

## **Minutes of the 113<sup>th</sup> Fleet study Group meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2015.**

**Present:** E Harland, D Moxom, R Waldock, L. Baldock, J Dadds, K Donnelly, A Holiday, J Cox, A Brokenshire, C Bolton, S Fiest, J Mead, N Michard, M Doggett, T Hall.

**Apologies:** S Hales. J. Bass, R. Carpenter, A. Scott, S. Eden, R. Edmonds, E Brown, R Acornley.

Sue Eden is standing down due to ill health  
Dave Bucke has moved away from the area

**Minutes of the 112<sup>th</sup> meeting :** Approved.

**Matters arising:** Alan Frampton has provided info as requested.

### **Reports from representatives:**

**DCF:** – the meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> November 2014 included a session on MPAs. Presentations can be found at <https://www.dorsetforyou.com/dorset-coast-forum/events-publications> . There was nothing Fleet specific

**PHCC:-** meeting in March – Harbour operations notes are being updated. There was nothing Fleet specific.

**SIFCA:** A drop in event was held in December on the Review of Management Measures – details can be found at <http://www.southern-ifca.gov.uk/news>

**Chesil and Fleet AGM This** was held at the Moonfleet Hotel – a number of presentations and the Wardens Annual report are available. Following the Mersk spillage access to the Fleet has been looked at by the Emergency Planners and a plan is being worked on. Operation of the Fleet Observer is being transferred to the DWT.

**EA:** The Shellfish Waters Action Plan consultation is still open for comment until April 10<sup>th</sup>.

**SW Marine Ecosystems 2015** – Charlotte to circulate a resume of the meeting (attended by Julie Hatcher and Tim Hall). Details can be found at [http://www.pml.ac.uk/People/Staff\\_images/SWME\\_2015\\_agenda\\_and\\_delegate\\_notes](http://www.pml.ac.uk/People/Staff_images/SWME_2015_agenda_and_delegate_notes)

Chesil Beach Management Plan (Portland to Smallmouth) – Alan Frampton is updating.

**MMO:** The options paper on the South West Marine Plan is now finished – details can be found here - <https://www.gov.uk/planning-development/marine-planning>  
A Desk-based water quality study for the South area is being undertaken.

**Research Reports:**

A student has been working on cusp formation – Don has a PDF of the report – copy requested for the Fleet Archive.

Alan Holliday has visited Chesil Beach regularly including pre and post 2014 storms.

Lin Baldock – an article on nocturnal inverts in the Fleet has been submitted for publication in the Dorset Proceedings.

John Dadds – the Little Terns will be included in the ringing project.

The West Dorset Coastal streams catchment project - led by the DCF – details can be found here - [https://www.dorsetforyou.com/.../WDP\\_Bulletin\\_-\\_February\\_2015.pdf](https://www.dorsetforyou.com/.../WDP_Bulletin_-_February_2015.pdf)

**Hamm Beach sewage leak** – following the major sewage leak in January 2014 DERC have been contracted to monitor the recovery for 5 years. The first survey was carried out in Dec 2014. EH has the report.

**Community Seagrass Initiative.** Jess Mead gave an overview of the project. Details here - [http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/seagrass\\_initiative.pdf](http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/seagrass_initiative.pdf) . The Fleet is included and they will be looking at the density of plants and associated biodiversity in the grass beds as a metric for health, not looking for wasting disease. It is hoped that a core of trained/experienced people will develop to survey the Fleet and provide useful scientific data.

**Coastal Access:** Proposals have been delayed until Spring 2015 due to research undertaken to look at the use of the West Fleet by migratory and wintering birds. Meeting in Dorchester in March to discuss and the proposals should be on the NE website after this - <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/england-coast-path-improving-public-access-to-the-coast>

**Chesil and the Fleet EMS Steering Group and Technical Advisory Group (TAG):** It is proposed that the TAG meeting will form a time slot in the FSG meetings. NE have drawn up a suggested MOU. TAG minutes will be kept separate to FSG minutes.

The impact of the February 2014 storms on the Chesil Bank – presentations were given on the Effects on vegetation (J Cox), Overwash and crest recession (Lin Baldock) and Beach profiles (EA).

**PCO workshop for the FSG.** The PCO have offered to run a workshop on accessing the CCO data in April. Don is co-ordinating. The CCO south coast monitoring report is available on the website - <http://www.channelcoast.org/reports/>

**FSG Field Day** – ideas to Ed Harland please.

Dates for beach cleans - <http://www.dorsetwildlifetrust.org.uk/chesil-beach-clean3>

**AOB:** J Dadds – Little Terns 2014 – 1.8 chicks/pair – the best in the country. The Crown have pledged £5k/year for the next 3 years, the Court Leat is also contributing £2.5k/year + mitigation money. The RSPB will be putting in an HLF bid for next year.

**Fleet Archive** – request for any additional reports post 2006.

**Date of the next meeting** – 17<sup>th</sup> July 2015.