



SOLENT FORUM RECREATION SUBGROUP MEETING
Portsmouth Outdoor Centre
Eastern Road, Portsmouth
Wednesday 25th March 2009 at 10.30 am

MINUTES

Please see paper 1 for those attending and for apologies

1. **Welcome & introduction** – Chairman Paul Rivington Chairman – Paul Rivington

2. **Actions from last meeting**

No outstanding actions

3. **Fish Catch Statistics** Tony Williams

Tony Williams provided a presentation to the group on catch statistics from his boat club since the 1970's. The statistics show a drop in fish catch between the 1980's and now.

See presentation and report on the Solent Forum web-site

4. **Group Accounts and Work Programme Progress** Karen McHugh

KM presented the 2008/09 Recreation Group accounts (see paper 2 for detail) and reported that there would be £125 profit by the end of the year. This takes into account a commitment to pay Solent University for the Phase 1 Recreation Audit. She forecast the 2009/10 accounts and stated that there would be enough funding to run the group for another year. A surplus of between £1125 and £625 would be expected by the end of the year. No funding has yet been obtained to run Phase 2 of the Recreation Audit. This will be sought at the next Recreation Group meeting. VR stated that they would like to pay next year's subscription this financial year..

KM tracked the Recreation Group work programme, as shown on Paper 2. She explained that the Mapping/profiling of Users should be taken off the work programme as she had obtained feedback from Andrew Bateman. Andrew Bateman has sent brochures to show how HCC promotes sustainable tourism, whilst understanding different types of tourism. This shows how tourism is essential for local economy and how impacts of different types of tourism are understood and managed; if applicable some tourism not encouraged.

Action: KM to seek funding for phase 2 Recreation Audit in next meeting on 30th Sept.

Action: KM to invoice FBC this financial year for next year's subscription.

Action: KM to take Mapping/Profiling of users off the work programme. To send HCC's brochure entitled "Visitor Economy" to the group and put on SF website

6. **Recreation Audit Project**

Alan Scrase

Jenny Anderson from Solent University made a presentation to the group on the progress of her team on the Phase 1 – Recreation Audit. They have updated their proposals and plan to present results to the group at the next meeting in September. They are also planning a workshop with SG members prior to this. The results will also include a methodology and costings for phase 2, primary research. There are as yet no funds for phase 2 and the next meeting can be used to discuss how funds can be levied.

Alan Scrase presented a brochure that he has drafted to publicise the project.

AT spoke about a study that Brighton University are doing to produce a South East Strategy on Water Related Sports and Recreation. Once this is completed it will complete a suite of strategies covering England. It is important that Solent University contact Brighton University to ensure that the audit takes into account any data that Brighton have and does not duplicate any of the mapping.

Please see Solent Forum website for details of the updated proposals (March 09) and presentation.

Action: AS/RB to contact Brighton University

Action: KM to check the detail of the brochure and get back to AS to finalise it

Action: Solent Uni to present results at next meeting

Action: KM to include agenda item in next meeting to discuss further finances for the next stage of the Recreation Audit

7. **Solent Recreation Disturbance Study**

Karen McHugh

Karen described progress on the Solent Recreation Disturbance Study. See paper 3 attached.

The Group asked for a copy of the Solent Recreation Disturbance phase 1 report as soon as it was out.

Action: KM to send out Phase 1 Recreation Disturbance Report as soon as it is out

8. **Environment Agency update on vacancies**

Allison Thorpe

AT asked the group if they knew of any one interested on sitting on an EA regional (southern) committee to fill a vacant Navigation post. It is called Regulatory Fisheries Ecology Recreation Advisory Committee (RFERAC). It sits three times per year.

DE asked if anyone would be interested in sitting on a River Hamble Harbour Authority committee. An environmental expert is required and they would be required to meet approx. 6 times per year.

7. **Any Other Business**

Suggestions for a presentation on Coastal Access at the next meeting.

