

Swansea and Carmarthen Bay Coastal Engineering Group Coastal Engineering Group Meeting		SHEET 1
NOTES OF MEETING HELD AT: Teams		
MEETING DATE: 11 th June 2024		
ATTENDED BY:		
Hannah Richards (HR), Helen Jay (HJ), Richard Axenderrie (RA), Huw Morgans (HM), Richard Colman (RC), Ben Kathrens (BK), Clive Moon (CM), Rhianwen Bailey (RB), Alice Pyper (AP), James Jewell-Edmonds (JJE), Louise Pennington (LP), Angharad Llewelyn (AL), Danial Naaif (DN), Bob Smith (BS), Nicola Rimington (NR).		
APOLOGIES FROM:		
Dewi Davies (DD), Jacob Kevern (JK), Mike Sweeney (MS), Gayle Lister (GL), Gareth Richards (GR), Mandy Richards (MR), Emma Lowe (EL), Gwyn Nelson (GN)		
DISTRIBUTION: As above		
WRITTEN BY: HR		DATE: 13/06/24
AGENDA: 1.0 Introductions and Apologies 2.0 Minutes of the Last Meeting 3.0 Matters Arising 4.0 Group Finances 5.0 Chairman's Update 6.0 WCMC Coastal Monitoring Update 7.0 SCBCEG Coastal Officer Update and Action Plan Changes 8.0 SMP Policy and Action Change Requests 9.0 SCBCEG Website 10.0 SMP Refresh and Next Steps 11.0 High Priority Areas 12.0 Member Reports 13.0 AOB 14.0 Date of Next Meeting – 10 th September 2024		

NOTES OF MEETING Continuation sheet		ACTION
1.0	Introductions and Apologies As above.	
2.0	Minutes of the Last Meeting Accepted with the following action amendments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pause actions 2&3 regarding the mapping of priority areas and collating FRMP GIS information until the FRMPs are published. 	HR to recirculate the request for members to confirm whether they have Emergency Flood Response Plans in place. Ask for a summary of how flooding is covered in these plans.
3.0	Matters Arising No issues.	
4.0	Group Finances Update on finances requested but not received due to ongoing internal issues. Still healthy reserves. Discussion on how and whether to fund the coastal officer position longer-term than the current 2-year temporary contract. Long lead-in times for NRW in particular to change fee structure. Position ends half-way through financial year so will need to agree a position in preparation for next financial year. Enough reserves to cover extra year. Agreed to extend for additional year from reserves. Work going forward would include completing some of the actions and/or project managing outsourced commissions e.g. studies. FCERM funding rolled into RSG grant. Discussion on whether group would be happy to increase fees to previous levels (estimated £5,000) to cover costs of officer longer-term. Possibility to keep this monetary input separate from group fees. BK would be easier longer-term to increase fees sooner rather than later – bracket increased fee now to make it easier in later years. LP NRW would need the increase in fee known and clarified by Christmas at the latest. Concern the increase in fees would set a precedent for all other coastal groups in Wales. Would like to see position continue.	LP to start enquiring about increase in group fees to cover officer role.

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	<p>All members present were in agreement that group reserves should be used to fund the SCBCEG Coastal Officer role for an additional year if no alternative funding model can be agreed in advance.</p> <p>Likely to review paying membership as part of the updated Terms of Reference.</p> <p>More ambitious actions will need larger reserves – possibly too expensive without match funding etc.</p>	
5.0	<p>Chairman's Update</p> <p>WCMC Advisory Group – halfway through current phase of funding, need to consider next phase. WG possibly preparing paper on next phase of funding – update required. WCMC to tell WG what they are planning.</p> <p>Wales Coastal Group Forum meeting in May to discuss the new chair of the forum – interim chair now Jacob Kevern until Jean-Francois replacement in post. Next meeting June 20th, any issues to be brought up in the meeting please get in contact.</p>	<p>HR to circulate WCMC Advisory Panel meeting minutes.</p>
6.0	<p>WCMC Coastal Monitoring Update</p> <p>WCMC data platform displaying WCMC data coming very soon.</p> <p>Brief discussion on whether the WCMC programme is still appropriate – estuaries still a concern, especially for informing managed realignment. Note to make sure that any data collected as part of other projects is captured.</p> <p>Programme to be updated so opportunity to make changes coming soon.</p>	
7.0	<p>SCBCEG Coastal Officer Update and Action Plan Changes</p> <p>Future Management of Private Land – No objections or comments.</p> <p>Geological SSSIs – No objections or comments.</p> <p>Feasibility Studies – No objections or comments.</p> <p>Please take the time to review these again very carefully.</p> <p>LDPs – No objections or comments.</p> <p>Discussion on whether a planning link to SMPs is needed at a higher level. PCC proposing to have policy on coastal change areas in LDP2. PCNPA have own policy on coastal change areas. Need to look at strategic development plans and what Future Wales says about this too. Currently action plan has coastal group actions to a similar effect, but further</p>	<p>HR to resend feasibility study actions for review.</p> <p>HR to meet with BS about remaining actions.</p> <p>HR to meet with JFD about remaining actions.</p>

