeting, CPE Senior Engineer, to share with the forum stage two of the Slaughden SMP. PP gave a presentation (now on SCF website) on behalf of the SMP Client Steering Group (CSG) that included a recap on key outputs from the phase 1 study, conclusions from the recent phase 2 studies and proposed actions in phase 3 comprising a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) screening study followed by consultation.</p> <p>PP sought SCF approval to advance to phase 3 on the premise that there are grounds to amend the policy for SMP Policy unit 15.1 Slaughden, after 2025, from No Intervention to Managed Realignment with an underlying intent for management of 'Provide resilience against erosion whilst working with a dynamic coast'.</p> <p>Questions were raised as follows: Councillor Andy Smith.</p> <p>1 Has there been an assessment of damages arising from Breach scenarios? JB and SB replied there was data on this in previous reports which can be referenced.</p> <p>2 Will there be consultation with statutory bodies on the SEA before public consultation? PP replied yes.</p> <p>Simon Amstutz requested that the AONB be included.</p>

		<p>3 Clarify the apparent contradiction between images in table 9 of the HRA report and text that follows it. PP noted.</p> <p>4 Has the scope of phase 2 been fully completed? JB and SB replied that it had advanced to a point where a SCF decision was required. Councillor Christine Block.</p> <p>5 What is role of CSG? JB replied it is an officer group which oversees delivery and update of the SMP. Simon Amstutz, AONB.</p> <p>Have the studies taken account of new case law on the consideration of potential mitigation? PP yes. There is reference to this in the phase 2 HRA report.</p> <p>A vote was taken. The Recommendation was approved.</p>
4.	<p>Preliminary Seascape Character Assessment of Suffolk, South Norfolk and North Essex</p>	<p>Ian Houlston, LDA Design, was welcomed to the meeting. IH led the group through the method for assessing landscape and seascape character. This work contributes to the Seascape, Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (SLVIAs) of developments in the coastal and marine environment including the offshore windfarms. Datasets include current character assessments, designations, physical assessments, and cultural influences. The assessment can help to inform decisions.</p> <p>IH shared with the forum that SCF input helps to shape this work. The paper shared with the forum helps to set out some of the questions. IH requested that if any new characteristics were submitted that supporting evidence should also be submitted.</p> <p>The group discussed the difference between the Stour and Orwell Rivers included in the assessment whereas the River Deben had been included in the landscape assessment rather than the seascape assessment. IH explained that the difference was scale, the Deben was narrower. CB shared that the River had an estuary plan, was subject to Scottish Power drilling under, and is a navigable river. IH agreed to review the status of the River Deben.</p> <p>GL highlighted the importance of seascape in all weathers, as well as range of lighting at night from bright ports to dark skies.</p> <p><u>Action:</u> IH was invited to return to the November SCF meeting <u>Action:</u> SCF invited to respond to the seascape character assessment. Responses requested by 27th July.</p>
5.	<p>Ipswich Tidal Flood Defences</p>	<p>Paul Miller shared with the forum the work involved so far in the Ipswich Tidal Barrier. The overall cost of the barrier was approximately £70m, and has included funding contributions from IBC and UKPN. The barrier protects 1500 homes and 500 commercial properties.</p> <p>PM explained the design and construction of the work, including necessary cable diversions. Queries included the reasoning behind the use of radial barrier and managing siltation.</p>