Action: KM organize a presentation on coastal access at next meeting

**Date of Next Meeting 30th September 2009. Hampshire County Council,
Winchester**

Paper 1 - Membership

Y = attended a = apologies

Recreation Group Paying Members in bold		
Paul Rivington (PCC and Chairman)	y	
Andrew Bateman (HCC Tourism)	a	
Phil Halliwell (HCC Access)		
David Evans (RHHA)	y	Tony Clatworthy
Allison Thorpe (EA)	y	Rob Waring
Roger Davies (QHM)	y	
Bob Russell (RYA HQ)	y	
Susie Tomson/Kate Moore (RYA HQ)	a	
Jenny Anderson (SSU)	y	
Rob Burton (SSU)	y	
Alan Scrase (SSU)	y	Tim Saville
Nicky Horter (CHC)	y	
Saira Evans (NFNPA)	y	
Tim Goodhead (UoP)		
Kieran McEwan (UoP)		
Cath Hart (HCC Access Fora)		
Sarah Wiggins (NE)	a	
Graham Horton (NE)	y	
Brian Clark (BMF HO)	a	Hayley James (Marketing), John Dodd (Chaiman). BMF South
Gerald Smart (SPS)	a	
Alan Inder (SPS)	a	
Phillip Couchman (SPS)		
Debbie Burns (MDL/BMF South)	a	
Graham Rabbitts (BMF South)		
Alan Greenham (ABP)		Sue Simmonite
Ron Hancock (ABP)	a	
Kathryn Hampson (W Sussex Council)		
Tony Williams (Nat. fed Sea Anglers)	y	
Amanda Bowens (HWTMA)	a	
Viv Rance (FBC)	y	

Paper 2 – Current Work Programme (Tracking)

This programme is a selection agreed from Paper 3 of Solent Forum Recreation Sub-group Meeting 30th October 2007, and subsequently amended on 9th September 2008.

	Projected Costs £	When	Comment
<p>Recreation Audit Project</p> <p>This research is required to build on previous research. Need to agree the approach to craft count. This will show trends in the Solent</p>	<p>Phase 1 - £5500</p> <p>Phase 2 - unknown</p>	Current	<p>Project start-up meeting held October 2008.</p> <p>Phase 1 due for completion late summer 2009.</p> <p>Key contact: Paul Rivington</p>
<p>Update Recreation Chapter in Solent Forum Strategic Guidance</p> <p>RYA were involved in original chapter</p>			<p>Will follow the above project</p> <p>Key contact: Solent Forum</p>
<p>Mapping/Profiling Users</p> <p>Including locals and visitors. In order to prepare for tourism markets, understanding economic impact.</p>	N/A	March 2009	<p>Andrew Bateman to send brochure to show how HCC promotes sustainable tourism, whilst understanding different types of tourism. Tourism essential for local economy. Impacts of different types of tourism understood and managed; if applicable some tourism not encouraged.</p> <p>Key contact: Andrew Bateman</p>
<p>Recreation Disturbance Project</p> <p>To describe the nature of shore-side recreational disturbance to designated habitats in the Solent. To evaluate significance and plan mitigation if necessary</p>	<p>Phase 1 – Desk research</p> <p>22,000</p> <p>Phase 2 – Primary Research</p> <p>Phase 3 - Evaluation</p>	<p>Oct 08 Complete</p> <p>2010</p> <p>2010</p>	<p>Project being managed by SF Nature Conservation Group. Phase 1 is complete.</p> <p>Phase 2 is let</p> <p>Key contact: Rhian Edwards</p>

Paper 3 – Solent Disturbance Project – Project Feedback



**Solent Forum Nature
Conservation Group**

Solent Disturbance and Mitigation Project Briefing Note.

This report was commissioned by the Solent Forum's Nature Conservation Group and was initiated in response to concerns over the possible impact of recreational pressures on features of the Solent SPA, SAC, Ramsar site. In the future 100,000 homes are planned for Solent area, which will lead to a growth in local population. The rise in population numbers is likely to lead to an increase of recreational activities which could possibly increase disturbance to the features of the Solent European Marine Site.

This report is Phase 1 of a larger project and aims to explore the current situation for all designated features in the Solent and to inform further phases. The Phase 1 report includes a literature review, explores relevant data currently available and conducts discussions with members of the Nature Conservation Group and coastal site managers/wardens. It also notes general mitigation measures that could potentially minimise the impacts of increased recreational disturbance caused by an increased population in the Solent area.

A further two phases are being developed specifically looking to explore disturbance to wintering birds around the Solent. Work has begun on site visits to note disturbance to birds at key sites around the Solent and on the north coast of the Isle of Wight. The group are also looking to explore modelling work in Southampton Water and Chichester Harbour and visitor surveys which will all enhance the bird surveys data. It is hoped that by bringing all this data together it will be possible to obtain a clear picture of current levels of disturbance, and predict future trends for disturbance. The outcomes of Phases 1 and 2 will input into Phase 3 which will explore mitigation options for the Solent Area. Currently funding is still being sought to complete all aspects of Phase 2 and 3.

For further information please contact the Solent Forum Office info@solentforum.org or 01962 846027