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	<p>meetings and thought needed on this. HJ - Also marine plans e.g. offshore renewables.</p> <p>DCWW – No objections or comments. DCWW put in contact with JK as WCGF chair. BAU embedded within the DWMP.</p> <p>Neath Estuary Group – No objections or comments. Owner Specific Actions proposal to come.</p> <p>Coastal Group and Local Authority lead actions proposal to come.</p> <p>Business as Usual register being maintained to capture any actions cancelled as business as usual. This can be monitored and updated regularly. Register to be used across Wales to ensure consistency.</p> <p>Down to 80 actions from 428 this time last year. Some more actions to come off/be amended so final figure will likely be lower than this.</p>	<p>HR to notify group when the website is live.</p> <p>HR to contact LP when website is live to update links to coastal erosion/SMP webpage.</p>
8.0	<p>SMP Policy and Action Change Requests</p> <p>No requests highlighted.</p>	
9.0	<p>SCBCEG Website</p> <p>Website translated into Welsh, waiting for IT to figure out payment method.</p>	
10.0	<p>SMP Refresh and Next Steps</p> <p>Environment agency close their 7-year SMP Refresh project. Looking to star new 2-year project on next steps. Environment agency workshop in March.</p> <p>Involvement in EA SMP work ongoing to maximise cross-border collaboration.</p> <p>Need to prioritise the remaining actions – possibly September. Agreed to set up a sub-group to start prioritisation process then circulate to the group for comment.</p> <p>Next steps to also include whether we release the action plan to the public. Not ready yet, will wait until streamlining process is complete, but possibly September.</p>	
11.0	<p>High Priority Areas/Issues</p> <p>No issues raised.</p>	
12.0	<p>Member Reports</p> <p>VoG – No storm damage, no work, no reports. Continuing to seek legal advice on position as highway authority in relation to Swanbridge change of policy. NR – interesting to hear the advice on access. What scope is there to update legislation? HJ</p>	

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	<p>– CTAP projects and work Rob Goodliffe is doing in N Norfolk (CoastWise), he'd be keen to touch base with CM. Summer House Point down Aberthaw, PRoW diverting coastal path inland to avoid hillfort.</p> <p>NPTC – No change from March, no storm damage, Aberavon slipway maintenance ongoing, bi-annual site walkover has been conducted. Erosion occurring around defence.</p> <p>CCC – Some standard pre- and post- high tide checks. Outfall issues in Llansteffan and Ferryside. Coastal officer role but recruitment embargo.</p> <p>PCC – Large hole in Coppet Hole sea wall. Coppet Hall and Wiseman's Bridge there's a need for a larger scheme to replace sea wall. Coastal path closed here due to cliff-fall.</p> <p>NT – No major concerns. Mwche work for managed realignment put on hold. LP – resource constraints but initiated as a project and was progressed to Outline Business Case.</p> <p>NRW – Reviewing consultancy report from Mott MacDonald on Newton beach. Cwm Ivy marsh CRMP scheme. Laugharne lower marsh, project commencing from July creating 58hectares, next 18-24 months looking to complete baseline design and stakeholder engagement. Final year of 3-year project assessing coastal squeeze. Report available in next few months – dissemination webinar in autumn.</p> <p>Heneb – All Welsh archaeological trusts now merged but still functioning as regional trusts, so contact details unchanged. Cadw funding Arfordir project getting volunteers to document sites at risk along the coastline.</p> <p>WG – Chris Donovan back in a new role.</p>	<p>Rick Parks (NRW) to get in contact with BK about Mwche and Laugharne Lower Marsh.</p>
13.0	<p>AOB</p> <p>NR – Updates to Planning Policy Wales 12 and potential implications for coastal works – see email RE: SCBCEG Draft Agenda and Request for Agenda</p> <div data-bbox="850 1682 911 1727" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>RE_ SCBCEG Draft Agenda and Request f</p> <p>Items dated 11/06/2024 -</p>	
14.0	<p>Date of Next Meeting – 10th September 2024</p>	