		The forum were invited to visit the Ipswich Tidal Barrier on Friday 20 th July.
6.	Updates on current activities	<p>AOEP No update further to the summary.</p> <p>SOEMG No update further to the summary.</p> <p>DEP CB advised that there was concern for the sluice at Faulkenham Marsh. At the moment SCC are waiting for a grant.</p> <p>AONB No update further to the summary.</p> <p>WMA No update further to the summary.</p> <p>BCP NC updated that new technology may be an option for East Lane Point. PP agreed to investigate whether technology could be more commercially available.</p> <p>Action: PP agreed to investigate radar technology and availability for other coastal locations - PP</p> <p>EA The forum heard that work on the shingle at Slaughden would take place.</p> <p>CPE No update further to the summary.</p> <p>SIG AJAS shared that the FCERM strategy is developing, the top level colleagues seem to understand the issues but there is still work to be done.</p> <p>IFCA JG advised that issues regarding paralytic shellfish are still ongoing, high levels of toxins have been found in star fish.</p> <p>MMO EJ shared that the priority at the moment was the remaining marine plans.</p> <p>SSG No update further to the summary.</p> <p>Pioneer PC had recently attended a conference and would share learning.</p> <p>SCF annual conference The forum heard that over 100 places were booked, plus 55 student places. The invitation would be recirculated.</p> <p>Sue Allen award The forum were reminded to submit any nominations they would like under the categories of volunteer or employee, and with a citation to assist judging.</p> <p>Consultation JB advised that she would be responding to the MCZ at Orford consultation. Input from forum members was invited to be sent direct to JB.</p>

7.	Update on Thorpeness Wave RADAR by Skype	<p>Phd student John Atkinson gave a presentation via skype.</p> <p>Key outputs were as follows:</p> <p>The Radar was deployed from September 2015 to March 2017</p> <p>11 Beach surveys were done between August 2016 and March 2018 involving laser scans of the cliff and foreshore and sampling of beach deposits.</p> <p>There has been extensive cliff erosion to north of the village; 6 m retreat in period Dec 2016 - Jan 2017 and a further 6 m in period Jan – Mar 2018</p> <p>There has been erosion at, and damage to, geobag and gabion defences between 2016 and 2018.</p> <p>The range of shoreline retreat measured at mean water level is 2 m vertical and 20 m horizontal.</p> <p>The presentation showed images of seabed level surveys (bathymetry) taken in 2014 and 2017 by conventional survey techniques which had been used to validate the wave radar data. It explained that the wave radar had proven capable of measuring bed levels under sustained periods of larger wave heights to an accuracy of +/- 0.5m. The quality of data was less good under smaller wave heights or large waves of short duration.</p> <p>Images were shown of changes in offshore bed levels and observations were made as to how these changes may be linked to periods of dominant wind and wave direction and strength.</p> <p>Slides were shown explaining how data gathered on sediment type had been analysed and showed profiles highlighting the changing position of shingle only and sand-shingle mixed layers.</p> <p>The study has created and is testing a new method using a combination of digital image analysis and traditional sediment grain size analysis.</p> <p>Graphs were shown that plotted changes in shoreline position between 2009 and present day at 5 survey points between the Ness and Headlands. Potential explanations for differences were given.</p> <p>Numerical modelling is underway of the weather events in 2010 that led to major erosion below North End Avenue to investigate potential causes.</p> <p>Research continues to seek answers to the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can links between the nearshore and shoreline be identified through combination of collected and modelled data? • What future scenarios may cause significant change? • How can the conclusions of the study be applied to the coastal management issues at Thorpeness and on a wider scale? <p>The study will produce final reports by January 2019. Reports will be placed on the CPE website.</p> <p>Questions were raised as follows:</p> <p>RW is a wave radar system appropriate for use to measure bed changes at Felixstowe Ferry where conventional survey shows changes of ~2.5m?</p> <p>PP the system used at Thorpeness has been shown to require large waves over 12 hours to produce meaningful results. Wave conditions in the Deben estuary may not be suitable.</p>
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8.	Any Other Business	<p>Sizewell C Concern was raised for the coastal processes element of the project. Some forum members were aware that work was happening with EDF and local authority, however the lack of information more widely could be difficult at stage 3 consultation. Particularly where the consultation would be 8 weeks and many respondents included volunteers. It was suggested that Lisa Chandler (Energy Projects Manager) could help to clarify or relay problems.</p> <p>Action: Problems raised by the forum to be supported by Lisa Chandler.</p>
		Close
		<p>Date of next meeting Suffolk Coast Forum conference, Friday 12th October, Wherstead Park</p> <p>8th November, 0930-1230 at Riverside Centre, Stratford St Andrew</p>